

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Ankylosaurus

By Guy Belleranti



**A**nkylosaurus was one of the last dinosaurs. Like T. rex and Triceratops, it lived at the end of the Cretaceous period, over 65 million years ago.

Ankylosaurus didn't eat meat like T. rex. Instead it ate plants like Triceratops.

Ankylosaurus wasn't as heavy as Triceratops, but it was still very large. In fact, it weighed as much as two big rhinos.

Ankylosaurus didn't have horns like a rhinoceros or a Triceratops. Instead, it had armor. Bony plates covered its top half. Spikes stuck out of its sides. Its tail had a big club on the end. The Ankylosaurus was the armored truck of dinosaurs.

The only way T. rex could bite Ankylosaurus was to flip it over. But Ankylosaurus was low to the ground. This made it hard to flip. Any T. rex that tried to flip it might get clubbed by the tail. So T. rex left all but young or sick Ankylosauruses alone.

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1. The Ankylosaurus was ...
  - a. one of the first dinosaurs to appear on earth.
  - b. one of the largest dinosaurs that ever lived.
  - c. a small, lightweight dinosaur.
  - d. a plant-eating dinosaur.
  
2. The Ankylosaurus lived 65 million years ago, during the \_\_\_\_\_ period.
  
3. Why did the T. rex have trouble eating the Ankylosaurus?

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4. How did the Ankylosaurus use its tail to protect itself?

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The Draw straight lines to match each vocabulary word on the left with its definition on the right.

- |                  |   |  |
|------------------|---|--|
| 1. club          | • | • plant-eating dinosaur with three horns on its head |
| 2. rhinoceros    | • | • strong vehicle designed to move money              |
| 3. T. rex        | • | • large meat-eating dinosaur                         |
| 4. Triceratops   | • | • a thousand thousands                               |
| 5. armored truck | • | • thick, heavy object used to pound things           |
| 6. million       | • | • large armored animal with horns that lives today   |

## ANSWER KEY

# Ankylosaurus

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1. The Ankylosaurus was ...
  - a. one of the first dinosaurs to appear on earth.
  - b. one of the largest dinosaurs that ever lived.
  - c. a small, lightweight dinosaur.

**d. a plant-eating dinosaur.**

2. The Ankylosaurus lived 65 million years ago, during the \_\_\_\_\_ **Cretaceous** \_\_\_\_\_ period.

**Also accept:  
Late Cretaceous**

3. Why did the T. rex have trouble eating the Ankylosaurus?

**The T. rex could not flip the Ankylosaurus over because  
it was low to the ground.**

**Also accept either of the following:**

- **The Ankylosaurus had armor to protect it.**
- **The Ankylosaurus could use the club on its tail to fight off a T. rex.**

4. How did the Ankylosaurus use its tail to protect itself?

**The Ankylosaurus could use the club on its tail to fight  
off predators**

# ANSWER KEY

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