

## What Did Dinosaurs Look Like?

No one has ever seen a real dinosaur, but we can see pictures and models of dinosaurs in museums. Scientists who study dinosaurs have a few different ways to guess what these animals looked like. If the bones of a dinosaur are found, they can be put together to discover the shape and size of the dinosaur. Scientists can often guess which ( **28** ) a bone came from by looking at the bone's shape. For example, a long, thick bone could come from one of a dinosaur's legs because these bones had to support the dinosaur's weight. Smaller, thinner bones might have come from the fingers or toes of the dinosaur.

Scientists have discovered that dinosaurs are similar to animals that are alive today. These animals include birds and reptiles, such as crocodiles and lizards. Scientists can look at how the bones of these animals fit together, and this helps the scientists to put together dinosaurs' bones. In addition, birds and reptiles ( **29** ). Dinosaurs' skin and eyes were probably similar to the skin and eyes of birds and reptiles. Special artists can use photos of these animals when they create pictures of dinosaurs.

The bones of different dinosaurs are often mixed together. If this happens, scientists must be careful when they decide which bone belongs to which dinosaur. However, they sometimes ( **30** ). In such cases, the wrong bones are put together. This creates problems when scientists try to discover what the dinosaurs looked like.

- |      |                                 |                               |
|------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (28) | 1 part of the body              | 2 area of the world           |
|      | 3 period of history             | 4 kind of animal              |
| (29) | 1 give other useful information | 2 produce eggs like dinosaurs |
|      | 3 often eat the same food       | 4 usually sleep at night      |
| (30) | 1 give bones to museums         | 2 make mistakes               |
|      | 3 take a long time              | 4 get volunteers to help      |

## *Feel the Heat*

Although people usually avoid pain, there are some situations where people seem to enjoy it. For example, some people really like eating spicy foods with chili peppers. Eating chili peppers can make people's mouths feel like they are burning. Chili peppers can also make people sweat and cry. However, they are very popular, and they have become an important part of the food culture in places such as Mexico, India, and Korea.

There are a variety of shapes, colors, and sizes of chili peppers. Some kinds of chili peppers, such as poblano peppers, are not very spicy at all. Other kinds of chili peppers, such as habanero peppers, are really spicy. Even a small amount of such peppers can be too much for most people. Chili peppers are spicy because they contain a chemical called capsaicin. Most of the capsaicin is in the white parts inside a chili pepper that hold the pepper's seeds.

Scientists guess that chili peppers produce capsaicin to protect their seeds. Animals like mice damage the seeds when they eat chili peppers, but capsaicin is too spicy for such animals. However, birds do not damage the seeds when they eat chili peppers, and capsaicin has no effect on birds. Humans can eat chili peppers because they mix the peppers with other foods so that they are not too spicy. They also discovered that adding small amounts of chili pepper improved the flavor of their food and kept it fresh for longer.

People have been growing and eating chili peppers in South America for thousands of years. European explorers first took chili peppers from South America to Europe over 400 years ago. They soon became popular there. As chili peppers were traded for goods around the world, their popularity spread to Asia and Africa, too.

(34)

Eating spicy foods with chili peppers

- 1 is recommended by doctors in some situations.
- 2 has become very popular in some parts of the world.
- 3 usually helps people to avoid feeling pain.
- 4 makes people sweat less when the weather is hot.

(35)

What is one difference between poblano peppers and habanero peppers?

- 1 Habanero peppers are much larger than poblano peppers.
- 2 Habanero peppers contain a smaller number of seeds.
- 3 Poblano peppers are available in a wider variety of colors.
- 4 Poblano peppers have less capsaicin than habanero peppers.

(36)

Why do chili peppers probably make capsaicin?

- 1 Because humans grow chili peppers with other foods.
- 2 Because their original flavor did not attract many birds.
- 3 So that the peppers stay fresh for a longer period of time.
- 4 So that their seeds will not be damaged by animals.

(37)

When did chili peppers become popular in Europe?

- 1 After it became possible to trade them for goods around the world.
- 2 Since they were first grown and eaten there thousands of years ago.
- 3 Over 400 years after they were first taken to Asia and Africa.
- 4 Soon after explorers brought them back from South America.