

'One Who Causes Fear' Found in Argentina



When were dinosaurs alive?

- **Dinosaurs first evolved during the Triassic Period (252 to 201 million years ago).**
- **At the end of the Triassic Period something caused many animals to die out but dinosaurs survived. What followed is called the Jurassic Period (201 to 145 million years ago).**
- **Finally, came the Cretaceous Period (145 to 66 million years ago).**

Scientists have discovered a fearsome new dinosaur in Argentina.

They found a **well-preserved** skull of a frightening, meat-eating dinosaur. They believe it would have been such a deadly hunter that they gave it a name meaning 'the one who causes fear'!

It would have looked a bit like a Tyrannosaurus rex and, like the T. rex, it walked on two legs and had short arms.

The dinosaur would have weighed in at somewhere between one and five tonnes. It was also around five metres long. That means, had they met, it would have been dwarfed by the much bigger T. rex. They could weigh up to eight tonnes and grow to 12 metres long!

Although smaller, 'the one who causes fear' would still have been a **formidable** predator. Scientists think it had razor-sharp claws and an extremely powerful bite.

The dinosaur had an oddly short skull. They

Illustration: Llukalkan aliocranianus - 'One Who Causes Fear'.

think it had bumps and ridges on its head similar to modern reptiles like the iguana.

They also think it probably had better hearing than other dinosaurs. The scientists think its hearing might have been similar to that of a crocodile.

It lived around 85 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period - only a few million years before the dinosaurs died out.

What Caused the Dinosaurs to Die Out?

Some scientists believe that a mountain-sized meteor struck the Earth roughly 66 million years ago.

It would have thrown a deadly amount of gas and **vaporised** rock into the atmosphere. The sky would have darkened and temperatures would have plunged. As a result, plants would have died, quickly followed by the plant-eating dinosaurs. With nothing to eat, the carnivores too would have **perished**.

Glossary

well-preserved	Kept in a good condition.
formidable	Something frightening due to its power, size or intensity.
vaporised	Turned into a vapour or a gas.
perished	Died quickly or suddenly.