

How Dinosaurs Tell Time in Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument

Student Questions



Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument



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Question 1

Data Table for GSENM Dinosaurs

Genus	Geologic Period	Time Span (mya)	Diet	Size
Brachiosaurus				
Brachylophosaurus				
Camarasaurus				
Daspletosaurus				
Dilophosaurus				
Dromaeosaurus				
Edmontonia				
Euoplocephalus				
Gryposaurus				
Hagryphus	Upper Cretaceous	75 mya	Omnivorous	3 M long
Nothronychus				
Parasaurolophus				
Sauornitholestes				
Stegoceras				
Struthiomimus				
Thescelosaurus				
Troodon				
Utahceratops	Upper Cretaceous	75 mya	Herbivorous	7 M long
Zuniceratops				

Question 2

Geologic Period	Time Span	Diet	Size	Genus
Early Jurassic	190 mya			
Late Jurassic	155 – 140 mya			
	150 – 140 mya			
Early Cretaceous	90 mya			
	84 mya			
	76 mya			
Late Cretaceous	89 – 88 mya			
	76 – 74 mya	Herbivore		
	76 – 70 mya	Carnivore		
	76 – 70 mya			
	76 – 67 mya			
75 mya				
74 - 65				

Question 3

Which Period had the greatest diversity of dinosaurs in GSENM? (Identify the period by Early, Middle, or Late). How many, and what are their names?

Question 4

From your data, what are the ratios of carnivores to herbivores in the following periods:

a) Early Jurassic _____

b) Late Jurassic _____

c) Early Cretaceous _____

d) Late Cretaceous _____

Question 5

During which Period(s) do you think there was an abundance of vegetation? Why?

Question 6

Can you determine which dinosaur was the top predator (carnivore) in the Late Cretaceous? Explain how you reached your conclusion.

Question 7

If you were a scientist, what would your next step be in researching the ancient environment and inhabitants of GSENM?
