

Dinosaurs

Dinosaurs were a diverse group of reptiles that lived on Earth millions of years ago during the **Mesozoic Era**, often called the "Age of Dinosaurs." They first appeared about **230 million years ago** and dominated the land for more than 160 million years.

Some dinosaurs were **huge plant-eaters** like *Brachiosaurus* and *Triceratops*, while others were **fierce predators** like *Tyrannosaurus rex* and *Velociraptor*. They came in many shapes and sizes—from chicken-sized creatures to giants longer than school buses.

Dinosaurs walked mainly on land, and they laid eggs. Unlike lizards, many dinosaurs stood with their legs directly under their bodies, which helped them move quickly and support their weight.

Scientists believe that around **66 million years ago**, most dinosaurs went extinct, likely due to a massive asteroid impact combined with volcanic activity and climate changes. However, not all of them disappeared—**birds are actually modern descendants of small dinosaurs**, meaning dinosaurs are still with us today in a different form.