Dino quiz!

1. Dinosaurs died out some 65.5 million years ago. This signalled the end of which period?

Cretaceous Jurassic Triassic

Cretaceous. Non-avian dinosaurs all became extinct 65.5 million years ago at the end of the Cretaceous period. Avian dinosaurs (modern birds) did not and still live among us today (~10,000 species)

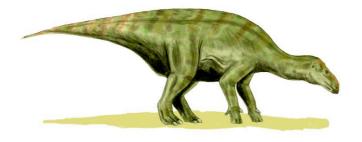
2. True or false: Pterosaurs such as the pterodactyl are ancestors to birds

False. The hypothesis favoured by most palaeontologists suggests that pterosaurs and all dinosaurs share a direct common ancestor. However, the direct common ancestor of birds are ground-dwelling carnivorous dinosaurs such as Velociraptor.

3. Why does T-rex have such small forelimbs?

T-rex had a large strong skull with long dagger-like teeth suited for large bone-crushing bites. The unusually small forelimbs together with this specialized skull suggest that the forelimbs were less suited for grasping the prey or helping feed food into the mouth. In other words the forelimbs probably became less useful in feeding so like other unnecessary structures in animals like our appendix they shrank.

4. Name this dinosaur



(The original picture was taken from the <u>Natural History</u> <u>Museum's Dino Directory</u>, with permission.)

Iguanadon. This was one of the most successful dinosaurs - species of which have been found in many parts of the world. There are two skeletons of this dinosaur in the Natural History Museum's Dinosaur Gallery.

5. How many years were dinosaurs on the earth for?

90 million years 120 million years 160 million years 210 million years

160 million years. Dinosaurs are one of the most successful groups of animals (in terms of longevity) that have ever lived.

6. One difference between dinosaurs and other reptiles like crocodiles and lizards is their gait. Which of the following gaits belongs to dinosaurs?

Upright gait. Dinosaurs were reptiles that evolved an upright gait similar to that of mammals, ie their legs were straight, perpendicular to the ground and supported the weight of the body so that they could walk or run more easily.

Sprawling gait

7. Dinosaurs didn't all live at the same time. Put the following in order of when they were alive (oldest to youngest)

	Velociraptor	Stegosaurus	Tyrannosaurus rex
2.	Stegosaurus Velociraptor Tyrannosaurus rex	155-144 million years a 84-80 million years ago 67-65 million years ago)

8. How big were velociraptors?

Upright gait

About the same as a medium sized dog Similar to an average sized male adult

As tall as an adult moose

About the same as a medium sized dog. The raptors in Jurassic park were portrayed at twice their actual size. Velociraptors were up to 1.8m in length and are now thought to have had fine a feather-like covering.

9. What country were Triceratops found in?

Argentina USA China

USA. Triceratops means three- horned face.

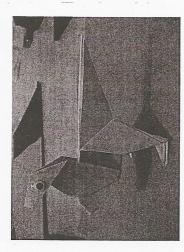
10. In Jurassic Park extinct dinosaurs are recreated from DNA taken from fossilised mosquitos preserved in amber. Name ONE reason why this would be unlikely to work in real life.

Reasons include i) we would need an intact version of dino DNA but this will have degraded over time ii) we would need to assemble a dino genome into chromosomes iii) if we had a dino genome we would need to implant it into a compatible egg.

For a more complete overview take a look at <u>this interview</u> with scientists from the Natural History Museum or <u>this explanation</u> from Berkeley's University of California Museum of Paleontology.

Origami Procompsognathus

pro-comp-sog-nay-thus



Time span: 221-210 million years ago Period: UpperTriassic Diet: Carnivorans Length: Up to Im found in: Germany

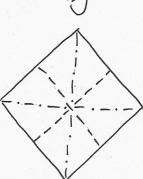
Procompsognathus is one of the extinct was one of the smallest and earliest Species recreated in Jurassic Park. 17 dinosauurs.

Acouple of origami basics:

------ Mountain fold (fold comes out of the

Valley fold (fold goes into the paper).

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... coloured side outwards.

fold paper as shown, coloured side down.

other events at

collapse into a square...

Science London is part of the British Science Origami diagram taken from Stephen O'Hanlon at Association. Check out http://science-london.com www.fishgoth.com

