

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
Little
Kids
FIRST
BIG
BOOK OF
DINOSAURS
BY CATHERINE D. HUGHES
ILLUSTRATED BY
FRANCO TEMPESTA

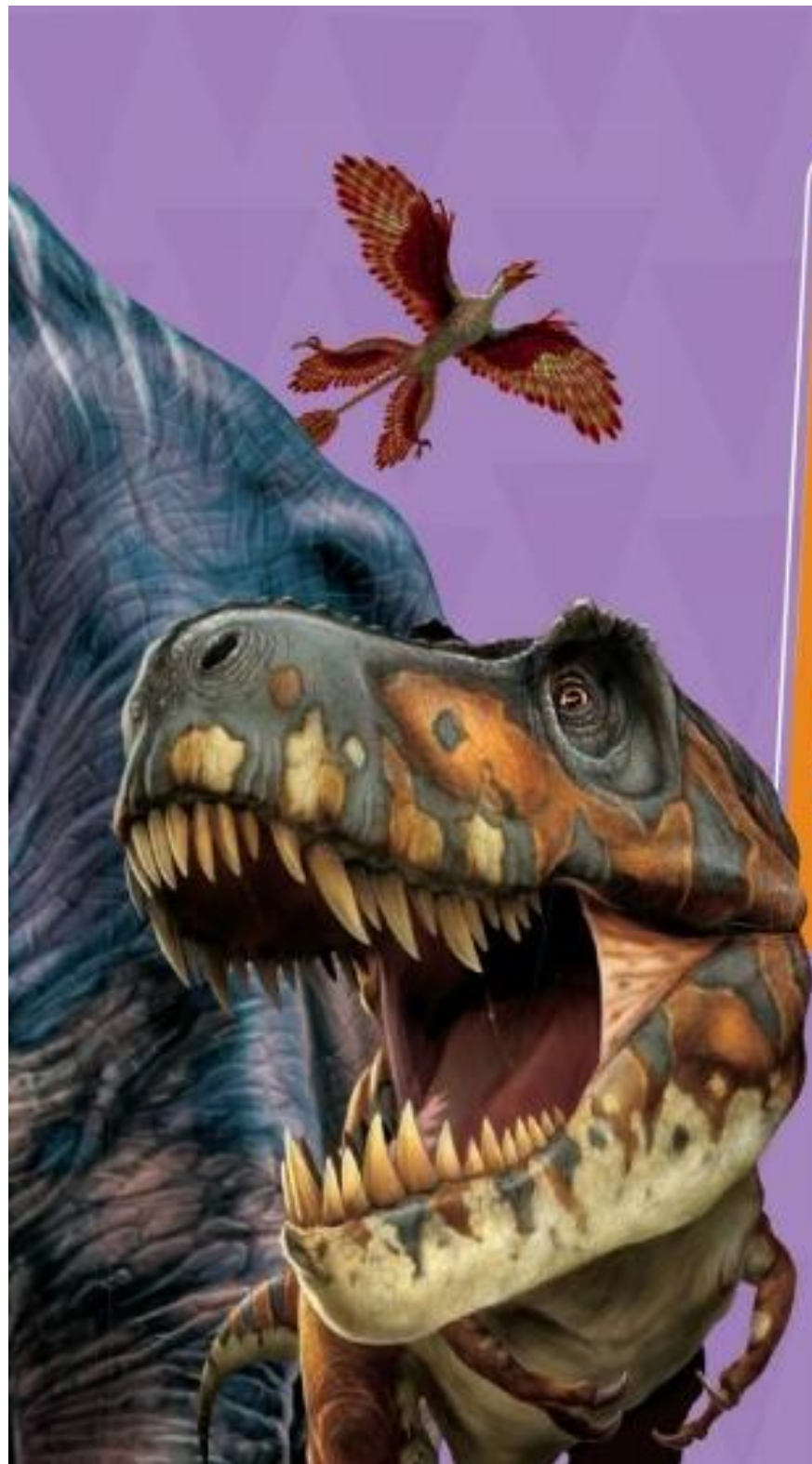
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WASHINGTON, D.C.

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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Dinosaurs lived on Earth a very long time ago, before there were any people.

SMALL TO GIGANTIC

Dinosaurs came in all sizes. In this book you will find out about 52 small, big, giant, and gigantic dinosaurs. Some were small enough to hold in your hands. Others were bigger than elephants and taller than houses.

DINO FACTS

In each section, look for a drawing that shows the shape and size of the dinosaur. Next to the dinosaur drawing, you will see the figure of a kid who is four feet, six inches tall—about the height of a ten-year-old. That drawing will help you imagine how big that dinosaur was. In the same box, you'll see when the dinosaur lived and what food it ate.

GIANT

AMARGASAURUS HAD A NECK SAIL.

Amargasaurus may have used its **LONG TAIL** like a **WHIP** to **PROTECT** itself from attackers.

This dinosaur's long neck and back were decorated with what looked like a sail. Stiff spines held up *Amargasaurus*'s sail.

No one knows for sure why *Amargasaurus* had the big sail. It might have scared away enemies. Or it may have helped keep the big animal cool.

SAY MY NAME: uh-MARG-uh-SORE-us

FACTS

WHEN IT LIVED
Early Cretaceous

FOOD
Plants

SIZE

84

WHAT WE KNOW NOW

The text for each dinosaur uses information from scientists who study dinosaurs. These scientists are called paleontologists. This book tells you what paleontologists think now. Some information might change as scientists learn more about dinosaurs.

DINO ART

Because dinosaurs lived so long ago, before there were humans, there are no photographs of them. So an artist drew the dinosaurs you see in this book. The art shows what paleontologists think each dinosaur looked like.

FOR PARENTS

In the back of the book, you will find parent tips for dinosaur games and activities. Also, a world map shows where the fossils of the dinosaurs in this book were found. And finally, a glossary defines words found in the book.

Dig in for a lot more about amazing dinosaurs!

Some of the
SPINES on the
Amargosaurus
were as
**TALL AS A
TEN-YEAR-
OLD.**

How many dinosaurs do
you see in the picture?

85

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

This line tells you
how to sound out
the dinosaur's name.



**IN THIS CHAPTER
YOU WILL READ ABOUT
15 SMALL DINOSAURS.**

SMALL
up to 15 feet long
(5 meters)



BIG
15 to 30 feet long
(5 to 10 meters)



GIANT
30 to 65 feet long
(10 to 25 meters)



GIGANTIC
more than 65 feet long
(25 meters)



Scansoriopteryx
(See pages 24 and 25.)

SMALL



An illustration of a lush, green prehistoric forest. In the center, a large feathered dinosaur with reddish-brown wings and a white body with dark spots is flying. Below it, a dragonfly with pinkish wings is perched on a branch. The background is filled with dense foliage and tree trunks.

Many
**MEAT-
EATING**
dinosaurs had
FEATHERS.
No dinosaurs
had **FUR.**

Have you ever seen a dragonfly?
These insects also lived in the
time of dinosaurs.

SMALL

MICRORAPTOR WAS A FEATHERED GLIDER.

Microaptor weighed less than four pounds. It is the smallest dinosaur in this book.

This little dinosaur had feathers and wings. It did not fly like a bird, but it could glide through the air like a kite.

Microaptor may have used the claws on its feet to climb high up into a tree. Then it leaped off, gliding through the air until it landed on the ground or a branch.

Dinosaurs lived **MILLIONS** of **YEARS AGO**. Dinosaur times are called the **CRETACEOUS**, **JURASSIC**, and **TRIASSIC**.

FACTS

WHEN IT LIVED

early Cretaceous

FOOD

meat

SIZE



SAY MY NAME: MY-cro-RAP-tore

