

## Accurate Author 1 Practice Activities

### **Apatosaurus (Brontosaurus)**

Enjoy our fun Apatosaurus facts for kids. Also known as the Brontosaurus, this giant dinosaur is one of the largest animals to have walked on Earth, reaching an amazing 23m (75ft) in length and 23 tons in weight. Learn when it lived, what it ate and lots more by checking out our cool Apatosaurus facts and information.

The Apatosaurus is also well known as the Brontosaurus. Confusion was caused when bones of the giant dinosaur were first discovered back in 1877 by Othniel Charles Marsh. After naming the new dinosaur Apatosaurus (meaning deceptive lizard), he later found a larger set of bones and incorrectly thought they were a new species which he then named Brontosaurus (meaning thunder lizard). It turns out that the second set of bones were just the adult version of the Apatosaurus. The name Brontosaurus caught on and it wasn't until recently that the original and technically correct name Apatosaurus has gained widespread use among the public.

Apatosaurus lived in the Jurassic Period, around 150 million years ago.

The Apatosaurus is one of the largest animals to have ever walked on Earth, averaging around 23m (75ft) in length and a weight of over 23 metric tons.

According to studies, it took an Apatosaurus only around 10 years to reach its full size.

Apatosaurus had long whip-like tails that counter balanced their long necks.

Apatosaurus was a plant eating (herbivore) dinosaur.

Apatosaurus was represented in the popular Transformers toy line and animated series as Sludge, an Autobot that could transform into an Apatosaurus form.

Copyright: Science Kids © Updated: June 1, 2012 <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/dinosaurs/apatosaurus.html>

### **Author Information:**

My name is Rene Smith and I am the creator of the Science Kids website.

After studying at Canterbury University I worked for 4 years at a science centre in New Zealand called 'Science Alive', running education programs, demonstrations and workshops. I taught in Japan for 2 years and was a preliminary judge for the 2011 Google Science Fair.

Science Kids began in August 2007 as a product of my interests in science, technology and education and has since grown to provide educational resources to over a million monthly visitors.

Good readers take the time to investigate writers to make sure they are "Accurate Authors."

To accomplish this, make sure you look for Copyright Information and Author Credentials.

### **Copyright Information**

Copyright is the term given to an author so he/she has exclusive rights to what he/she has written.

This right forbids anyone else from copying, publishing, and/or selling the information presented.

### **Author Credentials**

Evidence that the author is an authority on the subject matter being presented. This evidence may include: educational background, professional expertise, and/or practical experience.

### **Please read the passage about Apatosaurus (Brontosaurus).**

Next, investigate to see if the information in this passage is accurate. To accomplish this, first check the copyright information to see if the information is current.

- What is the copyright date?

Then check the author's credentials. Is the author of this passage an expert on the subject?

- List three points that support the author's expertise on the subject matter.

Finally, with a family member or friend discuss what your favorite dinosaur is and why.

## **There is only one global ocean**

If you look at a map of the globe, it's easy to see that there is really only one ocean. While there is only one global ocean, the seas are geographically divided into the Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic, and Southern (Antarctic) Oceans.

These five oceans are not separate bodies of water; they form one continuous oceanic mass. The boundaries between these five oceans arose over time for a variety of historical, cultural, geographical, and scientific reasons.

The Pacific, the Atlantic and the Indian Oceans are known as the three major oceans.

The Southern Ocean is the 'newest' ocean. The boundaries of this ocean were set in 2000 by the International Hydrographic Organization.

The U.S. is a member of this organization, represented by the NOS Office of Coast Survey.

Revised November 17, 2011 |  
<http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/howmanyoceans.html>

### **Please read the passage about Global Oceans.**

Next, investigate to see if the information in this passage is accurate. To accomplish this, first check the copyright information to see if the information is current.

- What is the copyright date?

Then check the author's credentials. Is the author of this passage is an expert on the subject?

- Explain why you believe the author is an expert on the subject matter.

Finally, with a family member or friend discuss what your favorite things are about the ocean and why.