Dinosaur National Monument

Julian C
An Introduction to the Park

- The park was founded in 1915 by President Wilson.
- It is located in 2 states- Utah and Colorado
- Dinosaur National Monument is full of fossils
- It has both canyons and rivers
- You can hike and raft
- You can also take a drive through the park
What is a quarry?

A quarry is a deep pit or mine in which rocks, or fossils may be found.

Quarries can have steep drops offs that make them dangerous.

Many dinosaur fossils have been found in the Dinosaur Monument quarry.
Dinosaur Fossils Found in the Park

Many dinosaur fossils have been discovered in the quarry. The most interesting and famous fossils found are:

- Allosaurus
- Stegosaurus
- Diplodocus
- Apatosaurus
- Torvosaurus
Allosaurus Facts

Allosaurus was a large theropod dinosaur that lived in the Jurassic period.

They stand on two feet.

They were carnivores.

It is believed they may have hunted in packs.

It is debated whether it was a predator versus a scavenger but it probably was both.
Stegosaurus

It was a plant eating dinosaur, known as a herbivore.

It has plates on its back that look like spikes.

These plates had blood vessels in them to regulate their body temperature.

The plates were also used to attract mates.

The spikes on the its tail were used to defend itself against predators.
Diplodocus

They were a sauropod. This means that they are massive, long-necked plant eating dinosaurs.

They travelled in small herds.

When they are fully grown, they don’t have a lot of enemies because of their immense size.

They weighed around 15 tons and they were around 92 feet long.
Apatosaurus

Similar to diplodocus, they are both sauropods, which means that they are in the same family/genus.

They both have long necks, and they eat plants.

They used to be known as brontosaurus but this has been debunked. That is a scientifically incorrect name.

A skeleton of Apatosaurus was the first dinosaur to be excavated at the quarry.
Torvosaurus

They were a theropod dinosaurs similar to allosaurus, but slightly larger.

Torvosaurus name means “savage lizard.”

Torvosaurus was one of the largest carnivores of its time.
Why Dinosaur Monument is Important

- By declaring it a national monument, people can not build or use that land for any reason. The land is set aside for the purpose of preservation and protected.
- Being able to discover new fossils allow us to learn more about dinosaurs and provide clues of how dinosaurs may have lived and looked like.
- Learning about the history of dinosaurs teaches us about the planet millions of years ago.
- It provides inspiration to the next generation of scientists and paleontologists.