Late Jurassic Stegosaurus

A very large dinosaur of the late Jurassic period, this animal was a herbivore and had 17 bony plates embedded in its back.

DIG #1



Research

Jurassic Archaeopteryx

Although this is considered the earliest bird, it had reptilian features. The fact that it had feathers and a tail leads paleontologists to believe that this animal gives evidence to the belief that birds evolved from reptiles.

DIG #2











Cambrian Fossils

Most fossils from the Cambrian Period consisted of a variety of marine invertebrates including "shelly" fauna

DIG #3

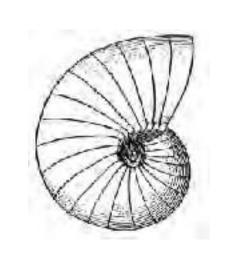


Research

Pennsylvanian cephalopod

This mollusk was a predator in ancient oceans and is now extinct. It is related to the modern day nautilus and squid.

DIG #4











Devonian Arthrodires(fish with bony armor plating)

This fish of the Devonian period grew to more than 20 feet in length and had thick bony armor plating around its head.

DIG #5



Research

dugong (ancient jawless fish)

This ancient jawless fish is related to today's manatee and sea cow.

DIG #6











Permian Conifer

Conifer trees became prominent in the Permian period.

DIG #7



Research

Permian Glossopteris

Fossils of this tongue shaped seed have been found throughout India, South America, southern Africa, Australia, and Antarctica. Because it has been found in so many places throughout the southern hemisphere it has led scientists to deduce that there had once been a land bridge between these areas.

DIG #8











Permian Ophiacodon

A four legged reptile with short, sprawling, clawed legs, a long tail, and large jaws in a narrow but large skull. It was a meat eater, up to about 12 feet long and lived near water.

DIG #9



Research

Devonian Heliophyllum (coral)

This coral flourished during the Devonian when the earth was warm with a green house effect and covered with oceans.

DIG #10







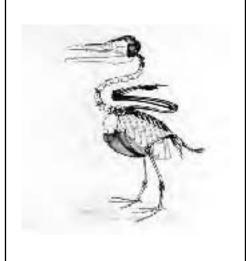




Cretaceous Ichthyornis

This ancient bird had a large head, toothed jaws, and long beak. It is the oldest-known bird that had a keeled breastbone (sternum) similar to that of modern birds.

DIG #11



Research

Cretaceous Corythosaurus (crested dinosaur)

A 30 ft long duck-billed dinosaur with a crested head. It ate plants and lived in the late Cretaceous period.

DIG #12











Late Cretaceous Hadrosaur

A member of the duck-billed ornithopods which grew to a large size, possessing a shovel-type mouth. This group of fossil reptiles have the honor of being the first dinosaurs excavated in the United States and lived during Late Cretaceous times.

DIG #13



Research

Silurian Calymene blumenbachii

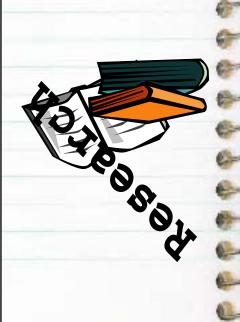
This relative of the trilobite was commonly found in Central England more than 400 million years ago. It was a sluggish swimmer and probably walked around the sea floor scavanging for food.

DIG #14





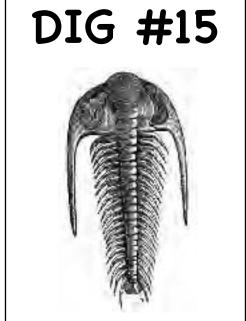






Cambrian Trilobite

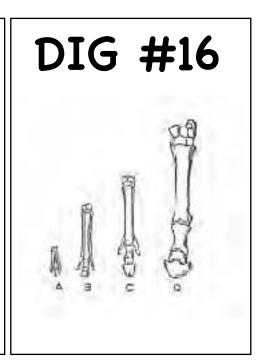
Early invertebrates with a segmented body and an exoskeleton (external). They were one of the dominant life forms of their era.

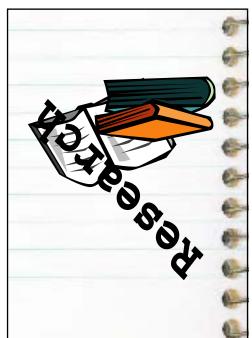


Research

Horse foot evolution from the Eocene to the Pleistocene

The evolution of the horses' hoof went from the four-toed Eohippus of the Eocene, the three functioinal toes of Mesohippus of the Oligocene, the reduced side toes of the Miocene Hipparion, and the modern one toed horse in the Pliocene-Pleistocene eras.





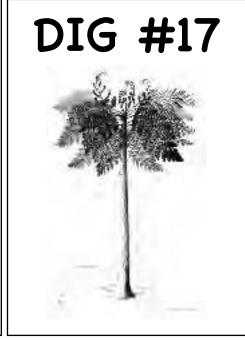






Devonian Fern tree

This early plant of the Devonian era was unique in that, although classified as a fern, it had both wood and fern-like reproduction.



Research

Devonian-Silurian Oldhamia (Early fern)

An early fern of the Silurian-Devonian periods it is unusual in that it had a central stem and "radiating branches".

DIG #18







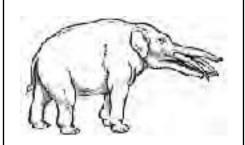




Miocene Tetrabelodon (long-jawed mastodon)

This four-tusked elephant ancestor was an early mastodon of the Miocene period.

DIG #19



Research

Jurassic Eryma (arthropod)

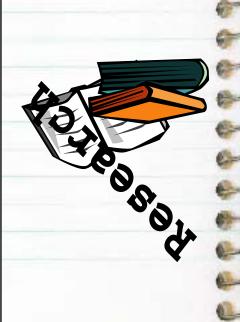
An arthropod of the Jurassic period this creature is an ancestor of modern lobsters.

DIG #20











DIG #25



It's an old bottle cap, but not prehistoric..

DIG #21



Sorry, just a piece of ceramic tile mixed up in the dig.

Research

Miocene Platybelodon (shovel tusker)

This elephant ancestor lived about 25 million years ago

and was know as a "shovel tusker".











Pleistocene to 1800 AD Dinornis Maximus

This flightless bird was the tallest bird that ever lived and could grow to 11 1/2 ft tall. It was slow-moving herbivore, ate seeds and fruit and swallowed stones that helped digest the food.

DIG #23



Research

Ordovician Graptolites

Graptolites (literal translation "writing on rock") are most often found as thin carbonized films in shale or limestone.

DIG #24









