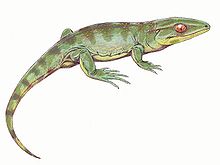
Anthracosauria



Anthracosauria is an order of extinct reptile-like [amphibians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amphibian) (in the broad sense) that flourished during the [Carboniferous](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carboniferous) and [early Permian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cisuralian) periods, although precisely which species are included depends on one's definition of the taxon. "Anthracosauria" is sometimes used to refer to all [tetrapods](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tetrapod" \o "Tetrapod) more closely related to [amniotes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amniote) such as [reptiles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reptile), [mammals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mammal), and [birds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bird), rather than [lissamphibians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lissamphibian" \o "Lissamphibian) such as [frogs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frog) and [salamanders](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salamander). An equivalent term to this definition would be [Reptiliomorpha](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reptiliomorpha" \o "Reptiliomorpha). Anthracosauria has also been used to refer to a smaller group of large, crocodilian-like aquatic tetrapods also known as [embolomeres](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Embolomeri" \o "Embolomeri).

Various definitions[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Anthracosauria&action=edit&section=1)]

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Pteroplax_DB.jpg)

[*Pteroplax*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pteroplax), an embolomere

As originally defined by [Säve-Söderbergh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gunnar_S%C3%A4ve-S%C3%B6derbergh" \o "Gunnar Säve-Söderbergh) in 1934, the anthracosaurs are a group of usually large aquatic Amphibia from the Carboniferous and lower Permian. As defined by [Alfred Sherwood Romer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred_Sherwood_Romer) however, the anthracosaurs include all non-amniote "[labyrinthodont](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labyrinthodont)" [reptile-like amphibians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reptiliomorpha), and Säve-Söderbergh's definition is more equivalent to Romer's suborder [Embolomeri](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Embolomeri" \o "Embolomeri). This definition was also used by [Edwin H. Colbert](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edwin_H._Colbert) and [Robert L. Carroll](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_L._Carroll) in their textbooks of Vertebrate Palaeontology (Colbert 1969, Carroll 1988). Dr A. L. Panchen however preferred Säve-Söderbergh's original definition of Antracosauria in his *Handbuch der Paläoherpetologie*, 1970.