

Scale Dinosaurs

Turn your playground into Jurassic Park with scale models of dinosaurs

9-12

Estimate and Measure



This is a fun, meaningful context to bring to life the **mathematical** study of **scale** and **measure** and of course a hook for **interdisciplinary** topic work for anything dinosaur related!

With a little imagination – and more time – your whole school grounds could be transformed into a pre-historic world. You could: create boulders out of papier mâché; sculpt a volcano out of piles of chairs covered with a tarpaulin or make giant tree ferns by cutting down the length of rolled up newspaper to create the fronds and secure them inside sturdy cardboard tubes.

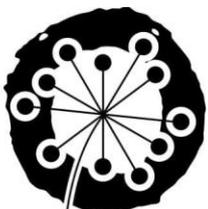
It doesn't even need to be models of dinosaurs it could be local landmarks, living species of animals or scaled down physical features.

Equipment

- Squared paper, pencils and rulers
- String, tape measures and chalk
- Varied loose parts
- Cardboard, socks, glue and powder paint

Activity

1. Split the children into groups and have them find out the dimensions of a chosen dinosaur.
2. The groups draw a scaled down outline of their dinosaur on squared paper deciding the value of each square in meters.
3. This scale drawing is the plan from which the groups create their life size outlines outside in their chosen location.
4. Once they have marked out the dinosaur they can embellish it with features such as teeth, eyes, claws and scales using the loose materials available.
5. Encourage the children to walk through the mouth into the stomach to see how many of them their dinosaur could eat!
6. As an extension the group can even create a pair of scaled down dinosaur footprints cut out of cardboard.
7. Glue these templates to a pair of old socks, wear them and attempt to make prints across the playground with powder paint or through a sand pit!



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