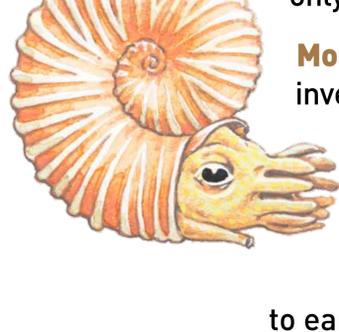


A TIMELINE OF THE DINOSAURS THE 'TERRIBLE LIZARDS'

251 MILLION YEARS AGO THE TRIASSIC PERIOD STARTS



There is one super-continent and only two oceans.

Molluscs are the dominant invertebrates and **ammonites** are abundant.

Dinosaurs begin to evolve.

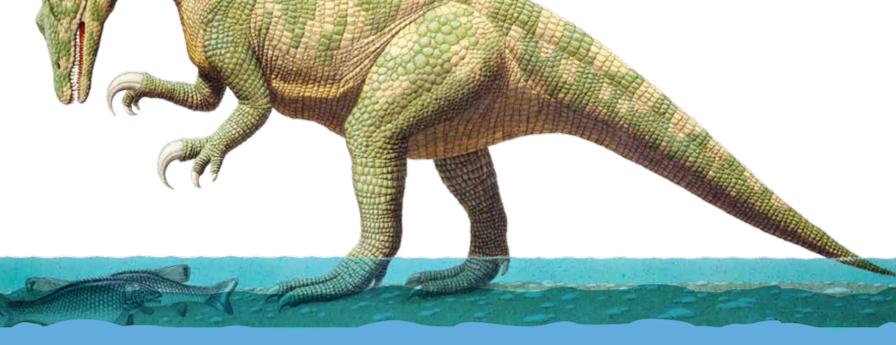
They are small, with a

mouth extended from ear

to ear and sharp serrated teeth.

225 MILLION YEARS AGO LATE TRIASSIC PERIOD

The first dinosaur fossils appear: **Herrerasaurus** and **Eoraptor**.



200 MILLION YEARS AGO THE JURASSIC PERIOD STARTS

There are now two principal continents:

Laurasia and **Gondwanaland**.

The first flying reptiles—the

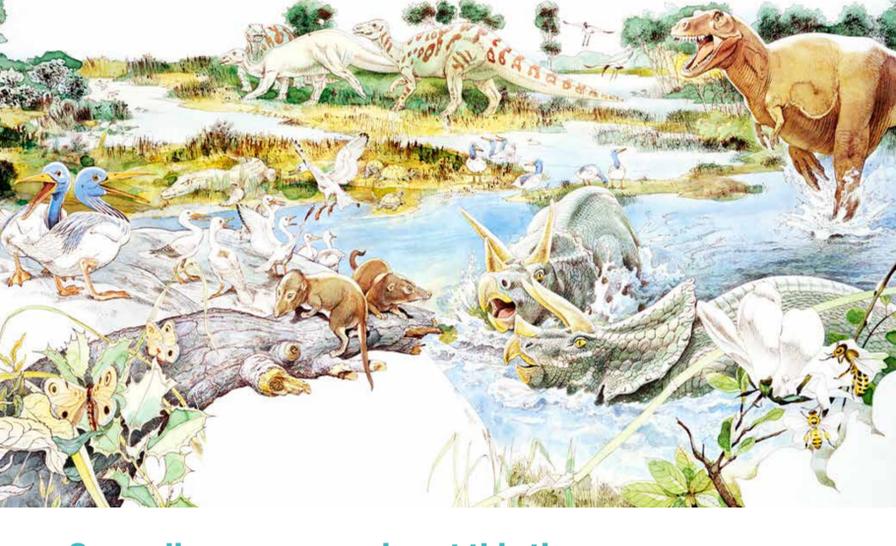
pterosaurs—appear. They have long jointed tails,

no feathers, and can (probably) only fly by soaring.



150 MILLION YEARS AGO LATE JURASSIC PERIOD

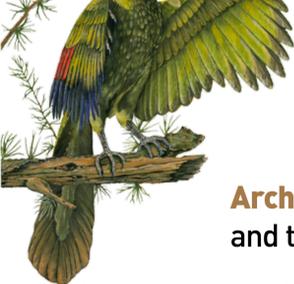
Mammals now share the earth with dinosaurs.



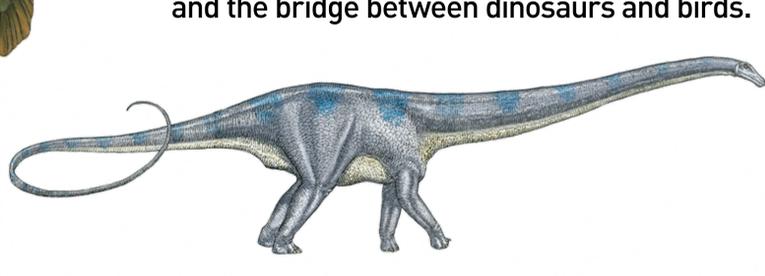
Some dinosaurs roaming at this time:

Apatosaurus (aka **Brontosaurus**): a giant quadruped weighing up to 30 tonnes with a long neck that could reach over 22 metres.

Coelophysis: a carnivorous dinosaur that walks on two legs, measuring less than 2 metres long and weighing 23 kg.



Archaeopteryx: the first feathered dinosaur and the bridge between dinosaurs and birds.



Diplodocus: a herbivore who walked on four legs, growing to over 26 metres long.

145 MILLION YEARS AGO THE CRETACEOUS PERIOD STARTS

Africa detaches from South America and a **seaway** between the North and South Atlantic oceans opens up.

125 MILLION YEARS AGO LATE CRETACEOUS PERIOD

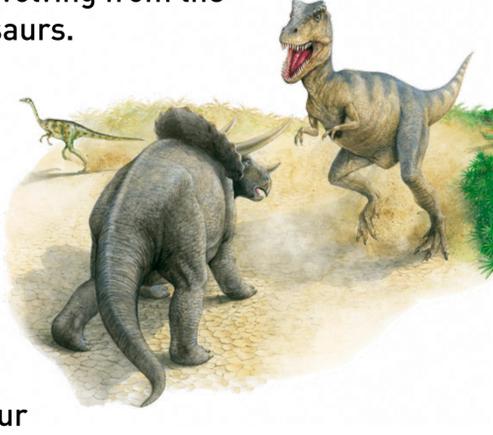
Birds (probably) begin evolving from the theropod family of dinosaurs.

Some dinosaurs roaming at this time:

Tyrannosaurus rex: giant, carnivorous dinosaurs, who are (possibly) scavengers. They can run at up to 40 km/h.

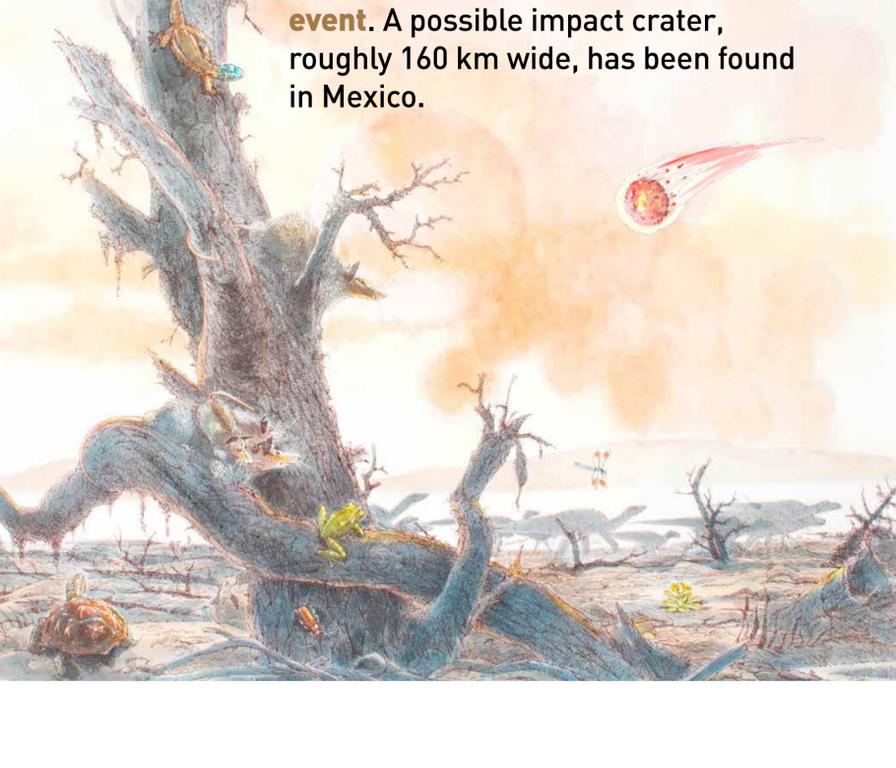
Triceratops: this dinosaur had two horns above its eyes

and a smaller horn at the tip of its snout.



65 MILLION YEARS AGO MASS EXTINCTION

A giant **meteorite** hits earth, causing a mass extinction, known as the **Alvarez event**. A possible impact crater, roughly 160 km wide, has been found in Mexico.



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