

Marshall County Museum

Create-a-Dino



READ:

Do you have a favorite dinosaur? Why is it your favorite? What do you like about it? Have you ever wondered how the dinosaurs got their names? For instance, what does Triceratops mean? The name **Triceratops** means "three-horned-face" because **tri** = three; **cerat** = horned; and **ops** = face (or head).

Scientists usually name dinosaurs in three different ways: by description, by where the skeleton was found, or for a famous person or the person who found it. The *Triceratops horridus* is actually a description. The *Diplodocus carnegii* is named after Andrew Carnegie, the early 20th century millionaire who paid for the expedition that discovered that dinosaur. *Edmontosaurus annectens* is named for Edmonton, Canada, where it was found. Sometimes, dinosaurs can be named using a combination of the methods.

DO:

- ◆ Look at the three lists on the second page.
- ◆ Look below the lists and figure out what each of the dinosaur names there means.
- ◆ Choose words from at least two of the lists to create a new dinosaur name. See how many different dinosaur names you can make.
- ◆ Choose one of the names you created and draw a dinosaur according to the description suggested by the name. You can even make the dinosaur from Play-Doh or clay.
- ◆ Draw as many dinosaurs as you want.

Materials:

- Paper and pencil or crayons
- Modeling clay or Play-doh (optional)
- Globe or map of the world (optional)
- Camera (optional)

SHARE:

- ◆ Hang up your dinosaur drawing along with its name on the refrigerator door or bulletin board.
- ◆ Make up a story about where your dinosaur was discovered. Use a map to locate an interesting place for your dinosaur 'dig.'
- ◆ Post pictures of you and your dinosaur drawing on social media, using the hashtag #MCMuseumFromHome.



Name that Dinosaur

Ankylo - fused
Bronto - thunder
Dino - terrible
Diplo - double
Gravi - heavy
Mega - large
Micro - small
Pachy - thick
Plo - armored
Terr - earth
Tri - three
Veloci - fast
Xeno - strange

Derma - skin
Aqua - water
Avi - bird
Cerat -horned
Hemo - blood
Herb - plant
Hydra - water
Pter - wing
Steg - roofed
Styra - spiked
Celer - fast
Vibr - to shake
Plate - flat

Cephale - head
Dactyl - finger or toe
Ops - head or face
Gnathus - jaw
Nycho - claw
Opter - wing
Pod - foot
Raptor - thief
Rex - king
Saur - lizard
Spher - ball
Tyranno - tyrant

What do these dinosaur names mean?

Tyrannosaurus Rex _____

Pterodactyl _____

Brontosaurus _____

Velociraptor _____



Use words from at least two of the lists to create some new dinosaur names:

Example: Gravihemospher - Heavy blood ball
