



# ANCIENT ANIMALS

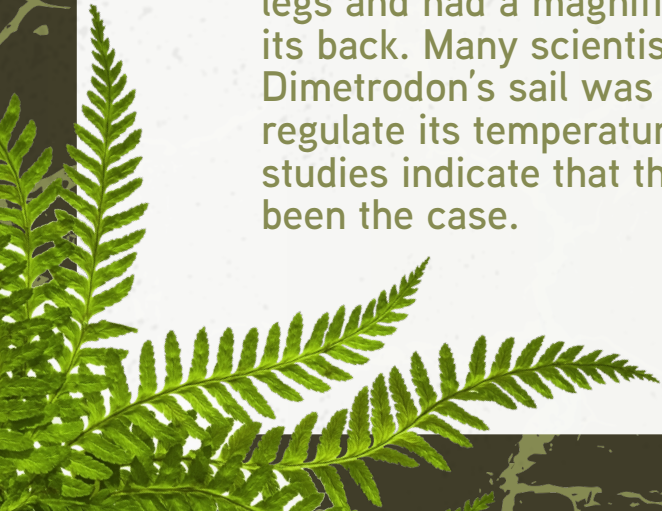
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# DIMETRODON

Dimetrodon, often mistaken for a dinosaur, was a mammal-like creature that fed on fish, reptiles, and amphibians. Since its initial discovery in 1878, twenty species have been identified. This animal walked on four legs and had a magnificent sail down its back. Many scientists believe that Dimetrodon's sail was used to help regulate its temperature, though other studies indicate that this may not have been the case.



## FUN FACT:

Dimetrodon means “two measures of teeth.” It had long teeth in the front and shorter teeth in the back.



## INFO:

### SIZE:

1.83–4.57 m (6–15 ft) long

### WEIGHT:

27.22–249.48 kg (60–550 lb)

### CARNIVORE

### FOUND:

North America



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# MEGALONYX JEFFERSONII

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Megalonyx jeffersonii, an ancient ground sloth, lived mostly in hardwood forests and woodlands. This heavily built animal had a massive jaw, short snout, and large teeth. Its hind limbs were flat-footed, allowing it to stand up and reach for leaves with its powerful front claws.

## FUN FACT:

An even larger, elephant-sized sloth existed in South America called Megatherium.



**NORTH AMERICA**

## INFO:

### SIZE:

3 m (9.8 ft) long

### WEIGHT:

Up to 998.9 kg  
(2,200 lb)

### HERBIVORE

### FOUND:

North America



## INFO:

### SIZE:

Up to 11.89 m (39 ft)

### WEIGHT:

Up to 4,989.52 kg (11,000 lb)

### CARNIVORE

### FOUND:

Mexico, 10 states in the USA;  
most abundant in Georgia



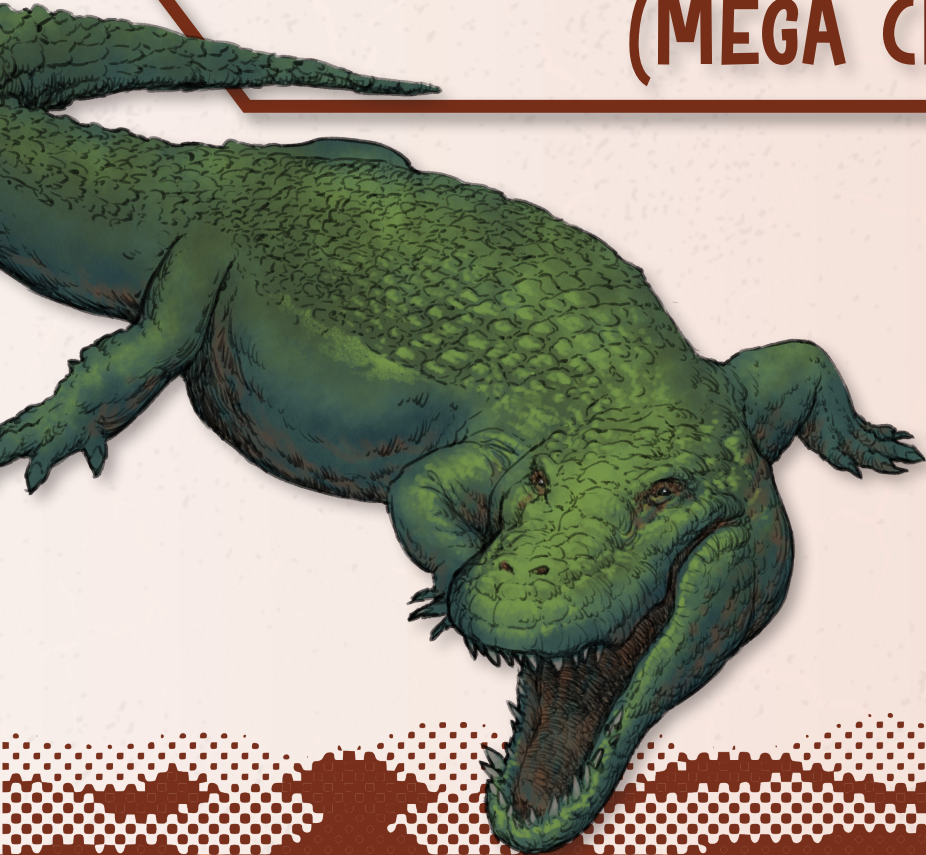
## FUN FACT:

Deinosuchus possibly lived to be 50 years old. It was large enough to have preyed on dinosaurs.



# DEINOSUCHUS

## (MEGA CROCODILE)



A close relative of the alligator, Deinosuchus was larger than most other predators in the subtropical seawater that used to cover the state of Ohio, USA. A cunning predator, Deinosuchus would wait at the shoreline of the sea, ambush its prey, and drag it into the water to submerge it before eating it.



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# HIERAAETUS MOOREI (HAAST'S EAGLE)

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This magnificent creature is the largest eagle ever known to exist, with the females being much larger than the males. The *Hieraaetus moorei* lived on the island of New Zealand, where their sharp talons and curved beaks enabled them to feast on flightless birds and eggs. Scientists speculate that their muscular legs and wing muscles allowed them to take off in flight from the ground.



## FUN FACT:

Haast's eagle went extinct only about 600 years ago. Scientists theorize it went extinct because people began hunting the moa, which was its prey.



NEW ZEALAND



## INFO:

### SIZE:

About 91.44 cm (3 ft) tall

Up to 3 m (9.8 ft)  
wingspan

### WEIGHT:

Up to 14.97 kg (33 lb)

### CARNIVORE

### FOUND:

New Zealand



# ANCIENT ANIMALS

Have you ever thought about the extraordinary animals that lived long ago? Paleontologists and other scientists have made many fascinating discoveries about these incredible, often spine-chilling ancient creatures.

Join us for a ton of fun as we learn about them one by one!

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