

Annotating Marks Page for Student Notebooks

Annotating Marks



As you read the passage, make the following marks on your page.



Circle powerful words or phrases.



Underline words or phrases you do not understand.



Place a question mark near something that makes you think of a question.



Write an exclamation mark near something that surprises you.



Draw an arrow where you make a personal connection to certain words or ideas.



Write your important thoughts in the margins.



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Dinosaur Fossils: Clues to the Past



Margin Notes

Dinosaurs are so interesting! They lived millions of years before the first humans, so we've never seen a live one. We do have a pretty good idea of what they looked like. How did we manage to figure that out? Well, thankfully fossils do most of the work for us!

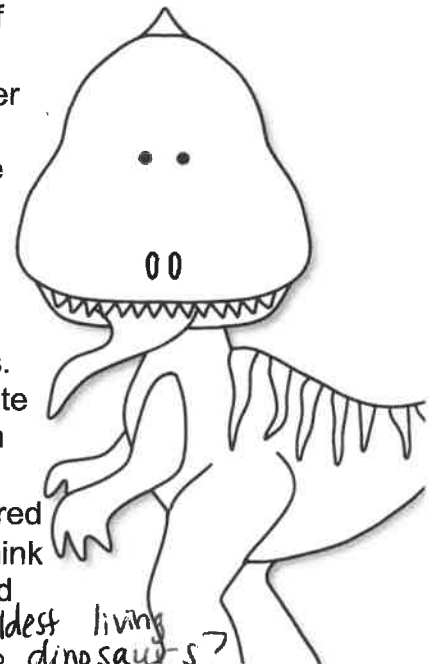
People have known about dinosaur fossils and bones for many years. We just didn't know what they were. In Europe, most people thought that dinosaur bones were actually the bones of giants. In China, most people thought that dinosaur bones were actually the bones of dragons. They weren't far off, when you think about it!

Modern paleontology, the study of dinosaur bones and fossils, began in the early 1800s. A man named Reverend William Buckland taught geology at the University of Oxford. He collected some fossilized bones. The collection turned out to be all from the same dinosaur, *Megalosaurus*. He became the first person to ever describe a dinosaur in a scientific journal. The second type of dinosaur discovered was the *Iguanodon*. The *Iguanodon* was discovered by Mary Ann Mantell. Her husband was a geologist like Reverend Buckland. He published Mary Ann Mantell's discovery in 1825.

It wasn't long before British and American scientists had "dinosaur fever." But they hadn't yet come up with a name for these giant lizards. Most people had just been calling them "great fossil lizards." In 1842, an English scientist named Richard Owen came up with a name that stuck: "dinosaur." Next, Queen Victoria's husband gave some money to Owen. Owen was then able to open the first national collection of dinosaur fossils.

In 1858, William Parker Foulke discovered the first known dinosaur fossil in America, in New Jersey. It was one of the first complete dinosaur skeletons ever found. It was also the first bipedal dinosaur ever discovered. Bipedal means that it walked on two feet, rather than four. Up until then, paleontologists had thought that all dinosaurs walked on four feet. The study of dinosaur fossils was also helped along by some competition between two scientists. Edward Drinker Cope and Othniel Charles Marsh did not like each other. Their disagreements made them try to make more and more discoveries. This feud was called the Bone Wars. It caused 142 new species of dinosaurs to be discovered.

Today, the search for dinosaur fossils continues. We still make new discoveries about dinosaurs quite often. For example, the first dinosaur discovered in Antarctica was found in 1986! That's not long ago at all. Paleontologists have also discovered feathered dinosaurs, mostly in China. This has led them to think that birds could be related to dinosaurs! Who would have thought that a chicken might be one of the oldest living relatives to dinosaurs?



Task I - Read & Annotate

Name: _____

Day: _____

As you read through Dinosaur Fossils: Clues to the Past for the first time, use your annotating marks and write important notes in the margin.

Then, answer these questions:

- **Circle** powerful words or phrases.
- **Underline** words or phrases you do not understand.
- **Place a question mark** near something that makes you think of a question.
- **Write an exclamation mark** near something that surprises you.
- **Draw an arrow** where you make a personal connection to certain words or ideas.
- **Write your important thoughts** in the margins.

First Reading Questions:

1. What is this passage mostly about?

2. What is paleontology?

3. Who was the first person to describe a dinosaur in a scientific journal?

4. What was the second type of dinosaur discovered?

5. Where was the first known dinosaur fossil in America found?

6. What is a bipedal dinosaur?

Task 2 - VOCABULARY

Name: _____

Day: _____

Read Dinosaur Fossils: Clues to the Past a second time. Find four words which are unfamiliar to you and complete the vocabulary diagram below.

DEFINITION	SYNONYM
<div>WORD</div>	
EXAMPLE SENTENCE	

DEFINITION	SYNONYM
<div>WORD</div>	
EXAMPLE SENTENCE	

DEFINITION	SYNONYM
<div>WORD</div>	
EXAMPLE SENTENCE	

DEFINITION	SYNONYM
<div>WORD</div>	
EXAMPLE SENTENCE	

Task 3 - Reread & Dig Deeper

Name: _____

Day: _____

Reread the passage Dinosaur Fossils: Clues to the Past.

Use evidence from the passage to answer the following questions:

Text Evidence Questions:

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

2. List three details that support the main idea:

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____

3. Explain what people in ancient China thought dinosaur bones really were.

4. Cite 3 pieces of evidence that show the important discoveries of dinosaur fossils through the years.

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____

5. Give 2 pieces of evidence that give information about the Bone Wars.

- a) _____
- b) _____

6. Who came up with the name "dinosaur"?

Task 4 - Reread & Respond

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reread the passage Dinosaur Fossils: Clues to the Past. Complete the chart below, listing four details supporting the statement.

Detail 1

Detail 2

**Scientists have
made important
dinosaur fossil
discoveries
through the
years.**

Detail 3

Detail 4