



HOME SCHOOLING DINOSAUR TRACK ACTIVITIES

LOWER PRIMARY (KINDY TO YEAR//)

The following activities are for families and households home schooling students during the COVID-19 pandemic who are in self-isolation together. They are not for larger groups or extended families.

When doing activities on the beach please observe all the safety conditions and requirements of social distancing.

Maintain a minimum of 2 metres between your self-isolation group and other beach users.

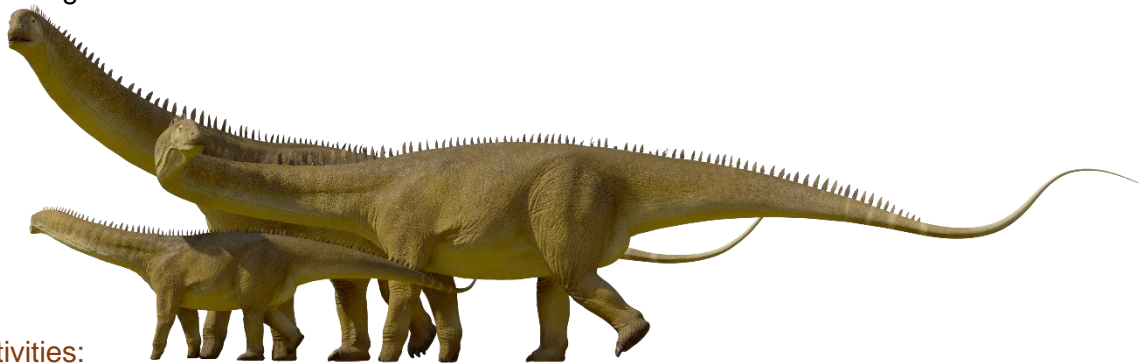
Keep up to date with local and state government movement restrictions and self-isolation conditions. Also visit; <https://www.australia.gov.au/>

Home schooling activities to use along with the 'What to look for' publication: <https://www.dinosaurcoast.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/What-to-look-for.pdf>

For further information visit: <https://www.dinosaurcoast.org.au/>

You are advised to select and adapt activities to suit your child's needs and desired learning outcomes. These activities support the Science curriculum, particularly biological and earth sciences, and have relevance to Maths, English, and HASS.

We recommend you visit tracks when tides are 3.5 metres or lower and keep an eye on the incoming tide.



Activities:

- As a family group, establish and display a dinosaur related word bank and add to it as new terms arise.
- Draw maps of walking routes you have taken during beach excursions, highlighting the dinosaur track sites you have explored.

- Create tracks in a plasticine/play-dough surface that are like the tracks of the Broome dinosaurs¹. You might like to first display a diagram to remind children of the different types.
- Sketch various dinosaurs and label their individual features (e.g. horns, claws, long tail).
- Develop a basic graph, (e.g. a picture graph) to compare dinosaur heights or features².
- Discuss and develop a list of rules that will help to protect dinosaur tracks along the Dampier Peninsular Dinosaur Coast³.
- Watch the Dinosaur Coast Management Group's promotional video⁴. Create a home display which could inform others about Broome's tracksites. Use track shaped cardboard cut-outs to present and display interesting information.
- Use Question Starts⁵ activities to think creatively about dinosaurs.
- Create dinosaur themed poems:
There once was a dinosaur, who left a track with its paw...
- Or try an acrostic poem instead (as below or design your own):
D ...
I ...
N ...
O ...
- Explore the work of a palaeontologist (fossil scientist) by 'unpacking' his or her tool bag. (Create the bag prior to the activity using brushes, a map, a camera, moulding material (plasticine), bucket, magnifying glass, ruler, notepad etc.)
- Many animals leave tracks on Broome's beaches (e.g. hermit crabs, lizards, birds, dogs). Have a look at these when next walking on the beach; or gather images and ask children to identify each track.

Resources Needed:

- A3 paper
- Butchers paper
- Art supplies
- plasticine/playdough
- Tool bag: brushes, map, camera, moulding material (plasticine), bucket, magnifying glass, ruler, notepad etc
- Screen and internet connection



¹ <https://www.dinosaurcoast.org.au/track-types/>

² <https://www.dinosaurcoast.org.au/track-types/>

³ <https://www.dinosaurcoast.org.au/help-protect-the-tracksites/>

⁴ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w38St-PQK14&t=17s>

⁵ http://www.visiblethinkingpz.org/VisibleThinking_html_files/03_ThinkingRoutines/03d_UnderstandingRoutines/QuestionStarts/QuestionStarts_Routine.html



HOME SCHOOLING DINOSAUR TRACK ACTIVITIES

MIDDLE PRIMARY (YEARS ~~///~~ TO ~~///~~)

The following activities are for families and households home schooling students during the COVID-19 pandemic who are in self-isolation together. They are not for larger groups or extended families.

When doing activities on the beach please observe all the safety conditions and requirements of social distancing.

Maintain a minimum of 2 metres between your self-isolation group and other beach users.

Keep up to date with local and state government movement restrictions and self-isolation conditions. Also visit; <https://www.australia.gov.au/>

Home schooling activities to use along with the 'What to look for' publication: <https://www.dinosaurcoast.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/What-to-look-for.pdf>

For further information visit:
<https://www.dinosaurcoast.org.au/>

You are advised to select and adapt activities to suit your child's needs and desired learning outcomes. These activities support the Science curriculum, particularly biological and earth sciences, and have relevance to Maths, English, and HASS.

We recommend you visit tracks when tides are 3.5 metres or lower and keep an eye on the incoming tide.

Activities:

- Draw maps of walking routes you have recently taken during beach excursions, highlighting the dinosaur track sites you have explored.
- Display diagrams⁶ of the different types of tracks found around Broome. Create actual size or scaled down replica tracks, either on paper or playdough.
- Reinforce and extend learning from any recent dinosaur tracking excursion by watching the 3-minute video on ABC education⁷ which explores fossils and how they are formed.



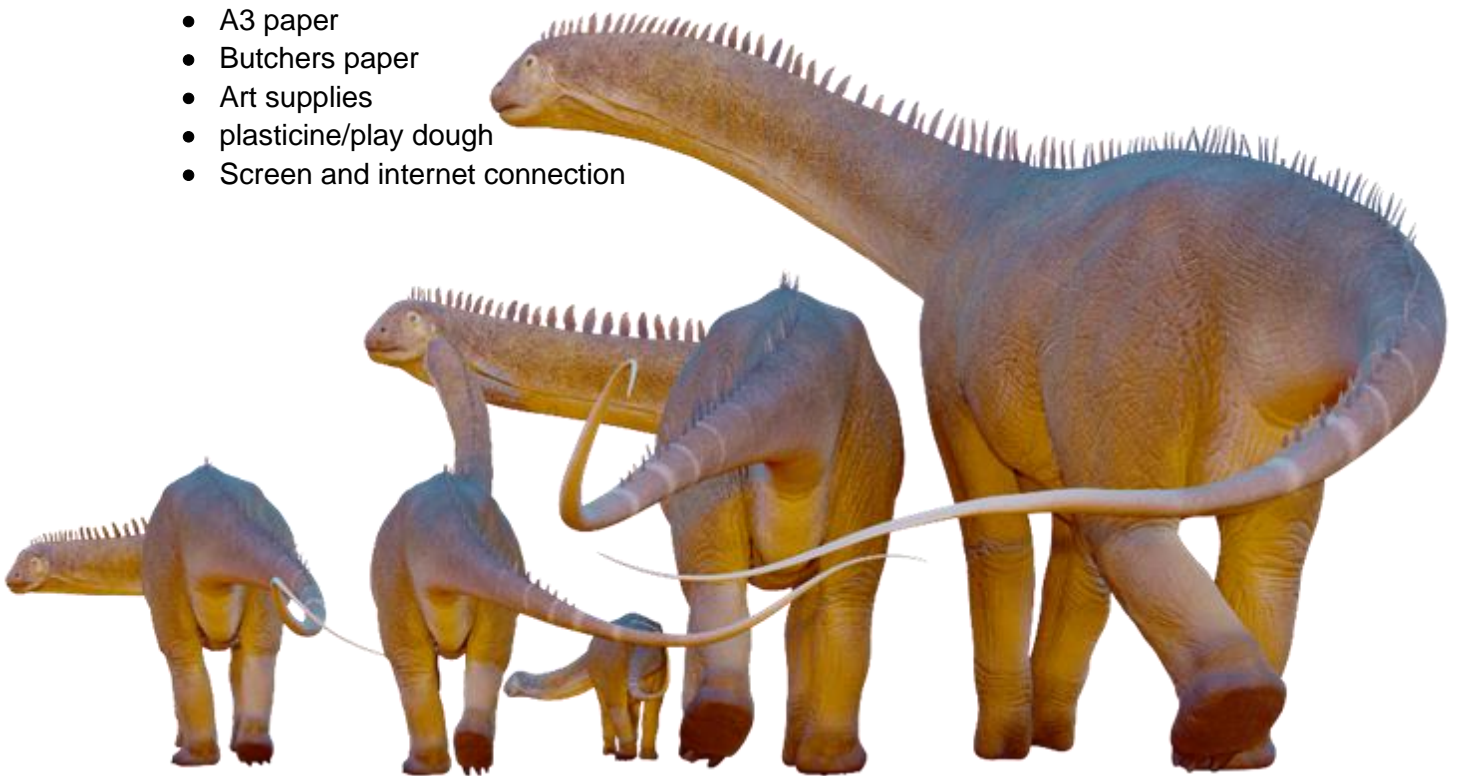
⁶ <https://www.dinosaurcoast.org.au/track-types/>

⁷ <https://education.abc.net.au/home#!/media/1182920/fossils-stories-in-the-rock>

- Write definitions for 'fossil' and 'trace fossil'. Brainstorm the different types of things that can be learnt from each.
- Research a dinosaur found in the Broome area and present findings.
- Develop a graph, to compare dinosaur heights, types, or features.
- Discuss the significance of the tracksites on the Dampier Peninsular Dinosaur Coast and brainstorm possible threats (e.g. cars, development, vandalism, standing on edges, erosion). Make a pamphlet to inform visitors about why and how the tracks need protecting. For guidance refer here⁸:
- Plan and create a digital document to inform others about the significance and wonder of Broome's tracksites. To stimulate the creative process, watch the Dinosaur Coast Management Group's promotional video⁹. This could be shared on social media if parents or guardians agree.
- Familiarise children with local tide charts and challenge them to identify suitable dates and times to go in search of tracks. As a rule, tides need to be 2.5 metres or lower.
- Use the Question Starts¹⁰ activity to encourage creative thinking about dinosaurs.
- Create dinosaur themed poems, for example, acrostic or shape poems.
- Many animals leave tracks on Broome's beaches (e.g. hermit crabs, lizards, birds, dogs). Have a look at these when next walking on the beach; or gather images and ask children to identify each track.

Resources Needed:

- A3 paper
- Butchers paper
- Art supplies
- plasticine/play dough
- Screen and internet connection



⁸ <https://www.dinosaurcoast.org.au/help-protect-the-tracksites/>

⁹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w38St-PQK14&t=17s>

¹⁰ http://www.visiblethinkingpz.org/VisibleThinking_html_files/03_ThinkingRoutines/03d_UnderstandingRoutines/QuestionStarts/QuestionStarts_Routine.html



EXTRA STUFF FOR REALLY KEEN TRACKERS

On the beach:

We recommend you time your beach excursion when tides are 3.5 metres or lower and don't forget to keep an eye on the incoming tide.

- **Spot tracks** - When you start looking there are quite a few tracks to be found – especially the large rounded sauropod tracks. Become a palaeontologist (fossil scientist) and decide if you are looking at a rock pool or a dinosaur track!
- **Get measuring** - Measure the length of any print then multiply it*. This will give you a rough idea of the height of that dinosaur to the top of its hip! *How much taller than you was this dinosaur?* (You can measure using your hand, stick, string or anything)
 - *For Sauropods (back foot) multiply by 3.1
 - *For Theropods multiply by 4

- **Measure time** - Find a striated rock wall at the back of the beach. Can you see the thousands of layers that have formed it? Each layer was created millions of years ago by the sediment deposited each day, by rivers and tides. Only recently have the ancient rock layers been eroded, revealing their secret dinosaur tracks.

- **What causes erosion** - *What else could be found as the layers erode?*

- **Travel through time** - you can't travel back 130 million years, but you can imagine what it was like:

Look inland and imagine distant mountains covered in thick pine-like trees and ferns. Look to the sea – it was 5-10 kilometres further away. Where you're standing was a wide, flat, sandy plain with temporary streams that flowed from the mountains to the sea. And... there were herds of dinosaurs.

- **Make tracks** - Don't leave the dinosaurs to have all the fun – make some tracks for yourself. Use the sand as a canvas and create some interesting dinosaur tracks for somebody else to find, or simply draw a dinosaur. *Can you do it to scale?*

On the beach or back at home:

- **Get funny**

Q: What do you call a dinosaur with bad eyesight?

A: Do-you-think-he-saurus

Create, look up and share your own dinosaur jokes...

- **Name tracks** - Just to confuse things, the identifying names of dinosaur tracks are different to the name of the dinosaur that made them.

Have you found a *Megalosauropus broomensis* track? (These are three-toed theropod prints and the name translates to 'Big lizard-foot of Broome').

What will you call the tracks you find?

- **Know your fossils** - Fossils are the preserved remains of a living thing from the past, such as bones or shells, usually found in rocks.

Trace fossils are details left and preserved in rocks that provide evidence about living things in the past, for example tracks or burrows.

What different types of information about dinosaurs can we learn from trace fossils as opposed to fossils?