

# Dinosaur Encyclopaedia

This week, we are going to each write a page for a Year 1 Dinosaur Encyclopaedia about all the dinosaurs you have invented or researched last week. We would like you to write a section each day and then copy it up in your best cursive handwriting that you've been practicing! There is a format you could download from the website but you are welcome to organise your writing any way you would like. There are two example ideas on the website to have a look at so you know what you are aiming for.

When the children are writing, we expect them to sound out their writing for themselves. Please do not give them the spelling for every word or correct every word – they won't be learning! The children are all able to do this independently at school, and it does not matter if words are not spelt correctly! For examples of how we support children with their writing at school, watch the phonics video on Facebook.

There is a word mat available on the website to support children with some of the trickier topic spellings such as herbivore.

When you have completed all these tasks, take a photograph of your completed page and email the picture to [year1@purbrook.inf.hants.sch.uk](mailto:year1@purbrook.inf.hants.sch.uk) so it can be included in our encyclopaedia.

## Activity 1: Organising Ideas

Divide a piece of paper into 4 parts and put one heading in each box:

1. Food and teeth
2. Appearance
3. Habitat (where it lives)
4. Name and Amazing Facts

Think of 3 or 4 words to describe your dinosaur in each box. Here are some prompts to help you.

<u>Diet (what it eats)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Herbivore or carnivore?</li><li>• What did it eat?</li><li>• Describe its teeth</li></ul>	<u>Appearance (what it looks like)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Size and shape</li><li>• Colour</li><li>• Special features (e.g. feathers, plates, scales...)</li></ul>
<u>Habitat (where it lives)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Where did it live?</li><li>• What was it like there? What could you see, hear, feel?</li></ul>	<u>Name</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Think of a name for your dinosaur. You can use <a href="#">this link</a> to create your very own dino name!</li><li>• Record anything amazing about your dinosaur here too.</li></ul>

**Finding it hard – Use the word bank to help with ideas. Scribe some of your child's ideas if the physical effort of writing is a barrier.**

**Challenge – Think of some more unusual or interesting adjectives – e.g. large, enormous rather than big.**

## **Activity 2: Diet and Appearance**

Using the headings 'Diet' and 'Appearance', write a few sentences to explain what your dinosaur eats and what it looks like. Use your workbook for this task as we will write it out in neat when all the writing is complete.

Use the ideas you thought of in the first activity to help you. Remember to use capital letters and full stops and try to use 'and' or 'because' to add more details to at least one of your sentences.

**Finding it hard** – Say your sentence aloud before starting to write. Use the word bank, sound mat and tricky word mat (all on our website) to help with tricky words. Use your robot arms to help you sound out words.

**Challenge** – Start sentences in different ways – Along its back... On the top of its head... The large leaves...

Use 'and' 'because' or 'but' to add details to your sentences.

Make sure you are using lots of adjectives to describe your dinosaur.

## **Activity 3: Habitat and Amazing Fact**

Using the headings 'Habitat and 'Amazing Facts', write a few sentences to explain where your dinosaur lives and share some amazing facts about your dinosaur. Use your workbook for this task as we will write it out in neat when all the writing is complete.

Use the ideas you thought of in the first activity to help you. Remember to use capital letters and full stops and try to use 'and' or 'because' to add more details to at least one of your sentences.

**Finding it hard** – Say your sentence aloud before starting to write. Use the word bank, sound mat and tricky word mat (all on our website) to help with tricky words. Use your robot arms to help you sound out words.

**Challenge** – Start sentences in different ways

Use 'and' 'because' or 'but' to add details to your sentences.

Make sure you are using lots of adjectives to describe your dinosaur.

## **Activity 4: Presenting your Work**

Now you have written all the facts about your dinosaur, read through your writing and check you are happy it makes sense. Now you need to copy it out in your best handwriting. You may want to use the template on the website (you may find there is not enough room to write all your information as we would enlarge to A3) or you can choose your own way to present your writing, including...

- Title (name of your dinosaur)
- Headings for each section
- Picture or photograph of your dinosaur

**Finding it hard** – Write a section and then have a break!

**Challenge** – Make sure all your writing is joined up, with clear capital letters, tall letters and tail letters.