Journey in Time

Design Intent

Time is a difficult concept for young children to grasp. The fact that dinosaurs are amazing is not. Connect with long ago by exploring a dig site that is embedded with fossilized bones and overlooked by some life-sized prehistoric pals. Along with some shovels, put history in kids' hands in this ancient landscape. Breathe life into the past and transport these tiny paleontologists to the age of the dinosaurs. Give scale to the mighty lizards and magnificent mammoths that once roamed the Earth. Survey the landscape in *Journey in Time*, dream of what came before us, and make history come alive.

Technology Components

N/A

Mural Features

- Brachiosaurus-The Brachiosaurus was a long-necked dinosaur standing around 40-50 feet tall and stretching up to 85 feet in length. Unlike many other sauropods, its front legs were longer than its back legs.
- Stegosaurus-The Stegosaurus was a large, plant-eating dinosaur recognizable by the two rows of bony plates along its back and the spiked tail it used for defense. The Stegosaurus had a small head with a tiny brain, suggesting limited intelligence compared to other species.
- Triceratops-Triceratops-The Triceratops was a hervibore that also lived during the Late Cretaceous period. It had a big bony frill at the back of its head and three horns, two above its eyes and one on its nose. This dinosaur likely used its horns and frill for defense and to attract mates.
- Tyrannosaurus Rex-The Tyrannosaurus rex was one of the largest carnivorous, meat-eating dinosaurs, growing up to 40 feet long and 12 feet tall at the hips. It had massive jaws filled with sharp teeth, strong hind legs, and small but strong arms with two clawed fingers.

Mural Features

- Velociraptor-The Velociraptor was a feathered, fast, and intelligent dinosaur that could not fly. This small carnivore likely preyed on little lizards, mammals, dinosaur eggs, and other small dinosaurs. Scientists think the Velociraptor was one of the smarter dinosaurs because it had a large brain in proportion to its body size.
- Pterodactyl-The Pterodactyl was a type of flying reptile, not a dinosaur, that lived during the late Jurassic period. It had a wingspan of about 3 to 6 feet, a long beak with sharp teeth, and a lightweight body adapted for flight. Its wings were made of a leathery membrane of skin and muscle.
- Sequoia-The sequoia tree is an ancient conifer known for its massive size, some reaching over 300 feet tall and living for thousands of years. They have a thick, reddish-brown bark that helps protect them from fires.
- Palm-Palm plants are tropical and subtropical plants with long, slender stems topped by fan-like leaves. Palms thrive in warm climates.
- Volcano-Volcano-A volcano is a mountain or hill with an opening on the surface of a planet or moon. Molten rock, ash, and gases escape from beneath the surface during an eruption. There are volcanoes on every continent.

Themes to Explore

- Habitats
- Taxonomy: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, and Fish
- Transformations
- Movement
- Earth
- Time
- Herbivores and Carnivores
- Fossils
- Extinction

Mounted Animals and Artifacts

- Pterodactyl-The Pterodactyl was a type of flying reptile, not a dinosaur, that lived during the late Jurassic period. It had a wingspan of about 3 to 6 feet, a long beak with sharp teeth, and a lightweight body adapted for flight. Its wings were made of a leathery membrane of skin and muscle.
- Brachiosaurus (Juvenile)-The Brachiosaurus was a long-necked dinosaur standing around 40-50 feet tall and stretching up to 85 feet in length. Unlike many other sauropods, its front legs were longer than its back legs.
- Dinosaur Bone-A dinosaur bone is a fossilized piece of a prehistoric creature’s skeleton, often preserved in rock for millions of years. These bones can range in size from small toe bones to large femurs over six feet long. Dinosaur bones have been found on every continent, sometimes just fragments that paleontologists use to reconstruct entire skeletons.

To Find Out More

- American Museum of Natural History
- Learning Resources: The Field Museum
- Natural History Museum: The Dino Directory