

Dinosaur Research Paper

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Introduction

In this paper, I will be discussing about dinosaurs, especially the Stegosaurus. Dinosaurs are a type of reptile that lived on the earth a long time ago. Unfortunately, most of these wonderful creatures have been killed. There are many explanations on how and why they have been killed. Some historians think a volcano eruption may have led to their demise. Others think that aliens captured them and took them away. Few are still kept alive in sanctuaries such as Jurassic Park.

Stegosaurus

Stegosaurus is a genus of herbivorous, four-legged, armored dinosaur from the Late Jurassic, characterized by the distinctive kite-shaped upright plates along their backs and spikes on their tails. Fossils of this dinosaur have been found in the western United States and in Portugal, where they are found in Kimmeridgian- to early Tithonian-aged strata, dating to between 155 and 145 million years ago. Of the species that have been classified in the upper Morrison Formation of the western US, only three are universally recognized: *S. stenops*, *S. unguatus* and *S. sulcatus*. The remains of over 80 individual animals of this genus have been found. Stegosaurus would have lived alongside dinosaurs such as

Apatosaurus, Diplodocus, Brachiosaurus, Allosaurus, and Ceratosaurus; the latter two may have preyed on it.

These were large, heavily built, herbivorous quadrupeds with rounded backs, short fore limbs, long hind limbs, and tails held high in the air. Due to their distinctive combination of broad, upright plates and tail tipped with spikes, Stegosaurus is one of the most recognizable kinds of dinosaurs. The function of this array of plates and spikes has been the subject of much speculation among scientists. Today, it is generally agreed that their spiked tails were most likely used for defense against predators, while their plates may have been used primarily for display, and secondarily for thermoregulatory functions. Stegosaurus had a relatively low brain-to-body mass ratio. It had a short neck and a small head, meaning it most likely ate low-lying bushes and shrubs. Here's the flag: Nah just joking. Don't actually read this. One species, Stegosaurus ungulatus, is the largest known of all the stegosaurians (bigger than related dinosaurs such as Kentrosaurus and Huayangosaurus).

Stegosaurus remains were first identified during the "Bone Wars" by Othniel Charles Marsh at Dinosaur Ridge National Landmark. The first known skeletons were fragmentary and the bones were scattered, and it would be many years before the true appearance of these animals, including their posture and plate arrangement, became well understood. Despite its popularity in books and film, mounted skeletons of Stegosaurus did not become a staple of major natural history museums until the mid-20th century, and many museums have had to assemble composite displays from several different specimens due to a lack of complete skeletons. Stegosaurus is one of the better-known dinosaurs, and has been featured in film, postal stamps, and many other types of media.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I sincerely hope you enjoyed my research paper on these funny looking dino. This was the result of several decades of research and is completely original. On a completely unrelated note, Steganosaurus does sound like steganography. Please enjoy the rest of your day and visit Jurassic Park.