









PLANT BARNHOLMSTEN LINDEN 77







































LIVE CARGO

DELIVER TO
THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
IMAX
AT THE
ROYAL BC MUSEUM
VICTORIA BC

CAUTION

STAY BACK

Royal BC
Museum



MESOZOIC
ERA



DRAGON HUNTS
WITH BIRDS AND
PTEROSAURS

龍與鳥類
和翼龍的捕食





Power of the Dragon

The dragon is sacred in Chinese tradition. It symbolizes power, happiness, good fortune, fertility, transformation and even immortality. Two thousand years ago, the Chinese people considered the dragon the chief species of 369 known reptiles. During the Eastern Han Dynasty (AD 25-220), the dragon became a symbol of imperial power. Dragons often appear in Chinese art, ceremonies and celebrations.

For at least 3500 years, many Chinese people have believed that fossil bones are the bones of dragons, and valued them for their medicinal qualities. Most "dragon bones" sold today in herbal and apothecary shops actually belong to fossil mammals, such as mammoths and deer, from the last Ice Age; but long ago, some dragon bones also came from dinosaurs.

By tracing the sources of medicinal dragon bones, scientists have found important fossil sites, such as Zhoukoudian, near Beijing, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that contains the 400,000-year-old remains of Peking Man.



Ancient Medicine

This 5th-century recipe by Lei Hiao describes how to prepare medicine from dragon bones:

For using dragon's bones first cook odorous plants; bathe the bones twice in hot water, pound them to powder and put this in bags of gauze. Take a couple of young swallows and, after having taken out their intestines and stomach, put the bags in the swallows and hang them over a well. After one night take the bags out of the swallows, rub the powder and mix it into medicines for strengthening the kidneys. The efficacy of such a medicine is as if it were divine.

Powdered dragon bones could also be sprinkled on food or stirred into herbal tea. People still use dragon-bone powder to cure many ailments, including fever, dysentery, convulsions, ulcers, paralysis and illnesses of pregnant women; and dragon-bone paste is used to treat bleeding wounds.





Fossil Preparation

Fossil bones are often the rock matrix of mineralized and fossil. We are preparing this fossil to clearly see the surrounding rock. Various bones usually what we find. Some back again to several projects.



Mesozoic Era
TRIASSIC

Mesozoic Era
JURASSIC





My, What Big Teeth You Have!

Yangchuanosaurus

"Yangchuan-area lizard"

Szechuan Province, China

Late Jurassic Period, 160 million years ago

When great plant eaters roamed the Earth, great meat eaters stalked them. Yangchuanosaurus patrolled the late Mesozoic world long before the terrible tyrannosaurs, thundering about on pillar-like hind legs in search of prey. Equipped with a strongly-muscled head and neck, and large, sharp teeth, Yangchuanosaurus could easily tear and rip into flesh.





What do you think this is?
Yangtze Gorgonopsid

Gorgonopsid (Mammalia)
Triassic Period (252-201 million years ago)
This specimen was discovered in the early 1980s in the Yangtze Gorge, China. It is the largest gorgonopsid ever found, measuring 1.5 meters in length. The skull is particularly large and prominent, with a textured surface. The ribs and vertebrae are clearly visible, showing the animal's size and structure.



Triassic Era
TRIASSIC

TRIASSIC



MESOZOIC
British Columbia

Woolly Mammoth
The woolly mammoth was a large, shaggy elephant-like animal that lived in North America during the Ice Age. It was hunted by early humans for its meat and bones. The mammoth's long, curved tusks were used for many purposes, including digging for roots and as weapons. The woolly mammoth is one of the most well-known prehistoric animals.







Cretaceous Creatures

Discoveries described in the Cretaceous Period span 160 million years ago before suddenly becoming extinct. Cretaceous fossil sites abound in southern China. The Yixian fossil beds contain early Cretaceous plants, insects, amphibians, reptiles, and feathered dinosaurs, most of them preserved in exquisite detail.





Mysterious Monster

Szechuanosaurus

“Szechuan lizard”, Szechuan Province, China
Late Jurassic Period, 160 to 144 million years ago

Known from only a few fossil fragments,
Szechuanosaurus appears to be a small version
of the ferocious carnivore, Allosaurus. It has
a muscular neck and head and the sharp teeth
of a large meat-eater.



Jurassic Thermostat

Tuojiangosaurus

"Tuo River lizard", Szechuan Province, China

Late Jurassic Period, 157 to 154 million years ago

A Tuojiangosaurus is a stegosaur, a bird-hipped dinosaur with plates along the spine. The plates would have been a poor defence against predators; they likely controlled the animal's body temperature, allowing it to cool in a breeze or warm up in the sun.







Polly Want a Seed?

Psittacosaurus

“Parrot lizard”, Shandong Province, China
Early Cretaceous Period, 135 million years ago

One of the smallest and earliest ceratopsians (horned dinosaurs), *Psittacosaurus* had the characteristic parrot-like beak. But unlike ceratopsians, such as the later *Protoceratops* and *Triceratops*, this dinosaur had no frill extending from the back of its skull. The small forelegs grasped plants while the animal picked off and cracked open large, hard-shelled seeds and stripped off leaves. The long muscular hind legs helped it run from predators.



Confuciusornis

"Confucius bird", Liaoning Province, China
Early Cretaceous Period, 140 to 120 million years ago

Confuciusornis looks like a compact meat-eating dinosaur, but its bird-like tail with fused bones indicate that it was one of the first birds. Several fossil specimens of Confuciusornis have two long tail feathers, suggesting that male and female birds looked different. It seems that showing off has always been a great way to attract a mate.



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where enough of the pages of diverse
have been preserved intact
to show what was happening through

Dong Zhiming

Chinese Paleontologist, Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, President's Council on Energy Research Administration



Velociraptor

**GOBI DESERT
DIG PIT**

If you have ever dreamed
of being a paleontologist,
now's your chance to dig
for dinosaur bones!



Mysterious Monster

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