

# Dinosaur Fun-- a teacher packet

Kaleidoscope knows how committed you are to the development of your students. We understand that your time is valuable and that's why we have provided you with simple activity ideas to take back to your classroom, not only to reflect on your Kaleidoscope experience, but as a way to combine interesting activities with your educational goals.

As you know, Kaleidoscope is a creative art experience that celebrates the spirit and wonder of creativity and strengthens children's personalities by giving them the opportunity to express themselves through art. Kaleidoscope encourages students to communicate, problem solve, think critically and creatively, and to be responsible for themselves. Kaleidoscope is more than just a place to create art; it's a unique experience that encourages self-expression, strengthens self-esteem and enhances learning.

The following activities compliment math, science, reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing and art curriculum standards.

## Prehistoric Poetry

Read the following poems to your students. Have the class create their own silly dinosaur and write a poem about it. Put these creative dinosaurs and poems in a class dinosaur poetry book and have each student take turns reading one to the class. Share this activity idea with other teachers and exchange class books.

### The Lizard

The Lizard is a timid thing.  
That cannot dance or fly or sing;  
He hunts for bugs beneath the floor  
And longs to be a dinosaur.

John Gardner

### Long Gone

Don't waste your time in looking for  
the long-extinct tyrannosaur,  
because this ancient dinosaur  
just can't be found here anymore.

This also goes for stegosaurus,  
allosaurus, brontosaurus,  
and any other kind of saurus.  
They all lived here before us.

Jack Prelutsky

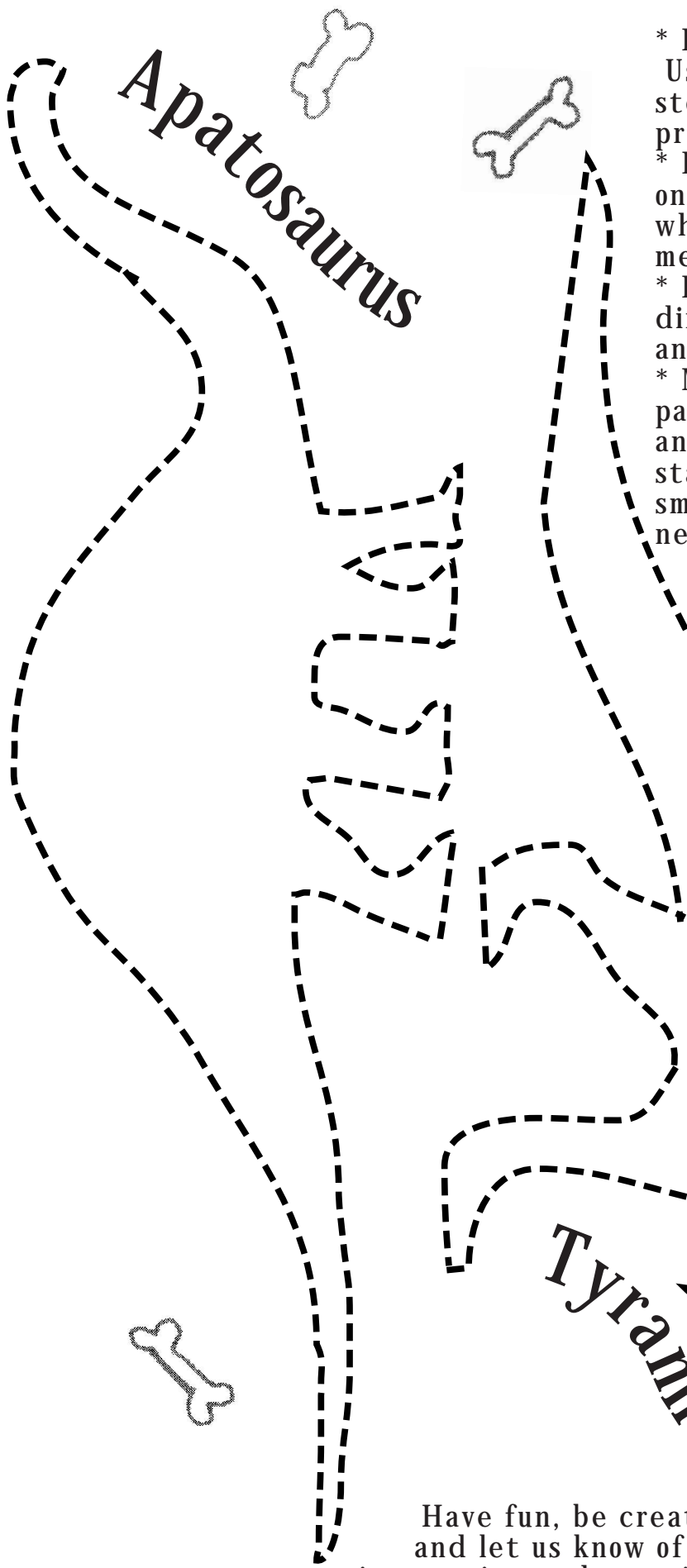
## Fancy Fossils

Have the children help mix up a batch of peanut butter clay. (Equal amounts of creamy peanut butter and powdered milk mixed together then add honey until it becomes the consistency of clay--if clay is too sticky add more powdered milk, if it is too crumbly, add more honey.) This can be incorporated into a math lesson by talking about measurement and what it means to have equal amounts. Teach a science lesson on what we know about dinosaurs by fossils that have been found.

Give each child a couple of mounded tablespoons of the clay on a small plate. With clean hands, have them press their piece of clay flat. Provide different shapes of cereal, pretzels, candies etc. that the children can use to press into the clay to make their own edible fossil!

★ Celebrating the spirit and wonder of creativity!





Apatosaurus

Tyrannosaurus

\* Dinosaurs come in many shapes and sizes. Use these patterns as desk name plates, stencils, or enlarge and fill with math problems.

\* Have students identify the dinosaur, list on dinosaur how big this particular one gets, what it eats, and describe its habitat and means of protection.

\* Base a creative writing story on the dinosaur describing this dino as their pet, and then write the story on the dino shape.

\* Make stuffed dinosaurs by enlarging the patterns and making 2 of each shape (a front and back.) Paint or draw on shapes, then staple the two pieces together leaving a small opening. Stuff with crumpled newspaper and staple opening together.

\* Make dinosaur collages on these shapes using words and pictures cut from magazines, construction paper, rice, macaroni, whatever you can think of or have available in the classroom.

\* Draw the outline of a dinosaur with white crayon on dark blue, purple or black construction paper. Have the students use fluorescent puff paint to create the dinosaur's bones on the shape.

Have fun, be creative  
and let us know of the  
interesting and creative ways  
you teach core requirements!  
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