

Careful Work

Scientists are very careful when they work on dinosaur fossils. They use bright lights and small tools. They use toothbrushes to clean away dirt. They do not want to hurt the fossils! It takes a long time to uncover a fossil.



Tyler Lyson, who found the dinosaur mummy, works on a fossil.

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The Mummy of All Dinosaurs

By Jane Sellman

March 2008: Scientists have found the most complete dinosaur mummy ever. A dinosaur mummy is a kind of **fossil**. A fossil is a living thing that died and turned into rock. A mummy fossil has bones and skin or muscles. With this mummy, even the insides turned into rock.

Scientists are learning amazing things from this mummy.

Scientists have learned that dinosaurs were even bigger than we thought!

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Tyler Lyson (on the right) uses a jackhammer to remove rock from around fossils.

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Compare and Contrast



T. rex

- Length: 40'
- Speed: 20 mph
- Teeth: pointed for tearing meat



Hadrosaur

- Length: 36'
- Speed: 28 mph
- Teeth: flat for chewing plants

How else can you compare these two dinosaurs?

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Mummy of All Dinos

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There was a little space between each piece of the mummy's backbone. Until now, scientists put together dinosaur backbones with no space between pieces. Now museums will have to take apart their dinosaurs and put them together again. Every dinosaur will be a lot longer!

Scientists were surprised to see that this mummy dinosaur had stripes. The stripes may have helped it hide behind trees. Maybe other dinosaurs had spots or bright colors!

The mummy had big muscles in its behind.



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This dinosaur tail is ready to go to the lab.

These muscles let it run 28 miles an hour! It could outrun a *Tyrannosaurus rex*!

People will study this mummy a long time. There is a lot more to learn.

Writing Prompt:

How is this hadrosaur skin like skin on some animals today? How is it different?



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HADROSAUR

The dinosaur mummy was a **hadrosaur**. A hadrosaur is a dinosaur that had a mouth like a duck's bill. Hadrosaurs ate plants. They could be 40 feet long. That's as long as a school bus!



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