

DINOSAUR POSTER PROJECT

Goal of project: In order to demonstrate understanding, students will construct a “poster presentation” depicting the geological and ecological context of fossil vertebrates in one or more geologic time periods including the Permian, Triassic, Jurassic, Cretaceous, or Tertiary periods.

Poster mechanics: A poster is a visually-oriented stand-alone presentation of a topic. You should be able to orally explain the topic of your poster in approximately 3 minutes and be prepared to answer questions. However, you also need to construct your poster so that it explain the story of your project in a stand-alone manner (in other words, it should clearly explain your topic even if you’re not there).

You must present your own poster in order to receive credit for this assignment.

Task: You must complete your own poster, but you coordinate your presentation with up to 2 other people. For each individuals added to a group an additional 3 minutes should be added to the presentation.

For each person in the group, the presentation should include descriptions of 1 dinosaur not covered in detail in lecture (see list below), 1 other type of fossil vertebrate (fish, mammal, pterosaur, marine reptile, etc.) from the same geologic time period as the chosen dinosaur, and 1 invertebrate fossil from the same time period. (Dinosaur posters may not be about *Tyrannosaurus*, *Allosaurus*, *Velociraptor*, *Apatosaurus*, *Stegosaurus*, *Ankylosaurus*, *Triceratops*, *Pachycephalosaurus*, *Iguanodon*, or *Parasaurolophus*)

Posters should include:

1. Your name(s) and title in large (at least 1 inch high or 72-point font), easy to read letters.
2. A drawing, picture, or diagram created by you (= not a direct copy) of each animal that shows their body shapes AND relative sizes,
3. A diagram that shows taxonomy of your dinosaur to the suborder level (= Theropoda, Sauropodomorpha, Stegosauria, Ankylosauria, Ornithopoda, Pachcephalosauria, or Ceratopsia.)
4. A brief description of the biology of each animal including habitat (is it terrestrial, marine, semi-aquatic, arboreal, etc.), diet (carnivore, herbivore, omnivore), and any interpretations of behavior that apply.
5. A map that shows the location(s) where each vertebrate was found including the tectonic setting (arrangement of the continents) during the time period in which they lived (for distribution only, you may use a printed maps from the Paleobiology Data Base link on class website).
6. The date the dinosaur was 1st described and the name of the person who 1st described it, plus 3 additional facts (beyond those listed above) about your dinosaur.
7. A properly formatted bibliography including at least 4 NUMBERED references as described below.

Specific requirements:

Minimum size = 36" x 24"

Formatting: Your name the letters in your title at least an inch tall (= 72-point fount).

Text for description should be typed, but short labels may be handwritten as long as they are legible. Description and information must be written in your own words DO NOT directly copy the words of another source, includes lifting whole paragraphs off the internet even if you reference the paragraph!

The **bibliography** of your sources must be shown in one of the bottom right front corners of your poster. Use standard research paper format for the bibliographic entries (they should all start off with an author's name and must include the date published and the title of the publication) whether the source is a book, magazine or journal article, internet website or an interview. Ask me if you are unclear about the format or check out the following websites. **You must have at 4 sources total, least two of those sources must available as a printed book, or a magazine, newspaper, or journal article.**

Bibliography format: Each print source should be **numbered** and listed in the order of the APA Style Guide (Author. (Date). Title. Publisher, etc.).

Examples from <http://www.liu.edu/CWIS/CWP/library/workshop/citapa.htm> are shown below:

Book: [Okuda, M., & Okuda, D. \(1993\). *Star trek chronology: The history of the future*. New York: Pocket Books.](#)

Newspaper Article: [Di Rado, A. \(1995, March 15\). *Trekking through college: Classes explore modern society using the world of Star trek*. *Los Angeles Times*, p. A3.](#)

Websites: [National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Jet Propulsion Laboratory. \(2007\). *Mission could seek out Spock's home planet*. Retrieved January 7, 2009, from PlanetQuest: Exoplanet Exploration.](#) Web site: <http://planetquest.jpl.nasa.gov/news/planetVulcan.cfm>

You have 4 deadlines listed on class schedule

2/7 = 1st Outline due Should include the genus name of proposed main animal and the geologic time period(s) in which animal lived. You should also include anyone you'd like to present with.

2/19 = Revised outline: Include your final dinosaur and propose 3 other vertebrates that you'd like to include in your poster.

3/4 = Final outline: Include your final list of animals and a sketch of your dinosaur (note does not have to be your final sketch).

3/12 = Posters & presentations begin.

You will need to conduct a peer review the two other posters, according to the directions on the form. These evaluations will count as part of your grade. You should be prepared to present your poster to the entire class. For the presentation you will **summarize** the information on your mural. Time will be limited to 3 minutes, followed by a 2 minute time for questions from the class. Late posters will be penalized 10% per day.

Grading:

80% Content: 1) All requirements met, all information presented and correctly formatted, and 2) information is complete and **accurate**.

20% presentation and/or teamwork: 1) Information is presented in an easily to read format. Graphics accurately depict what is intended and enhance the presentation. 2) Presentation to class should be a summary only. You should hit the high points, but doesn't get too wordy. Use good public presentation techniques (speak intelligibly, make eye contact, do not read from a written script).

For groups only: Teamwork needs to be distributed so that all members of the team contribute meaningfully and equally. The group needs to submit a short paragraph summarizing the contributions each member and each member will need to submit a short paragraph describing the relative contributions of each member.

Note: I will not deduct points for the artistic quality of graphic work hand drawn by students as long as the graphics clearly shown information related to the poster. You will not receive full credit if you do not have a least one picture of each vertebrate that you produced, but you may include additional pictures from the web or a book, as long as they are referenced. All text on the poster should represent your original work.

Possible Extra Credit (up to 10% for work above and beyond requirements): A poster that receives extra credit must 1) fully complete all items needed to get full credit and 2) demonstrate additional effort beyond what is the minimum required (for example- have more than 3 references, describe an extra animal, or include extra detail about ecology). Limits: Note that the time limit for the presentation will still be 3 minutes.

The diagram below or one like it may be used to show what taxonomic your dinosaur belongs to.

