

AUSTRALIAN DINOSAUR STORY

Student activity 7 ~ English Naming dinosaurs and other extinct reptiles

Many dinosaurs are named because they have a special feature. Often, these names have come from Latin or Greek. Other names came from places where their fossils have been found, and still others from the name of the person who discovered the fossils.

The table below lists some of the terms used in deciding on names for dinosaurs and other ancient reptiles:

Ankly = fused or joined together (armour plated)	Austro = southern
Bary = heavy	Cero = horn
Chasmo = deep gap	Dactyl = finger
Diplo = double	Docus = beam or bar
Dont = tooth	Hypsilo = high crested, ridged (as in teeth)
Ichthyo = fish	Mimus = copy
Muttaborra = found at Muttaborra, Qld	Opus = foot of
Onyx = claw	Ornitho = bird
Oz = Australian	Plesios = pushed forward
Pod = foot	Ptero = wing
Raptor = fast running thief	Rhoeto = reptile
Saurus = lizard	Skart = nimble
Struthio = ostrich	Thero = beast
Tri = three	Tyranno = tyrant
Veloci = speedy	Winton = found at Winton, Qld

Using the terms above, write the meanings of the following

- ♦ Ankylo-saur _____
- ♦ Skart-opus _____
- ♦ Ptero-saur _____
- ♦ Oz-raptor _____
- ♦ Muttaborra-saurus _____
- ♦ Ornitho-pod _____
- ♦ Thero-pod _____
- ♦ Sauro-pod _____
- ♦ Tyranno-saur-opus _____
- ♦ Ichthyo-saur _____
- ♦ Rhoeto-saurus _____
- ♦ Winton-opus _____

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Now try using the terms in the table to invent 3 dinosaur names of your own. Write them in the spaces below. Describe what they might have looked like.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

(For some assistance see the website:

www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/dinosaurs/allabout/Nameroots.shtml)