

Name: _____

Pteranodon

By Guy Belleranti



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though it lived when dinosaurs did, it wasn't a dinosaur either. Instead it was a flying reptile (or pterosaur).

Pteranodon had hollow and lightweight bones. It also had a tiny tail and a giant head. The head had big eyes that gave Pteranodon good eyesight. The head also had a big crest. The crest was largest on male Pteranodons. The big head and big wings made up most of Pteranodon's body.

Pteranodon was a meat-eater, but it had no teeth. Pteranodon used its long, pointed beak to eat. It scooped up fish in its beak. It also ate crabs and squid. Also, it probably ate dead animals, just like vultures do today.

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1. Pteranodons were ...
 - a. large birds that could fly.
 - b. large reptiles that could fly.
 - c. large plant-eating dinosaurs that could fly.
 - d. large dinosaurs that could not fly.



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4. According to the article, what four things did Pteranodons probably eat?

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



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- | | | |
|----------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 4. lightweight | • | • sea animals with tentacles |
| 5. crest | • | • having nothing inside |
| 6. beak | • | • birds that eat dead animals |

ANSWER KEY

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1. Pteranodons were ...
 - a. large birds that could fly.
 - b. large reptiles that could fly.**
 - c. large plant-eating dinosaurs that could fly.
 - d. large dinosaurs that could not fly.



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**Hollow bones weighed less. This made it easier for the
Pteranodon to fly.**

4. According to the article, what four things did Pteranodons probably eat?

fish, crabs, squid, and dead animals

ANSWER KEY

Pteranodon

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



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4. lightweight

5. crest

6. beak

• sea animals with tentacles

• having nothing inside

• birds that eat dead animals