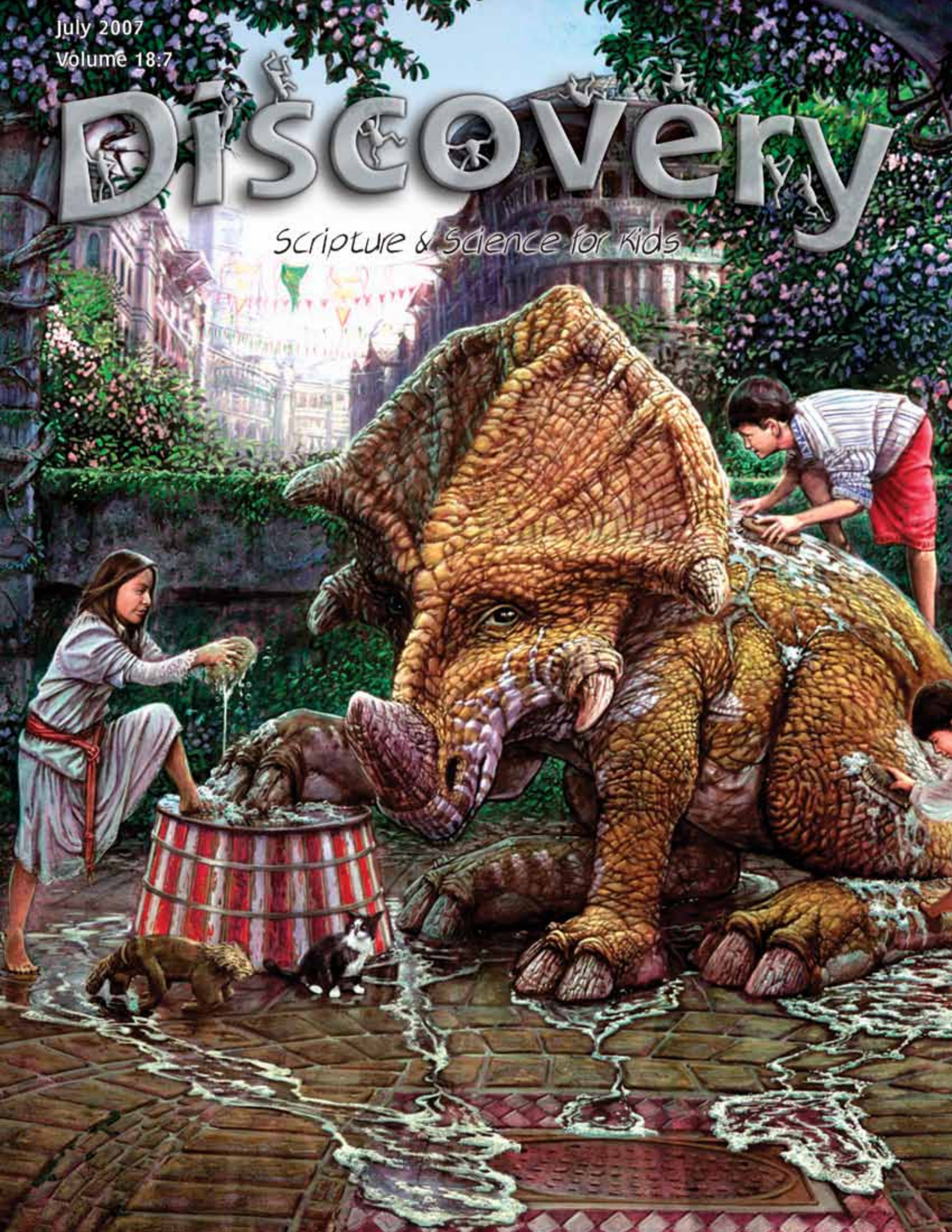


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Discovery

Scripture & Science for Kids



IT COULDN'T LAST THAT LONG!

KYLE BUTT

What happens to a chicken bone that gets left outside in the yard? Most of the time a dog or cat eats it or buries it in the ground. But what would happen if it were buried very quickly? It might turn into a chicken-bone fossil. A fossil is something that is left by a plant, animal, or person. When a fossil forms, the bone and stuff inside the bone (like bone marrow or blood cells) are replaced by minerals that are hard like rock. The minerals form in the exact shape of the bone. So, if our chicken bone fossilized, we would dig up a very hard, rocky replica of our bone.



This process sometimes occurred with dinosaur bones. They are buried in the ground and the actual bones, blood cells, and bone marrow are replaced with minerals. Have you ever wondered how old these fossils from dinosaurs are? Scientists who believe in evolution tell us that the fossils from dinosaurs are over 60 million years old. But that simply is not the truth.

Recently, something happened that helps disprove the idea that dinosaur bones are millions of years old. Scientists uncovered a fossil from a Tyrannosaurus rex. But when they broke the fossil open, it still had soft tissue. They had not been replaced by rocky minerals. We know that soft tissue could not last millions of years buried under ground. It would have decayed or been fossilized.

Evolutionary scientists should admit that they are wrong. They should admit that dinosaur bones are not millions of years old. But that is not what they have done. Instead, they have said that the soft tissue somehow lasted 65 million

years. But that cannot be true. An honest person who found soft tissue in a dinosaur fossil would admit that the fossil could not be millions of years old. This find helps us to see that dinosaurs did not live millions of years ago, but were created by God only a few thousand years ago, during the Creation week we read about in Genesis 1.



AN ANCIENT PICTURE OF A DINOSAUR

KYLE BUTT

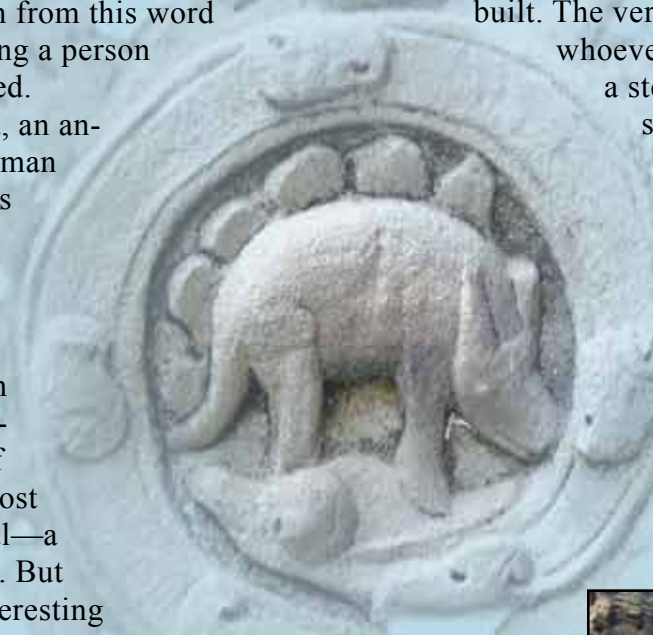
Suppose your teacher asked you to take out a pencil and paper and draw a Kabolib. What would you draw? You probably wouldn't draw anything because you don't know what a Kabolib is and you certainly don't know what one looks like. The truth is, there is no Kabolib; it is a made-up word that has no meaning. But we can learn from this word that in order to draw something a person must see it or have it described.

In the country of Cambodia, an ancient emperor named Jayavarman VII built a temple to honor his mother. He finished building the temple in A.D. 1186. Beautiful stone statues and carvings decorate the walls and columns of the temple. In the middle of all these beautiful carvings, there is a row of animals carved on a pillar. Most of the animals are not unusual—a monkey, a deer, some parrots. But one of the animals is very interesting because it looks like a stegosaurus!

Why is a carving of a stegosaurus so interesting? Evolutionary scientists say that dinosaurs died out about 60 million years ago. They say that humans could not have seen real, live dinosaurs. But the carving on the Cambodian temple proves that idea is false. How would the person carving the temple almost a thousand years ago have known

what a stegosaurus looked like unless he had seen one, or someone had described it to him?

Today we know what dinosaurs looked like because people spend millions of dollars digging up their bones. But this digging did not start until about 1822, more than 600 years after the temple was built. The very best explanation is that whoever carved the temple had seen a stegosaurus. That idea might sound strange to a person who believes in evolution, but not to someone who has read the Bible. The Bible says that God made everything in six days. He made humans on day six, along with all land-living animals. Since dinosaurs were land-living animals, they were made on day six of Creation,



along with humans. The fact that humans saw dinosaurs fits perfectly with what the Bible says.



Images courtesy of Don Patton • www.bible.ca

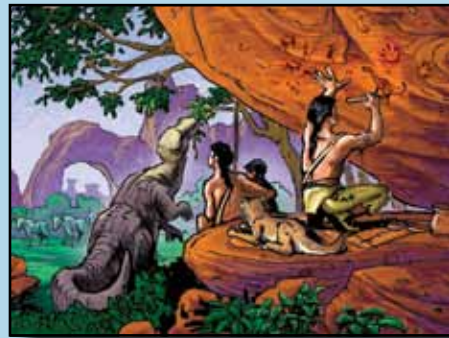


Dragon Myths

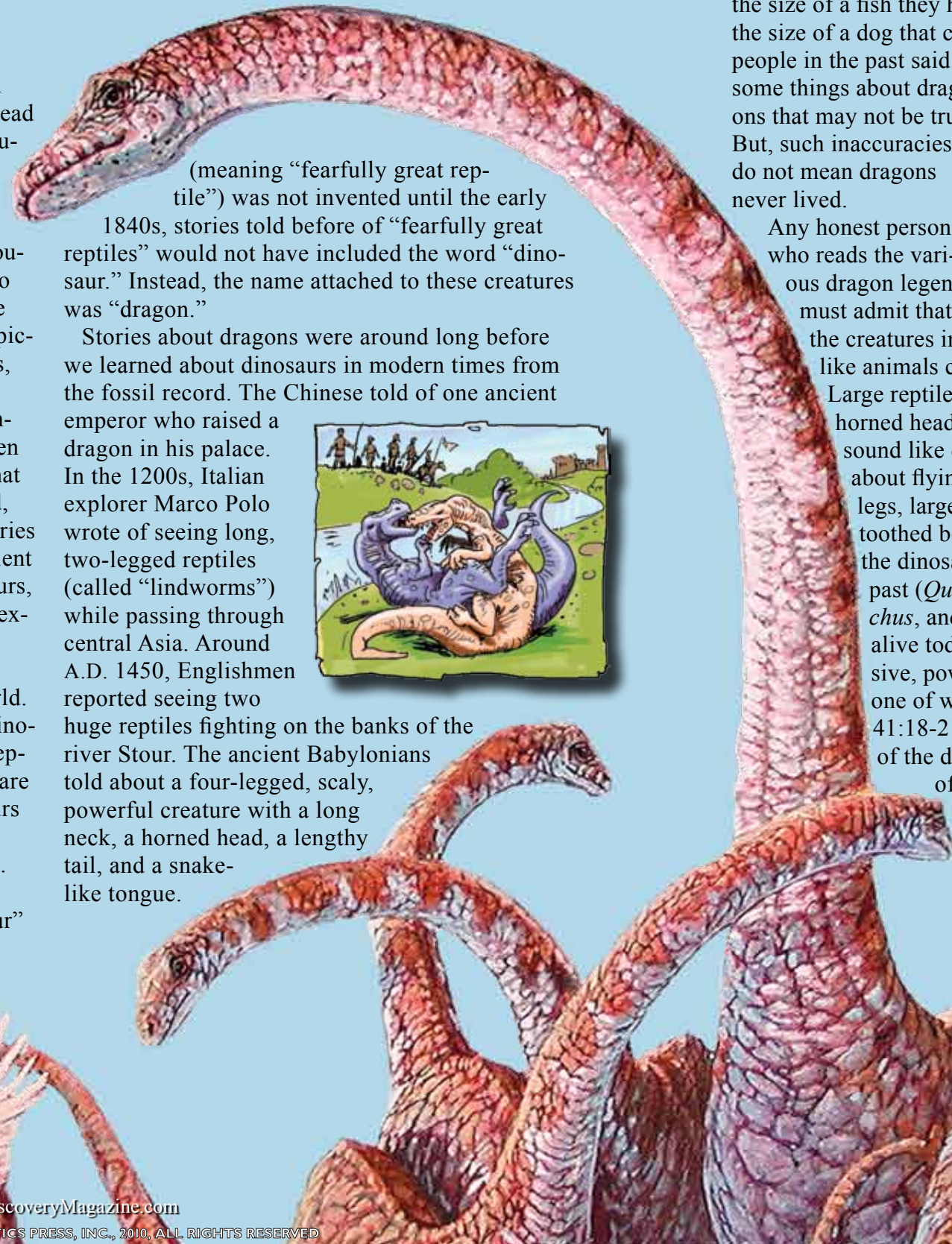
OR DINOSAUR DESCRIPTIONS?

ERIC LYONS

If dinosaurs and humans once walked the Earth together (as the Bible clearly teaches they did—read Exodus 20:11), it makes sense to conclude that humans would have left behind at least two different types of evidence. First, similar to how we take pictures of places we visit and wildlife we see in modern times, those living hundreds or thousands of years ago would likely have drawn or carved pictures of dinosaurs, as well as many other animals. (Indeed, we have seen that is exactly what they did). Second, just as we tell stories today of things that we have seen and heard, ancient people would also have told stories about dinosaurs, if they ever saw these creatures. Do such stories exist? They certainly do.



A wide variety of stories of large reptiles have been passed down from cultures all over the world. Many of these creatures sound very much like dinosaurs, or dinosaur-like reptiles. However, they are not called dinosaurs in these stories, but dragons. Since the term “dinosaur”



(meaning “fearfully great reptile”) was not invented until the early

1840s, stories told before of “fearfully great reptiles” would not have included the word “dinosaur.” Instead, the name attached to these creatures was “dragon.”

Stories about dragons were around long before we learned about dinosaurs in modern times from the fossil record. The Chinese told of one ancient emperor who raised a dragon in his palace. In the 1200s, Italian explorer Marco Polo wrote of seeing long, two-legged reptiles (called “lindworms”) while passing through central Asia. Around A.D. 1450, Englishmen reported seeing two huge reptiles fighting on the banks of the river Stour. The ancient Babylonians told about a four-legged, scaly, powerful creature with a long neck, a horned head, a lengthy tail, and a snake-like tongue.



This animal, which they called *sirrush*, is even shown on a gate discovered in 1899 next to two real animals: a lion and a bull. Many people believe that *sirrush* also was a real animal.

Have some dragon legends been exaggerated over time? Of course. Just as people today tend to embellish the size of a fish they have caught or the size of a dog that chased them home, people in the past said some things about dragons that may not be true. But, such inaccuracies do not mean dragons never lived.

Any honest person who reads the various dragon legends must admit that



the creatures in these stories do not sound like animals currently living on Earth.

Large reptiles with long necks, scaly skin, horned heads, four legs, and long tails sound like dinosaurs. Dragon legends about flying snake-like reptiles with two legs, large wingspans, slender tails, and toothed beaks sound much more like the dinosaur-like, flying reptiles of the past (*Quetzalcoatlus*, *Rhamphorhynchus*, and *Pterodactyl*) than any animal alive today. Even the stories of massive, powerful sea reptiles, at least one of which breathed fire (read Job 41:18-21), sound very much like some of the dinosaur-like, marine reptiles of the past.

What good reason exists for the hundreds of dragon legends all around



the world? Why did people in different places and times, separated by thousands of miles, all come up with stories of giant reptiles that sound more like extinct dinosaurs than any other animal on Earth? The reasonable answer is: humans and dinosaurs once lived together, and stories of their interaction were passed down from generation to generation. Evolutionists, however, must continue to reject the obvious in order to believe that dinosaurs became extinct 60 million years before humans were present on Earth.

Stories of dragons are not the most powerful proof that dinosaurs and humans lived together in the past, but they still show that dinosaurs and humans once lived at the same time. Truly, evolutionists cannot explain away these “dinosaur descriptions.”



ACTIVITY PAGES



- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| A. Leviathan | E. Hoatzin |
| B. Dinosaur | F. <i>Tyrannosaurus rex</i> |
| C. Five | G. <i>sirrush</i> |
| D. Dragon Legends | H. Six |



Dear Digger Doug,

Did some animals really used to breathe fire?

Dear reader,

You have asked a great question. Stories of reptiles that blew fire from their mouths have been told all over the world for thousands of years. However, many people have a hard time believing that such creatures ever existed.

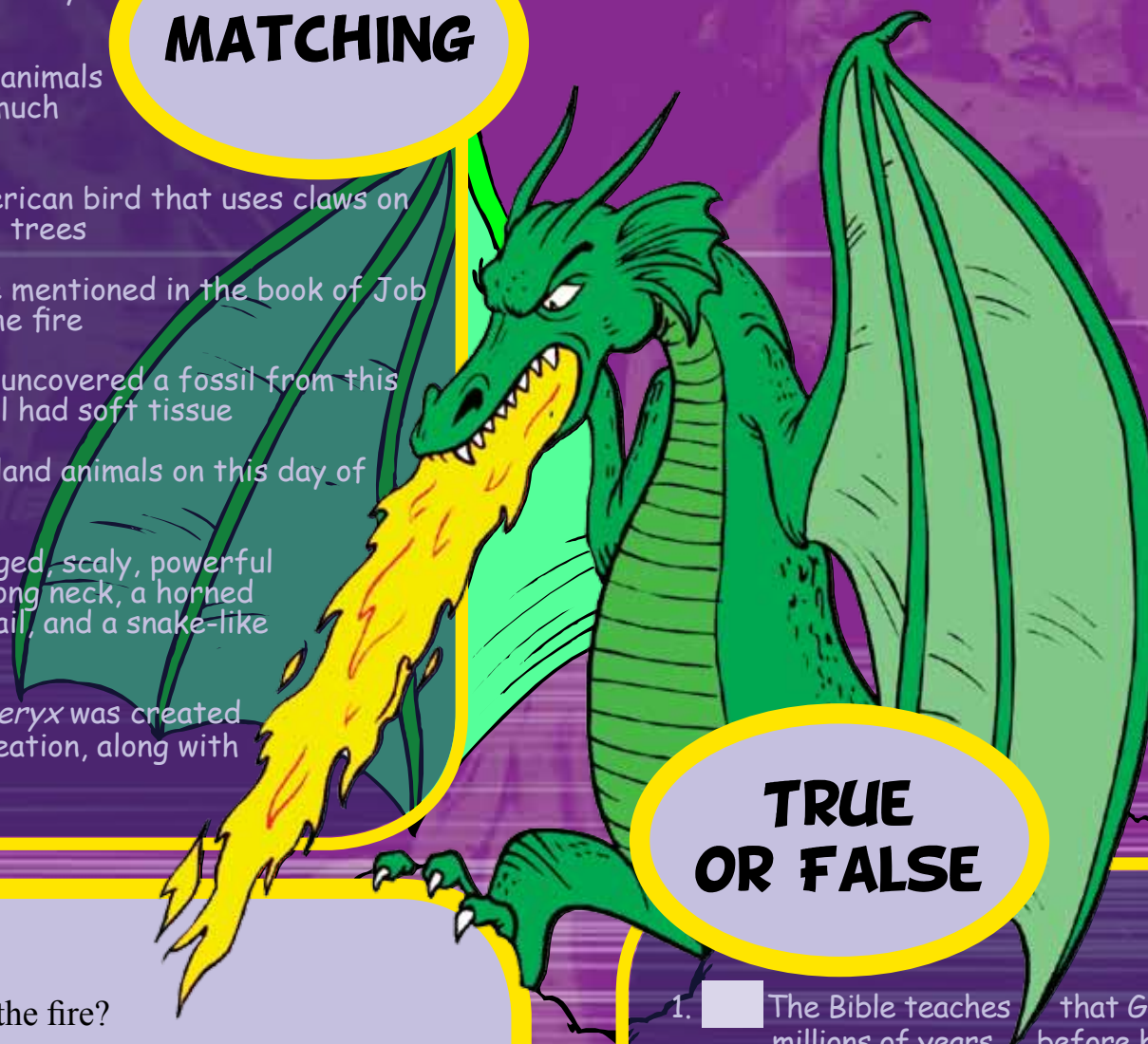
There are three reasons the creationist should have no problem believing in the possibility of an animal breathing fire. First, an all-knowing, all-powerful God who created the Universe out of nothing and life from non-life would have no problem making an animal that could breathe fire. Second, God created many creatures with remarkable qualities, including the electric eel and the bombardier beetle (which can shoot a harmful, boiling-hot spray out of its backend). Couldn't God have made a fire-breathing animal, too? Third, God said in Job 41 that, indeed, He did create a fire-breathing animal. The animal called leviathan could shoot sparks of fire from its mouth and cause smoke to go out of its nostrils (Job 41:18-21).

Those who say that no animal could ever breathe fire fail to recognize the truthfulness of the Bible and the awesomeness of God. "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" (Genesis 18:14).



MATCHING

- Means "fearfully great reptile"
- Stories of animals that sound very much like dinosaurs
- South American bird that uses claws on its wings to climb trees
- A creature mentioned in the book of Job that could breathe fire
- Scientists uncovered a fossil from this dinosaur that still had soft tissue
- God made land animals on this day of Creation
- A four-legged, scaly, powerful creature with a long neck, a horned head, a lengthy tail, and a snake-like tongue
- Archaeopteryx* was created on this day of Creation, along with all other birds



TRUE OR FALSE

- The Bible teaches that God made dinosaurs millions of years before humans.
- Dragons sound more like modern-day animals than dinosaurs.
- Birds evolved from dinosaurs.
- It makes perfect sense that a 68-million year old *T-rex* bone still contains soft tissue.
- No animal ever breathed fire.
- The term "dinosaur" has been around for thousands of years.
- The creation week actually lasted for millions of years.
- No human being has ever seen a living dinosaur.
- Leviathan is a fairy-tale creature.
- God made everything in six days (Exodus 20:11).

FILL IN THE BLANKS

- A dinosaur that resembles a _____ was carved onto a rock wall in an ancient Cambodian temple.
- Archaeopteryx* was a _____.
- _____ was a powerful, ferocious creature, which God said could shoot sparks of _____ from its mouth (Job 41:18-21).
- When a _____ forms, the bone and material inside the bone are replaced by minerals that are hard like rock.
- "For in _____ days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and _____ that is in them, and rested the seventh day" (Exodus 20:11).





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DINOSAURS TAKING FLIGHT?

CALEB COLLEY

Dinosaurs lived on the land. According to the theory of evolution, over millions of years, reptiles like dinosaurs should have changed gradually from land-living lizards into flying birds. Because evolutionary paleontologists are searching constantly for the remains of an animal that could be the “missing link” between reptiles and birds, they have argued that a small, extinct, winged creature called *Archaeopteryx* (ark-ee-OP-tuh-ricks) was part-reptile and part-bird. An exceptionally well-preserved fossil of *Archaeopteryx* was found in southern Germany.



Even though the crow-sized *Archaeopteryx* had feathers, it had some characteristics of dinosaurs: teeth in its beak and claws on its wings. Does the existence of *Archaeopteryx* prove that reptiles evolved into birds?

Some modern birds have claws on their wings, but no one thinks of them

as being missing links. For example, the hoatzin of South America uses its claws to climb trees. Africa’s touraco and the ostrich also have claws. A bird’s claws do not indicate that it is related to reptiles. What about teeth? Do teeth prove an evolutionary link between reptiles and birds? Fossil studies have shown that other “true” birds, now extinct, also had teeth, so there’s no evolutionary connection there.

Think about *Archaeopteryx*’s very bird-like characteristics. Its feathers were just like the feathers of birds we see today. *Archaeopteryx* did not have half scales/half feathers. While we are unsure as to how *Archaeopteryx* used its feathers, we know that the feathers were not in the process of evolving. Finally, remember that archaeologists have found fossils of other birds in rock that scientists date as being older than *Archaeopteryx*.

This interesting creature was not on its way to becoming a bird—it was a bird. *Archaeopteryx* was created on the fifth day of Creation, along with all other birds (see Genesis 1:20-23). Similarities between various creatures do not show that they are related by evolution—they are related in that God created them both.



ANSWERS

Six or False: 1-F; 2-F; 3-F; 4-F; 5-F; 6-F; 7-F; 8-F; 9-F; 10-F. FILL IN THE BLANKS: 1. siegosaurus; 2. bird; 3. levathan; 4. fossil; 5. Tyrannosaurus rex; 6. H (Six); 7. G (squirrel); 8. C (Five); 9. A (Leviathan); 4. A (Leviathan); 3. E (Hoatzin); 2. D (Dragon Legends); 1. B (Dinosaur); all MATCHING: 1. B (Dinosaur); 2. D (Dragon Legends); 3. E (Hoatzin); 4. A (Leviathan); 5. F (Tyrannosaurus rex); 6. H (Six); 7. G (squirrel); 8. C (Five); 9. A (Leviathan); 10. D (Dragon Legends).

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