

Fun Activities for Primary Grades

PURPOSE: Here are a variety of activities which could be used to generate interest in the theme of dinosaurs. Others could be used in integrating math, visual arts, or performing arts with this topic.

[Coloring Page](#)

http://www.edhelper.com/teachers/coloring_Dinosaurs_coloring_page_4.htm

Dinosaur Dig – center

Take one of the large tubs from the FOSS Science kits and fill halfway with vermiculite or sand. Take 4 pieces of yarn and tape 2 horizontally and 2 vertically across the top of the tub to create a grid of 9 equal spaces. Then attach labels to the horizontal side of the tub: A, B, and C. The vertical side of the tub gets numbers: 1, 2, and 3. Each section of the grid can now be identified with a letter and a number. Collect and clean various bones: lamb, chicken, or beef by boiling or beaching them. Hide a bone in each section of the grid. Provide students with brushes to gently uncover the bones. Have them record their discovery by drawing their find and naming the coordinates. Teachers could substitute small dinosaur toys for the bones.

3A	3B	3C
2A	2B	2C
1A	1B	1C

Dinosaur Dig – center

Fill the small tubs that come with the FOSS science kits with vermiculite or sand. Bury various wooden objects such as tongue depressors, popsicle sticks, and toothpicks or different sizes. Have students dig for fossils with brushes and tweezers. Next they create a dinosaur skeleton with their “fossils” and glue on construction paper.

[Dinosaur Dig](#)-matching game

<http://www.billybear4kids.com/dinosaurs/dim-bones/diggin.html>

Dinosaur Hokey Pokey

(Sing to the tune of the Hokey Pokey)
You put your claws in
You put your claws out
You put your claws in
And you scratch them all about
You do the Dino Pokey and you turn yourself around
That what it's all about!

(new verses)
feet in/feet out/stomp them all about
teeth in/teeth out/chomp them all about
tail in/tail out/wag it all about

Dinosaur Fingerplay (from Hummingbird Educational Resources)

(Sing to the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot")
I'm a mean old dinosaur, (Make a mean frown.)
Big and tall. (Reach wide and high.)
Here is my tail (Point to imaginary tail.)
And here is my claw. (Curl fingers on one hand.)
When I get hungry, (Rub tummy.)
I just growl. (Growl the word growl with hands around mouth.)
Look out, kids ... (Reach arms out.)
I'm on the prow! (Lunge left and right.)

Dinosaur Tic Tac Toe

<http://pbskids.org/readingrainbow/family/activities/activity6.html>

Directions for creating a tic tac toe gameboard with fossil-like markers.

Dinosphere

http://www.childrensmuseum.org/dinosphere/kids/kids_games_level1.html

The Children's Museum of Indianapolis provides leveled dinosaur activities such as reading a dinosaur alphabet book or creating a movie.

Math Games

Dino Roll:

This is a game you can make and play during centers time. Take an old egg carton - number the bottom of each cup with a number from 1-6. Put 2 counters/markers in the egg carton and decorate the top with a dinosaur picture. Have the child shake the carton. Open the lid to see where the markers have landed and create an addition equation to match. Use actual dinosaur counters to act out the equation and solve.

Dino Weights:

Display a balance scale and a variety of mid-sized dinosaur models/toys. Students place a dinosaur on one side of the scale and then predict how many objects (counters, unifix cubes, small dinosaurs, etc.) they must place on the other side of the scale to balance it.

[Pasta Fossil](http://www.makingfriends.com/dinofosl.htm) <http://www.makingfriends.com/dinofosl.htm>

[Scrambler puzzle](http://www.edbydesign.com/scrambler/hub_dinosaurs.html) http://www.edbydesign.com/scrambler/hub_dinosaurs.html

Choose from a variety of dinosaur pictures - scramble pieces and put back together online

[Word Search](http://www.edhelper.com/themes/Dinosaurs37.htm) <http://www.edhelper.com/themes/Dinosaurs37.htm>

Teacher Resources:

[Dinosaur Gallery](http://www.learningpage.com/free_pages/galleries/dino.html)

http://www.learningpage.com/free_pages/galleries/dino.html

Teachers have access to worksheets in math, science, and language arts. There are also simple cut-out art projects.

Halloween Connection

[Teaching Heart](http://www.teachingheart.net/dembones.html)

<http://www.teachingheart.net/dembones.html>

has several activities related to the Halloween candy – Dem Bones.