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# Discovery

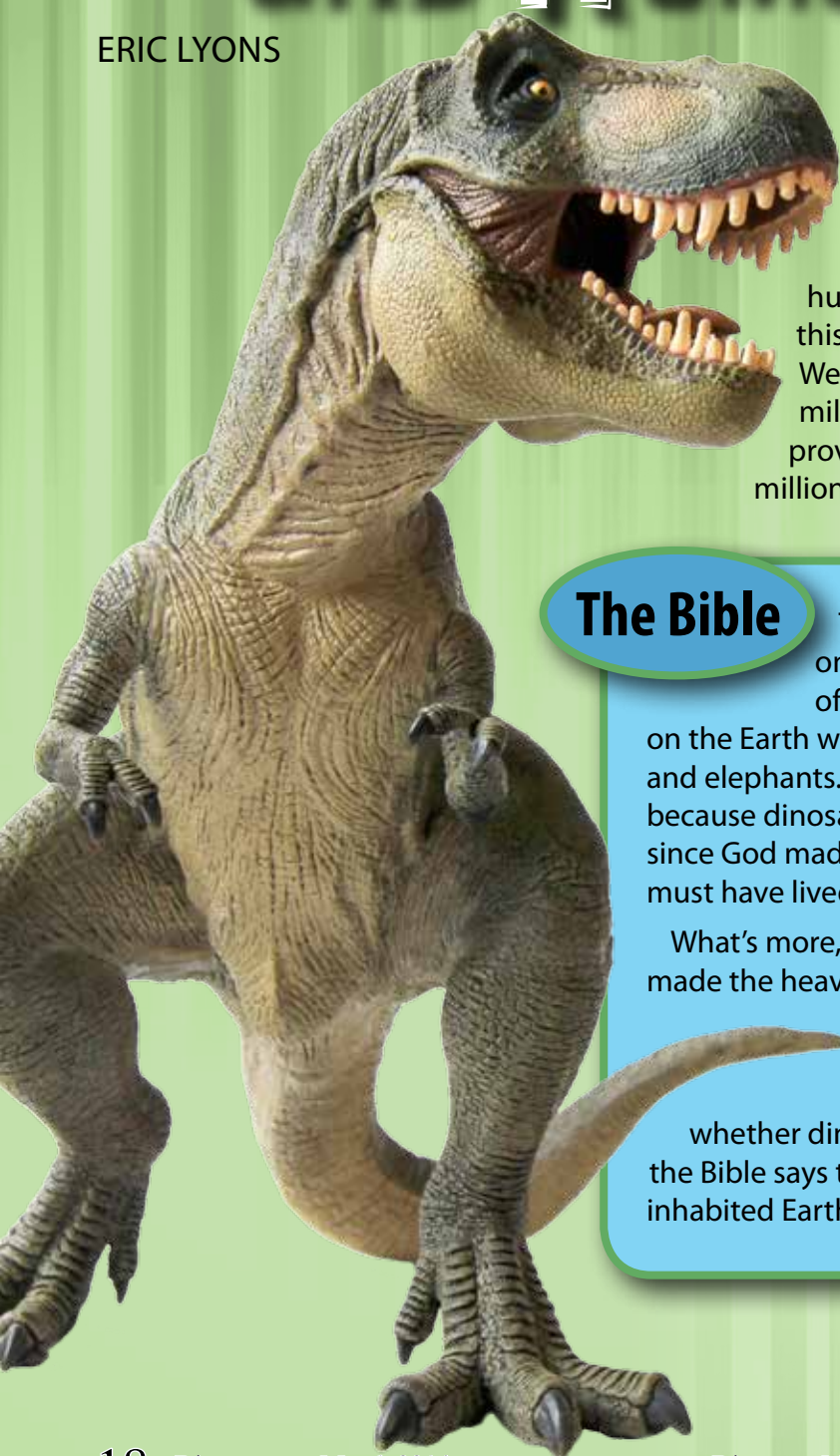
*Scripture & Science for Kids*



# Dinosaurs

## and Humans

ERIC LYONS



**A**llegedly, no human being has ever seen a living dinosaur. Evolutionists insist that dinosaurs became extinct about 65 million years ago, while humans evolved about 62 million years later. But is this long time frame really what the evidence shows? Were living dinosaurs and humans separated by tens of millions of years? Consider three lines of evidence that prove humans and dinosaurs once lived together—not millions of years ago, but thousands of years ago.

### The Bible

The Bible says that God made **all** of the land animals on the sixth day of Creation, followed by the creation of the first man, Adam (Genesis 1:24-28). Adam lived on the Earth with such amazing animals as lions, rhinoceroses, and elephants. He also lived with dinosaurs of all shapes and sizes, because dinosaurs, by definition, are land-dwelling animals. And, since God made all land animals on day six of Creation, then Adam must have lived with dinosaurs, too.

What's more, Moses wrote in Exodus 20:11, "In six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and **all** that is in them" (including all the various kinds of animals). To the Christian who believes (based upon the evidence) that the Bible is the Word of God, the question of whether dinosaurs and humans once lived together is settled—the Bible says they did, along with all other animals that have ever inhabited Earth.

### History

If dinosaurs and humans once lived at the same time, it is logical to conclude that, just as humans tell stories today of impressive things they see, ancient people would also have told stories about dinosaurs. Do such stories exist?

In truth, a wide variety of stories of large reptiles have been passed down from cultures all over the world—stories that go back thousands of years ago. Many of these creatures sound very much like dinosaurs, or dinosaur-like (marine or flying) reptiles. However, they are not called dinosaurs in these stories, but dragons. Since the term "dinosaur" was not coined until the 1800s, stories told previously of these reptiles would not have included the word dinosaur. Instead, the name attached to these creatures was "dragon."

Have some dragon legends been exaggerated over time? Of course. Just as people today tend to embellish the size of fish they catch, people in the past said some things about dragons that were not true. But, such inaccuracies do not mean dragons never lived.

Any honest person who reads the various dragon legends must admit that reptiles with long necks, scaly skin, horned heads, stout legs, and lengthy 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 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. The fact is history backs up what the Bible says—humans and dinosaurs once lived together.

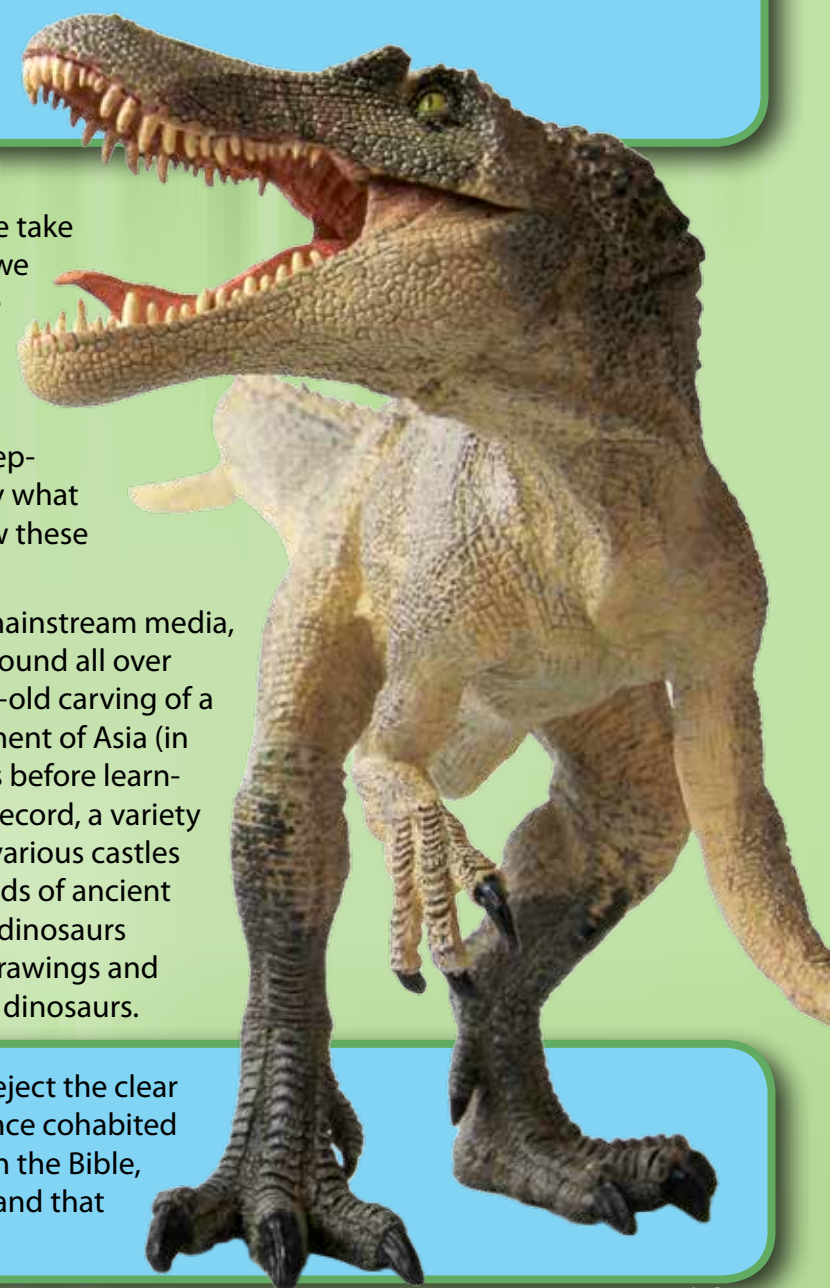
### Physical Evidence



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 actually drew and carved pictures of dinosaurs. Such representations of dinosaurs are exactly what we would expect if humans ever saw these animals.

Although rarely discussed in the mainstream media, ancient dinosaur artwork has been found all over the world. An approximate 900-year-old carving of a *Stegosaurus* was found on the continent of Asia (in the country of Cambodia). Centuries before learning about dinosaurs from the fossil record, a variety of these creatures were pictured in various castles in Europe. In South America, hundreds of ancient burial stones have been found with dinosaurs carved on them. And in North America, various rock drawings and carvings have been found that clearly depict different dinosaurs.

To continue believing in evolution, a person must reject the clear evidence which shows that dinosaurs and humans once cohabited Earth. The historical and physical evidence, along with the Bible, clearly testify that man and dinosaurs lived together and that evolution's timeline is hopelessly flawed.



# FLYING REPTILES

ERIC LYONS  
& KYLE BUTT

**W**e know that nearly all birds can fly. Many kinds of insects can fly. Even mammals, such as the bat, can soar through the air. But reptiles? Who has ever heard of a flying reptile? Aren't all reptiles "ground bound"? Some people may be surprised to learn that flying birds, insects, and mammals once shared the sky with flying reptiles.

Flying reptiles, known as pterosaurs, were some of the largest creatures ever to fly through the air. Although they are not considered dinosaurs (because, by definition, dinosaurs are land animals), pterosaurs were fearsome-looking creatures that lived together with the dinosaurs and all the rest of the animals God created during the Creation week. Like bats, the wings of true flying reptiles were made from skin. On a bat, the skin spreads over all the fingers, but on pterosaurs the leathery skin joined to one very large "pinky" finger. The rest of the claw was free to hold and grip things.

Some pterosaurs were very small—about the size of a sparrow. Others, like the flying reptile known as *Rhamphorhynchus*, were about two feet long (from head to tail) and had a wingspan of about 4 feet. [Wingspan is the distance between the tips of an animal's wings.] *Rhamphorhynchus* (meaning "beak snout") had short finger bones, a tail with a flat patch of skin on the end, and strong teeth that pointed toward the front of its mouth. Fossils of this pterosaur have been found in Europe and Africa.

*Pteranodon*, another flying reptile that had a small body (about the size of a wild turkey or a goose), enjoyed a wingspan of over 23 feet. The name *Pteranodon* means "winged without teeth." This

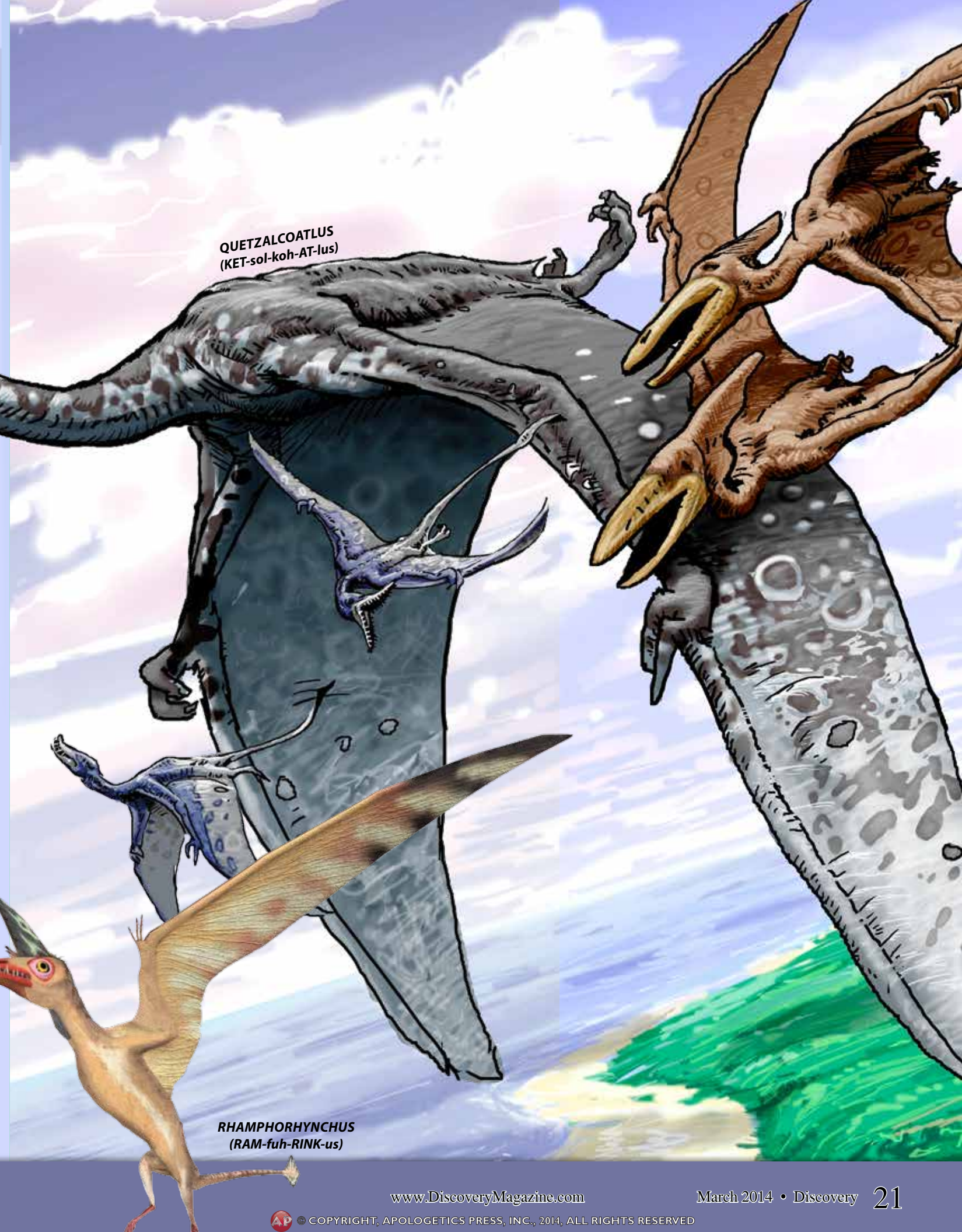
flying reptile had a very long, toothless beak with which he probably caught fish. *Pteranodon* bones have been found in Kansas, Texas, Delaware, and along the coasts of the country of Japan. This reptile also had a long, bony crest on the back of its skull that likely was used to counterbalance the long beak and to help steer while in flight. Even though it was not a dinosaur, *Pteranodon* and the other flying reptiles of the past are often pictured with the dinosaurs.

The largest known creature that once soared above the Earth was the pterosaur identified as *Quetzalcoatlus* (named after the Aztec god Quetzalcoatl). The fossil bones of one of these flying reptiles were unearthed in 1972 at the Big Bend National Park in Texas. This *Quetzalcoatlus* had a wingspan of **48 feet**, which is longer than some small airplanes. You have to wonder if there were flying reptiles that grew even larger than this particular *Quetzalcoatlus*.

Evolutionists tell us that pterosaurs lived millions of years ago—supposedly long before humans were on the Earth. The evidence tells us differently, however. According to one Bible writer and two well-known ancient historians, flying reptiles once lived alongside man. Twice in the book of Isaiah, the writer mentioned "fiery flying serpents" (14:29; 30:6). Notice also the following quotation taken from Herodotus, a respected Greek historian who lived in about 450 B.C. He wrote:

There is a place in Arabia...to which I went, on hearing of some winged serpents; and when I arrived there, I saw bones and spines of serpents, in such quantities as it would be impossible to describe. The form of the serpent is like that of a water-snake; but he has wings without feathers, and as like as possible to the wings of a bat.

(Continued on p. 24)



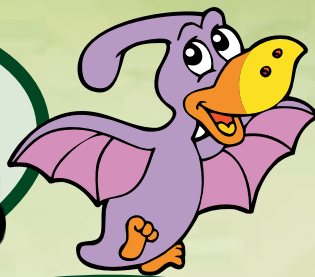
QUETZALCOATLUS  
(KET-sol-koh-AT-lus)

RHAMPHORHYNCHUS  
(RAM-fuh-RINK-us)



PTERANODON  
(TER-an-oh-don)

# ACTIVITY PAGES



## MATCH, FIND, AND CIRCLE

1. \_\_\_ Historian (around 450 B.C.) who wrote about "winged serpents," which had the form of a "water-snake," but "the wings of a bat"
2. \_\_\_ A 900-year-old carving of this dinosaur has been found in Cambodia
3. \_\_\_ The largest flying reptile ever known to have lived
4. \_\_\_ What dinosaurs were called before the 1800s
5. \_\_\_ Historian who wrote about Moses' day when there were "serpents...which ascend out of the ground...and fly in the air"
6. \_\_\_ Old Testament prophet who wrote about "fiery flying serpents"
7. \_\_\_ The distance between the tips of an animal's wings
8. \_\_\_ Name means "winged without teeth"

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- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| A. Pteranodon | E. Quetzalcoatlus |
| B. Wingspan   | F. Josephus       |
| C. Dragons    | G. Stegosaurus    |
| D. Isaiah     | H. Herodotus      |



## Dear Digger Doug,

When a deer loses a tooth, does the tooth grow back?  
 —Chance Thompson, Henderson, TN

Dear Chance,

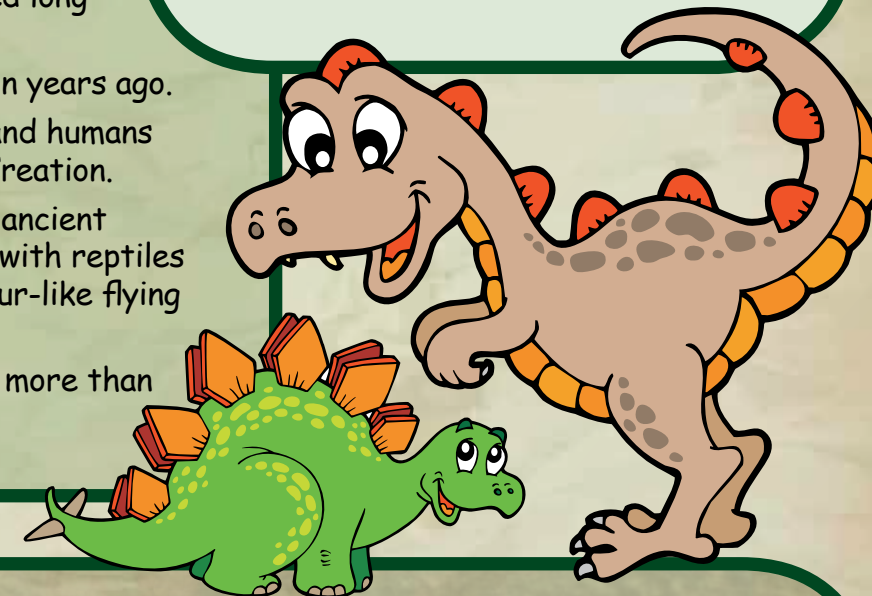
Let me ask you a question. If you lose a tooth, does it grow back? Well, if you think about it, that is almost a trick question. The answer is "yes" and "no." If you lose what we call a "baby tooth," then a new, permanent tooth grows back in its place. But if you lose one of your permanent teeth, nothing grows back to replace it. That is exactly how God designed deer. They have baby teeth that they lose, and permanent teeth that come in later. If they lose a permanent tooth, nothing replaces it. You might be interested to know that biologists can tell how old a deer is by looking at its teeth. Because deer use their teeth for grinding, they lose about one millimeter of tooth-height per year. The shorter a deer's teeth are, the older the deer is. Thanks for reading *Discovery* and thanks for the good question.

## TRUE OR FALSE

1. \_\_\_ According to the Bible, dinosaurs evolved over millions of years.
2. \_\_\_ Land animals were created on day six of Creation.
3. \_\_\_ God made everything, including dinosaurs, "in six days" (Exodus 20:11).
4. \_\_\_ *Quetzalcoatlus* was a bird that lived long before man evolved.
5. \_\_\_ Dinosaurs became extinct 65 million years ago.
6. \_\_\_ According to the Bible, dinosaurs and humans were created on the same day of Creation.
7. \_\_\_ There are no historical records of ancient people ever seeing and interacting with reptiles that sound like dinosaurs or dinosaur-like flying reptiles.
8. \_\_\_ Some pterosaurs had wingspans of more than 20 feet.

## ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER

1. Give three reasons why it makes sense to believe that dinosaurs and humans once lived at the same time.
2. Explain the connection between "dragons" and dinosaurs.



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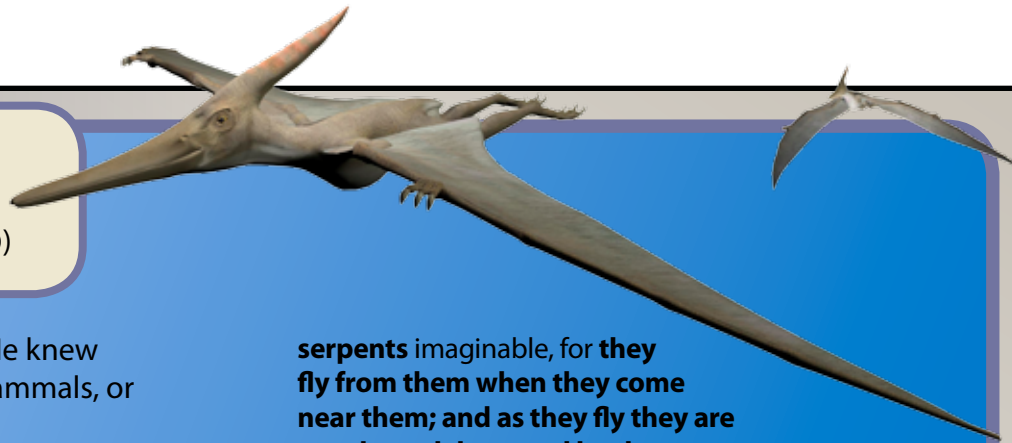
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# FLYING REPTILES

(CONTINUED)



**H**erodotus knew of flying reptiles. He knew these creatures were not birds, mammals, or insects—but reptiles with wings.

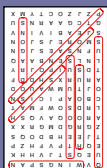
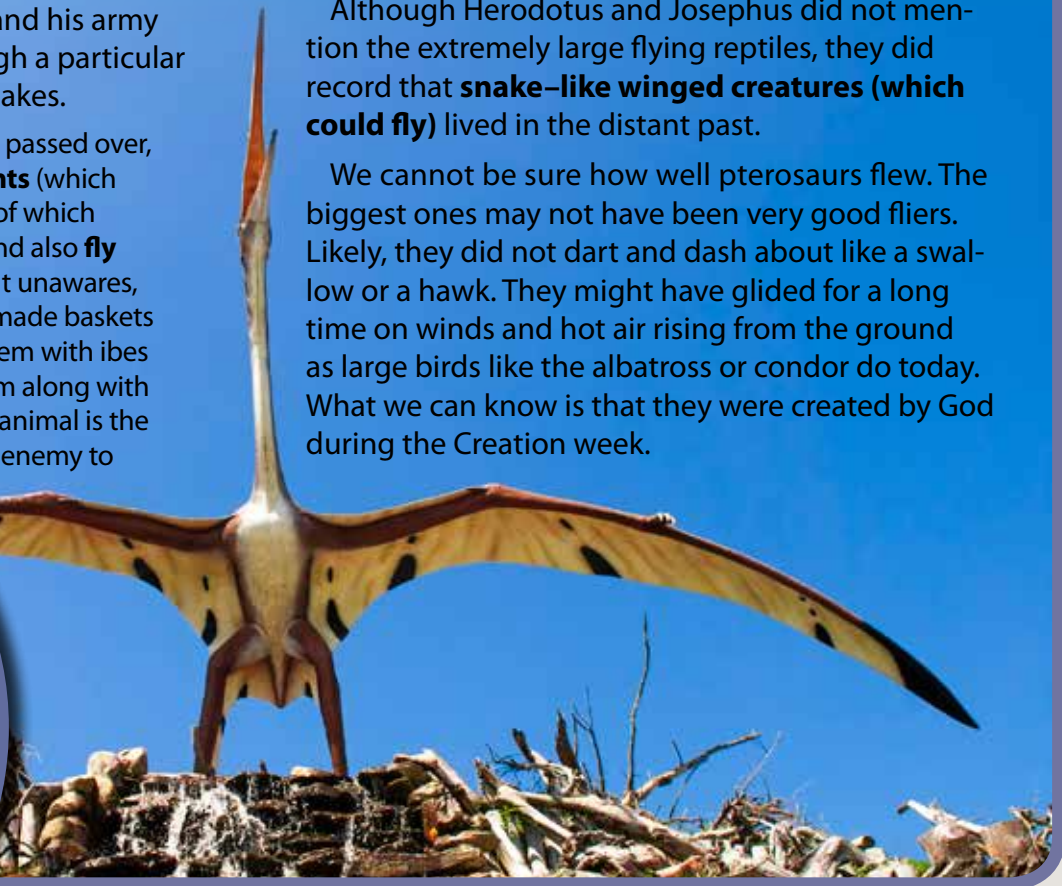
Notice also what the Jewish historian Josephus wrote 2,000 years ago about Moses and his army having a difficult time passing through a particular region because of the presence of snakes.

When the ground was difficult to be passed over, because of **the multitude of serpents** (which it produces in vast numbers...**some** of which ascend out of the ground unseen, and also **fly in the air**, and do come upon men at unawares, and do them a mischief).... [Moses] made baskets like unto arks, of sedge, and filled them with ibes [birds], and carried them along with them; which animal is the greatest enemy to

**serpents** imaginable, for **they fly from them when they come near them; and as they fly they are caught and devoured by them.**

Although Herodotus and Josephus did not mention the extremely large flying reptiles, they did record that **snake-like winged creatures (which could fly)** lived in the distant past.

We cannot be sure how well pterosaurs flew. The biggest ones may not have been very good fliers. Likely, they did not dart and dash about like a swallow or a hawk. They might have glided for a long time on winds and hot air rising from the ground as large birds like the albatross or condor do today. What we can know is that they were created by God during the Creation week.



## ANSWERS

5. F (Josephus); 6. D (Isaiah); 7. B (Wingspan); 8. A (Pteranodon).  
 MATCH, FIND, AND CIRCLE: 1. H (Herodotus); 2. G (Stegosaurus); 3. E (Quetzalcoatlus); 4. C (Dragons).  
 TRUE OR FALSE: 1-F; 2-T; 3-T; 4-F; 5-F; 6-T; 7-F; 8-T.

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