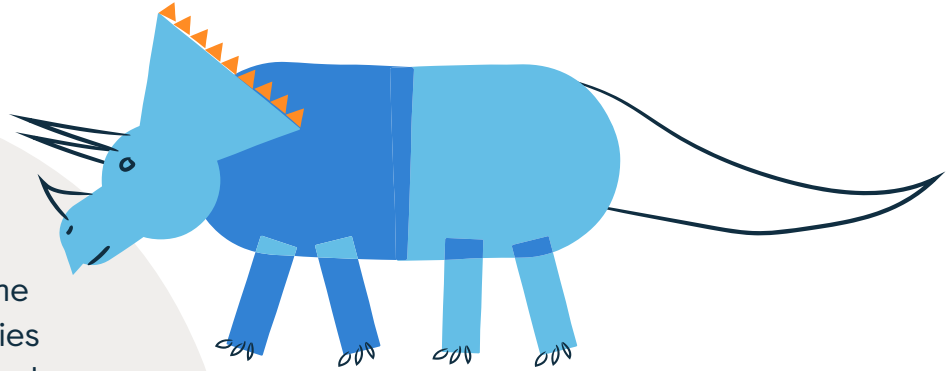


At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers (2 years old)

Week of August 17, 2020



This week's guide continues the theme **Dinosaurs!** The activities in this guide have been adapted from activities happening in our Discovery Preschool classrooms, but with a little twist so that you can easily do them at home. Whether you've returned to your center or you're still learning from home, you and your child can use these activities to dig into dinosaurs.

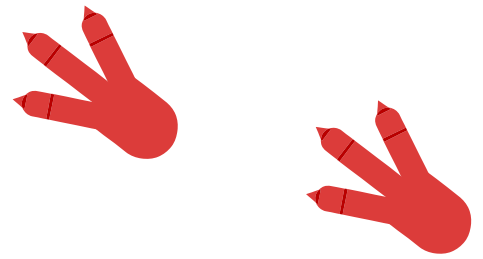
This week introduces your child to the *Triceratops*! Your child will learn what the *Triceratops* looked like and sing a little song to remember the number of horns on its head. They will play *Tape the Horn on the Triceratops* and *Triceratops Says*. They will use bubble wrap and paint to create "dinosaur skin" and put their observation skills to the test as they match dinosaurs to their shadows.

In the weeks to come, your child will learn about the *Tyrannosaurus rex*, and fossils. However, if they show interest in learning more about the *Stegosaurus* from last week, the *Triceratops* from this week, or any of the dinosaurs they may have discovered during the first week's introductory activities, don't hesitate to explore and learn more. Encourage your child to ask ***I wonder*** questions and then look for the answers together!



This Week's Theme:

Dinosaurs



What you'll find in this guide...

We've provided activities similar to what your child would be learning in their center. You and your child can choose your own adventures and do the activities in any order you'd like, repeating and revisiting them as often as you want! Click on the icons below to discover more...



LET'S SING

"Triceratops has Three Big Horns"

Count the horns on a Triceratops head and then sing a catchy tune to remember how many horns they have.



LET'S MOVE

Triceratops Says

This game is all about paying attention and following the rules, so do only what *Triceratops* says!



LET'S PLAY

Tape the Horn on the Triceratops

Take a turn at this playful twist on the classic game Pin the Tail on the Donkey.



LET'S CREATE

Dinosaur Skin

Use paint and bubble wrap to create dinosaur skin!



GAME TIME

Spot the Difference

This game is all about observation as you and your child take turns figuring out what changed.



LET'S PLAY

Dinosaur Shape Match

Your child uses their observation skills to match each dinosaur to its shadow.



At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of August 17, 2020

Getting Ready for the Week: Materials to Gather

"Triceratops has Three Big Horns":

- ❑ [Triceratops picture](#)
- ❑ ["Triceratops has Three Big Horns" lyrics](#)

Tape the Horn on the Triceratops:

- ❑ Blindfold or scarf
- ❑ Paper bag, large (or white paper if a paper bag isn't available)
- ❑ Markers
- ❑ Scissors (for your use only)
- ❑ Tape
- ❑ [Triceratops picture](#)
- ❑ [Triceratops head outline](#)

Triceratops Says:

No materials needed

Dinosaur Skin:

- ❑ Bubble wrap
- ❑ Containers or paint trays
- ❑ Paper
- ❑ Newspaper (optional)
- ❑ Scissors (for adult use only)
- ❑ Small paint rollers or wide paintbrushes
- ❑ Tempera or finger paint (brown, green, yellow, and red)
- ❑ [Triceratops picture](#)

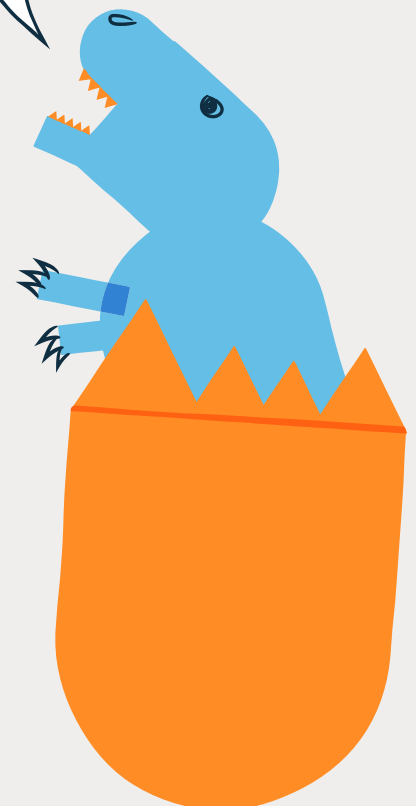
Dinosaur Shape Match:

- ❑ [Dinosaur Matching Cards](#)
- ❑ Pencil, pen, or marker (if a printer isn't available)
- ❑ Paper
- ❑ Scissors (for adult use only)

Spot the Difference:

- ❑ Simple clothing items and accessories, such as hats, scarves, gloves, button up shirts, different colors of socks, and large bracelets

Tip: At the beginning of your week, gather materials and place them in a container so you're ready to go!



At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of August 17, 2020



Let's Sing: "Triceratops has Three Big Horns"

Count the horns on a *Triceratops* head and then sing a catchy tune to remember how many horns they have.



Length of activity:
15 minutes*

* Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

Level of Engagement Required by Adult: High



Level of Prep Required: Low



What you need:

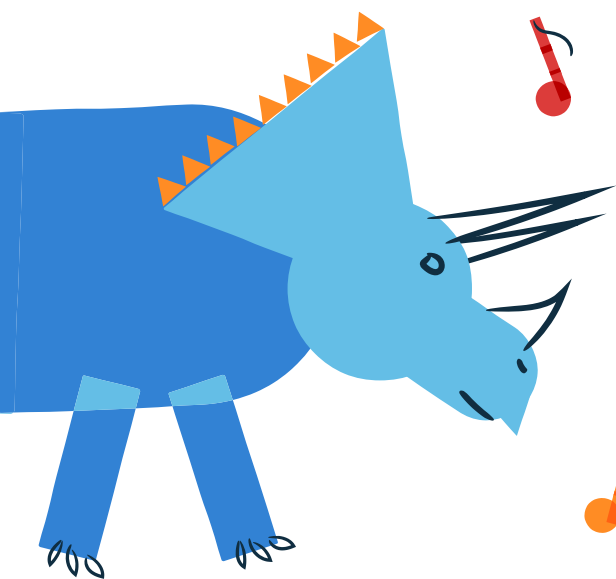
- [Triceratops picture](#)
- "Triceratops has Three Big Horns" lyrics (below)

What your child is learning:

- To hear and discriminate among sounds and syllables in spoken words
- Beginning counting skills
- The features of a *Triceratops*

What you do: Begin by showing your child the [picture](#) of the *Triceratops* and share the name of the dinosaur with them. Then invite them to say the name with you. Next, say the name again as you clap four times, once for each syllable. Tell them that the *Triceratops* was a big dinosaur that had three horns on its head. Point to the horns and count them with your child.

Tell your child you have a song to share with them. Share the song once slowly, clapping for each syllable as you sing it. Then invite your child to sing and clap the song with you.



"Triceratops Has Three Big Horns"

(sung to the tune of "Wheels on the Bus")

Triceratops has three big horns, (8 claps, one per syllable)

Three big horns, (3 claps)

Three big horns. (3 claps)

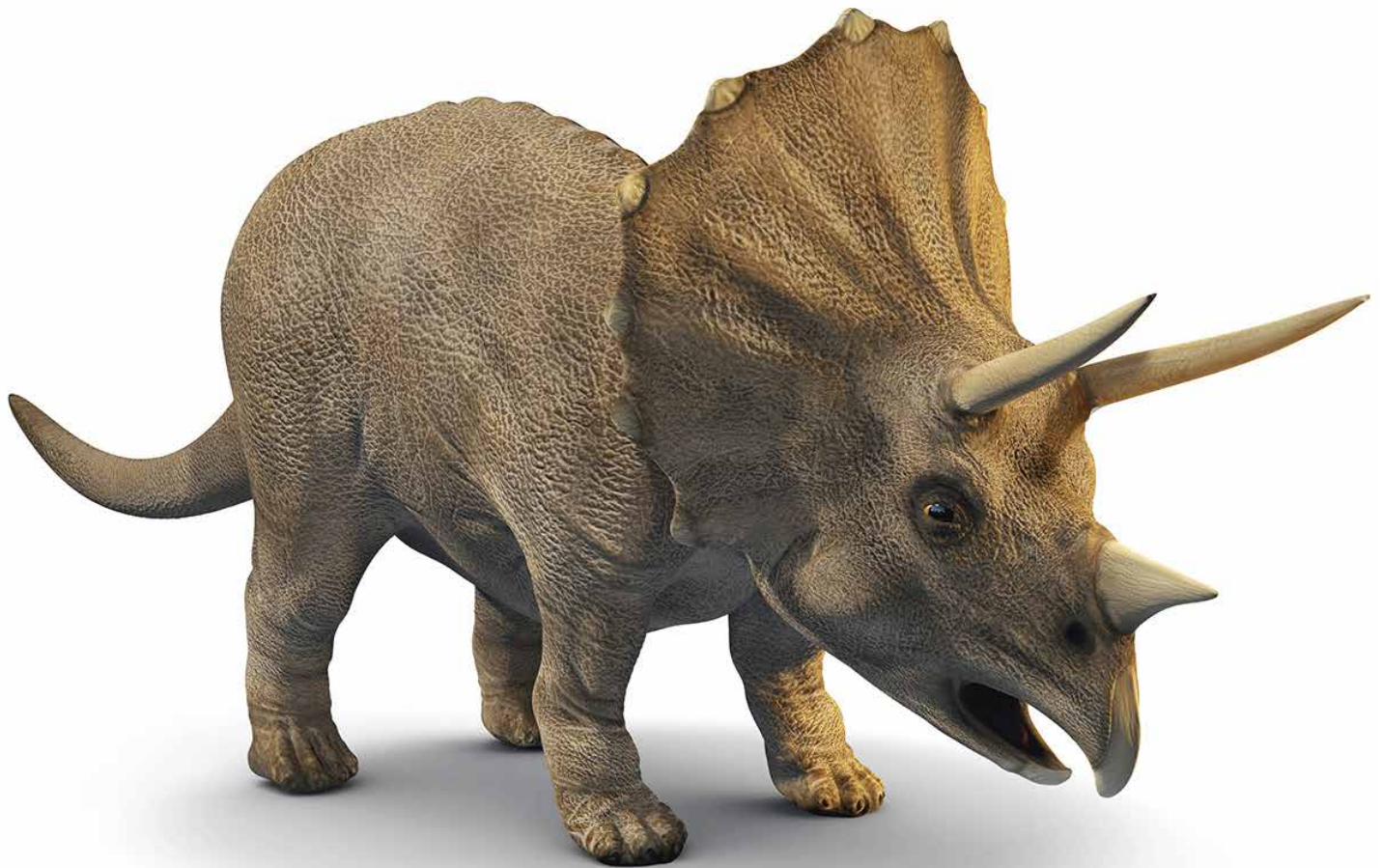
Triceratops has three big horns, (8 claps)

One, two, three! (3 claps)

At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of August 17, 2020

Triceratops



At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of August 17, 2020



Let's Play: Tape the Horn on the *Triceratops*

Have a turn at this playful twist on the classic game Pin the Tail on the Donkey.



Length of activity:
20–30 minutes*

* Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

Level of Engagement
Required by Adult: Medium



Level of Prep Required: Medium



What you need:

- ❑ Blindfold or scarf
- ❑ Paper bag, large (or white paper if a paper bag isn't available)
- ❑ Markers
- ❑ Scissors (for your use only)
- ❑ Tape
- ❑ [Triceratops picture](#)
- ❑ [Triceratops head outline](#)

What your child is learning:

- To use flexible thinking as they play a new or different version of a familiar game
- To reflect on their abilities and think about ways to make changes or corrections
- To develop patience and impulse control, if taking turns playing with others
- How to make observations and comparisons

What you do: Cut the paper bag open to create a larger sheet of paper. If a paper bag isn't available, tape together 4–6 sheets of paper to create one larger sheet. Draw a simple outline of a [Triceratops head](#) on the paper, including the two larger head horns but leaving off the nose horn (outlined in red on the [Triceratops head outline](#)). Cut out the head and tape it to a wall or door so it's at your child's eye-level. Cut 3 or 4 nose horns from the remaining paper scraps and attach a piece of tape to each.

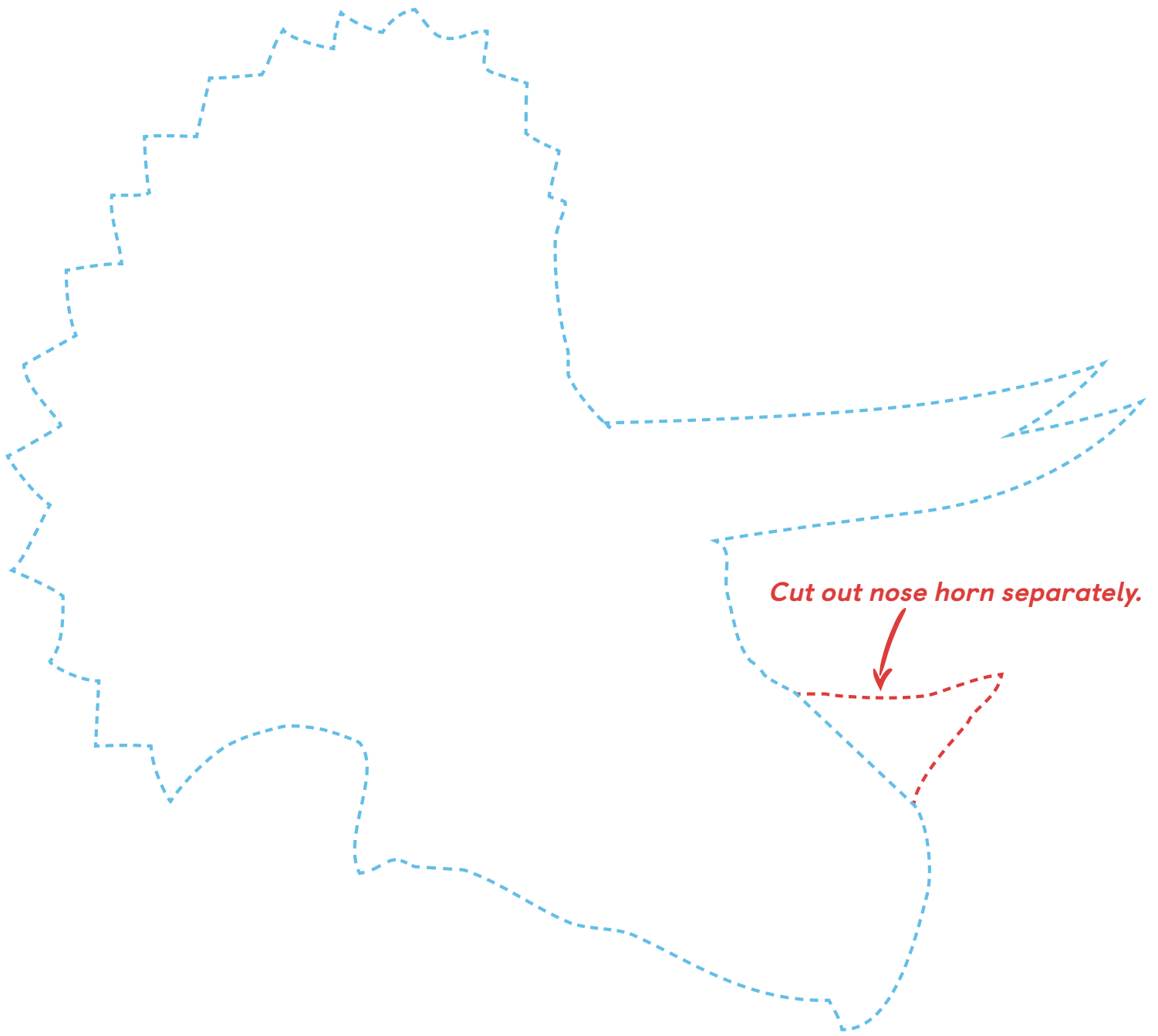
Show your child the [Triceratops picture](#) and ask if they remember the name. If not, share the name with them. Then show them the [Triceratops head](#) on the wall and ask them to compare it to the picture and ask them what's missing from the head on the wall. Show them the horns and share that you're going to play a game where they tape a horn on the *Triceratops*.

To play the game, have your child stand about 2 feet in front of the *Triceratops* drawing and hand them one of the nose horns. If your child is comfortable, cover their eyes gently with a blindfold or scarf. If your child would prefer to not have their eyes covered, invite them to close their eyes instead. Explain that they'll walk forward and tape the horn on the *Triceratops*, guiding them as needed to keep them safe. After they've placed the horn, remove the blindfold or have them open their eyes and see how close they were. Repeat the process for the other horns or invite other members of the family to have a turn. When all horns have been placed, talk about which horn is the closest to where a *Triceratops'* horn would be, and which is farthest away.

At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of August 17, 2020

Triceratops Head



Cut out nose horn separately.

At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of August 17, 2020



Let's Move: *Triceratops Says*

This game is about paying attention and following the rules, so do only what *Triceratops* says!



Length of activity:
15 minutes*

* Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

Level of Engagement Required by Adult: High



Level of Prep Required: None



What you need:

- [Triceratops picture](#)

What your child is learning:

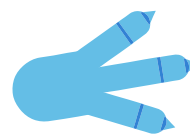
- To follow directions in a movement game
- To focus their attention
- How to maintain balance during movement experiences

Show your child the [picture](#) of the *Triceratops* and ask them if they remember the name. If not, share the name with them. Then tell them you're going to play a game of *Triceratops Says*. To play the game, tell your child you will give them directions. If you say "*Triceratops says*" at the start of the directions, they should follow the directions. If you do not say "*Triceratops says*," they should not follow directions. Begin the game with a direction, such as, "*Triceratops says* clap your hands" or "*Triceratops says* hop up and down." As the game continues, incorporate directions that do not begin with "*Triceratops says*."



Social and Emotional Learning

Playing "*Simon Says*," or variations like "*Triceratops Says*," helps your child practice listening skills as well as how to follow rules and directions in a fun and interactive way. This helps them build a foundation for other social and learning situations where listening and following rules and directions will be important, such as in the classroom or during extracurricular activities such as swim, soccer, or gymnastics.



At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of August 17, 2020



Let's Create: Dinosaur Skin

Use paint and bubble wrap to create dinosaur skin!



Length of activity:
20 minutes*

* Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement
Required by Adult: High**



Level of Prep Required: Medium



What you need:

- Bubble wrap
- Containers or paint trays
- Paper
- Newspaper (optional)
- Scissors (for adult use only)
- Small paint rollers or wide paintbrushes
- Tempera or finger paint (brown, green, yellow, and red)
- [Triceratops picture](#)

What your child is learning:

- How to use different tools and materials to create two-dimensional art
- How to make observations and comparisons
- An increased expressive vocabulary in relation to descriptive words

What you do: Cut the bubble wrap into sections slightly smaller than a sheet of paper. Pour paint into containers if using wide paintbrushes or onto trays if using small paint rollers. To make clean up easier, you may want to cover the work area with newspaper.

Show your child the [picture](#) of the *Triceratops* and ask them if they remember the name. If not, share the name with them. Ask them to look closely at the *Triceratops* skin. What do they notice? How do they think the *Triceratops*' skin feels? Share your observations using descriptive words, such as rough or bumpy.

At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of August 17, 2020

Then show your child the bubble wrap and explain that they're going to paint on the bubbles, then press the bubble wrap against a sheet of paper to create "dinosaur skin." Demonstrate how to brush or roll paint on the bubble wrap then invite your child to continue using the colors of their choice. When they're ready, help them turn the bubble wrap over and press it against a sheet of paper. Assist them in carefully pulling the bubble wrap up off the paper. After they have removed the bubble wrap, ask them to make observations. What does the paint look like? Does it look the dinosaur skin in the picture? If they're interested, encourage them to create additional paintings. Revisit the paintings when they're dry and talk with your child about how they look and feel.

Did you know...

[Lungwort lichen](#) is sometimes called "dinosaur skin" or "dragon skin." It grows in humid, forested areas with conifers and hardwood trees. If you live in or visit an area with such forests, you and your child can keep an eye out and see if you can spot some "dinosaur skin!"



At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of August 17, 2020



Let's Play: Dinosaur Shape Match

Your child uses their observation skills to match each dinosaur to its shadow.



Length of activity:
15 minutes*

* Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement
Required by Adult:** High



Level of Prep Required: Medium



What you need:

- [Dinosaur Matching Cards](#) (2 pages)
- Pencil, pen, or marker (if a printer isn't available)
- Paper
- Scissors (for adult use only)

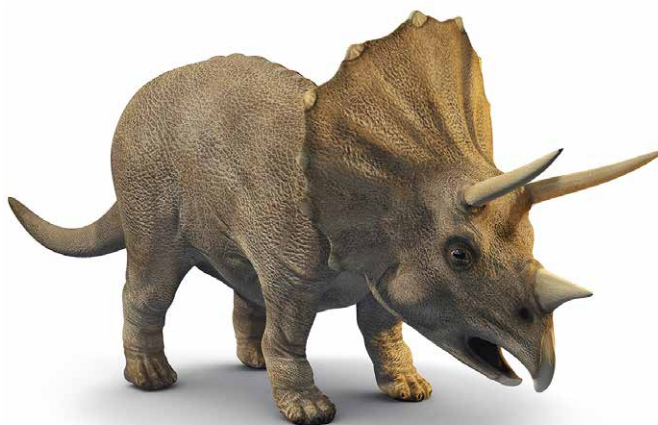
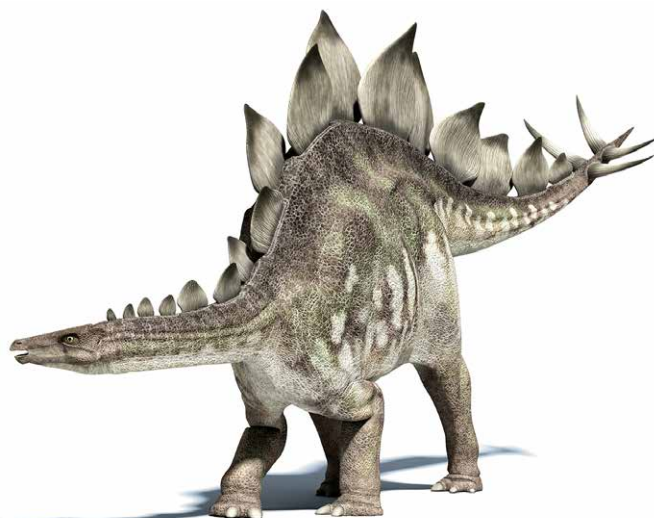
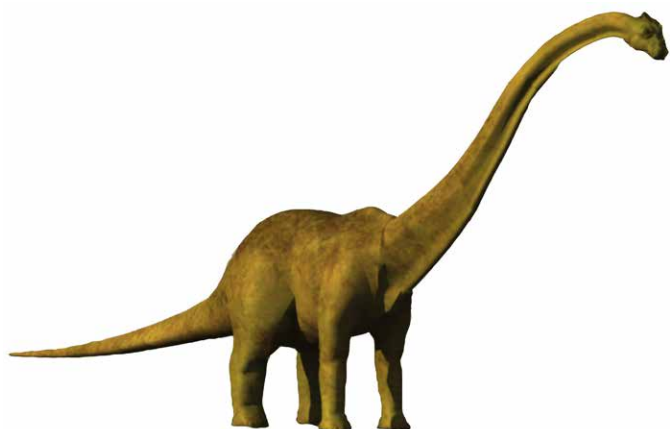
What your child is learning:

- How to make observations and comparisons
- How to match objects based on similar attributes
- How to communicate and share ideas and experiences with others

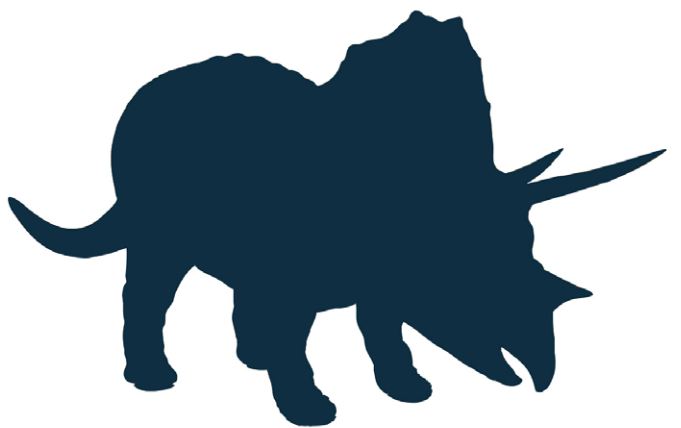
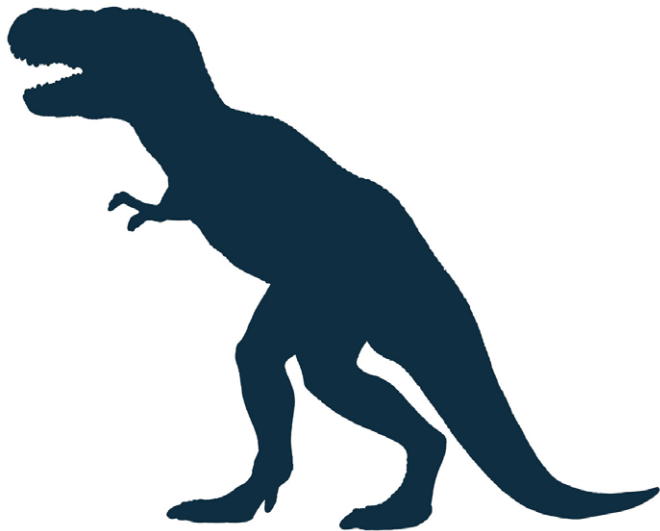
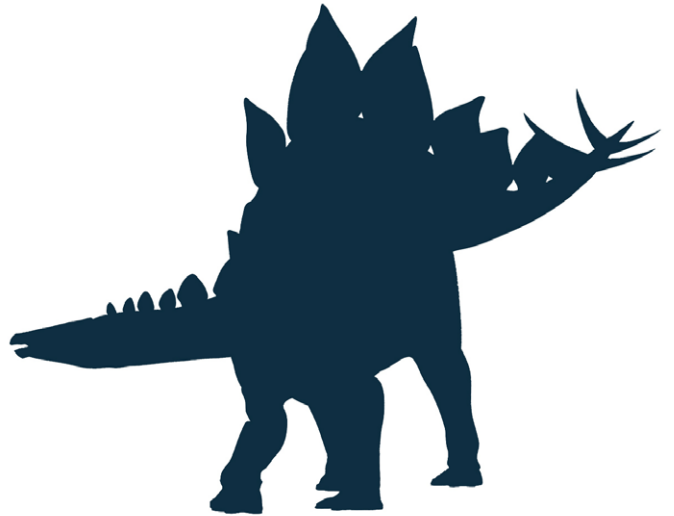
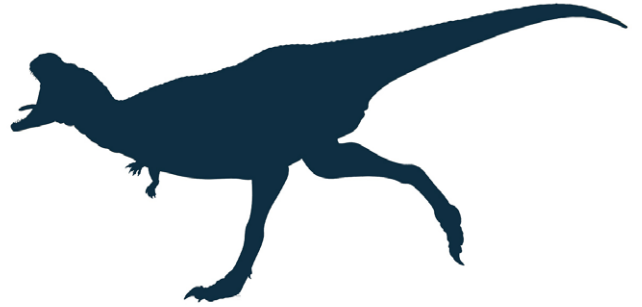
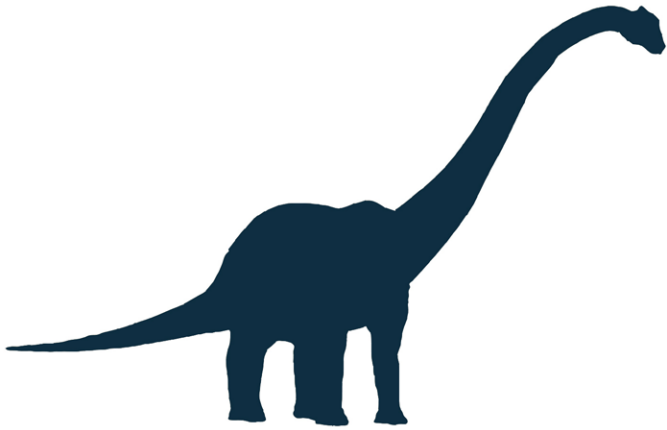
What you do: Print and cut out the Dinosaur matching cards. If you're unable to print the cards, you can create your own by drawing simple outlines of dinosaurs on paper, creating two outlines for each dinosaur. Instead of having your child match each dinosaur to its shadow, they can find matching outlines.

Invite your child to play a matching game. Show your child the cards and explain that they're going to help you match each dinosaur to its shadow or outline. Select one dinosaur picture card and ask your child what they notice about the dinosaur. Then ask your child to look at the dinosaur shadows or outlines and find the shadow or outline for the dinosaur you selected. If needed, share observations that will help your child find the match, focusing on the observations your child made whenever possible. "This dinosaur has horns on top of its head. Which of these shadows looks like it has horns on top of its head?" Or, "This dinosaur is standing on its back legs. Which of these shadows is standing on its back legs?" When a match has been made, set the cards aside and repeat the process with another dinosaur picture card. Continue until you and your child have matched all the dinosaurs.

Dinosaur Matching Cards (1 of 2)



Dinosaur Matching Cards (2 of 2)



At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of August 17, 2020



Game Time: Spot the Difference

This game is all about observation as you and your child take turns figuring out what changed. For this game, collect some simple clothing items and accessories, such as hats, scarves, gloves, button up shirts, different colors of socks, and large bracelets.

To play, have your child look at you and share that you're going to change one thing about the way you look, and they're going to have to figure out what you've changed. Have your child turn around so their back is turned toward you and change one thing about your appearance, such as putting on a hat or scarf or changing the colors of your socks. When you're ready, have them turn around see if they can figure out what you've changed. Assist your child as needed by providing hints or drawing their attention to the change. When they've figured out what you've changed, it is their turn to make a change. Turn your back and invite them to change one thing for you to figure out. Continue taking turns for as long as your child shows interest or time allows. As the game continues, your change might include removing something you added earlier, or making a more subtle change, such as turning your hat backward or changing the scarf you're wearing.

