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BISAC: Juvenile Nonfiction / Art / Drawing

Time Traveler Prehistory

A Common Core Standards-aligned Activity Guide for Kindergarten, First Grade, Second Grade

Similarities and Differences

Display the Xenacanthus on page 5. Display a poster of a modern day shark. Students work in small groups to list similarities and differences between the two. Come back together as a class and make one large list of similarities and one large list of differences. (RI K.1, 1.1, 2.1; RI K.3, 1.3, 2.3; RI K.9, 1.9, 2.9)

Identifying Characteristics

Assign each child one animal from the text. Give them a fact card for their animal that has a picture of the animal on the front and important characteristics/features on the back (herbivore or carnivore, distinguishing features, etc.). Turn music on and students move around the room as their animal. When

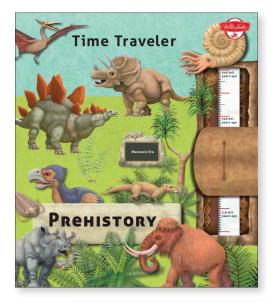
introduce themselves to the "animal" nearest to them.
Repeat until students have had a chance to "meet" many other animals. Alternatively, students can work on grouping themselves based on their characteristics. (RI K.1, 1.1, 2.1; SL K.1, 1.1, 2.1)





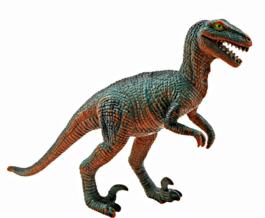






Comparisons

Display page 27 on a document camera or smart board. Discuss how the descriptions for Indricotherium, Arsinoitherium, and Megacerops are related or similar to the rhinoceros. Using another informational text on rhinos, explain why these three prehistoric animals are compared to the rhinoceros. (RI K.1, 1.1, 2.1; RI K.3, 1.3, 2.3; RI K.9, 1.9, 2.9)



Write a Story

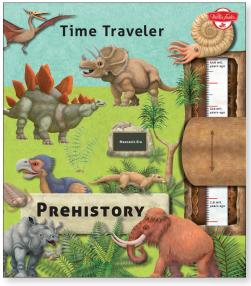
Throughout the text, there are many examples of herbivores that had adaptations to help them eat. Explore the text as a class and list these herbivores, as well as their adaptations. Students can choose one and write a story from that animal's point of view as it finds food to eat. (RI K.1, 1.1, 2.1; W K.3, 1.3, 2.3)





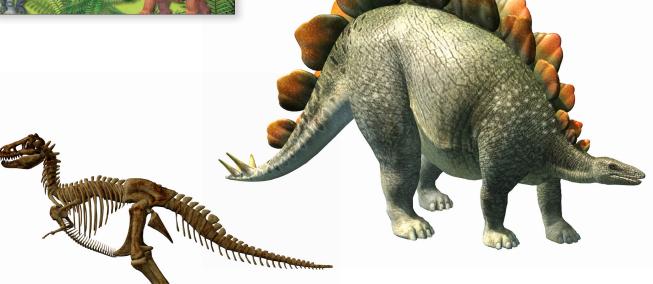






Vocabulary

Prehistoric animal names use many prefixes and suffixes. Display the prefixes deino- and mega-, as well as their meanings (*deino-*: terrible; *mega-*: large). Also display the suffixes –saurus and –don with their meanings (*-saurus*: lizard; –*don*: tooth). Explore the text to find animals whose names contain one of the prefixes or suffixes and discuss why their illustration and/or description fits. (RI K.4, 1.4, 2.4; L K.4, 1.4, 2.4)



Discussion questions:

- Which animal, if still alive today, would be the most dangerous?
- Which animal, if still alive today, would be the easiest to tame as a pet?
- Which animals would work together to find food and survive?
- Which animals would work best alone?









Word Search

Can you find the 10 *Prehistory* words listed below? The words may go forward, backward, up, or down.



Palaeozoic Sauroctonus Mezozoic Triassic Cretaceous Triceratops Ancestor Mammoth

Cave Bear Prehistory

0 Т K U N M Z V P Т R M S R Ε Z J C M R X B Ζ X N M ı Ε Ε Ε Α V M W Н K Н S 0 Ε Α M N Ε Z S В R ı D D E 0 Y N S U W E T C F 0 Z Ε T Α Н T D 0 Ν S S U R R X N B P Т E T Y U M Z M 0 M C R E Т Ε 0 U S R



