

17/30

LATE JURASSIC



BRACHIOSAURUS



DATE

About 154–150 million years ago



LOCATION

Western United States



With elevated shoulders and an upward-reaching neck, *Brachiosaurus* browsed above many other herbivores.



KEY FACTS

- Approximately 18–22 meters long
- Front legs longer than hind legs
- Ate vegetation from tall trees



WHY IT MATTERS

It represents a specialized high-browsing form of sauropod.



INTERESTING FACT

Many older museum reconstructions labeled *Brachiosaurus* actually depict the African *Giraffatitan*.



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DIPLODOCUS



DATE

About 154–145 million years ago



LOCATION

Western United States



Diplodocus combined an extraordinarily long neck with an equally impressive whip-like tail.



KEY FACTS

- Reached approximately 24–28 meters
- Possessed narrow, peg-shaped teeth
- Had a relatively lightweight skeleton



WHY IT MATTERS

It shows how sauropods achieved extreme length without becoming equally massive.



INTERESTING FACT

Its name means “double beam,” referring to unusual bones beneath its tail.



19/30

LATE JURASSIC



APATOSAURUS



DATE

About 152–151 million years ago



LOCATION

Western United States



Thick-necked and heavily built, *Apatosaurus* was one of the most powerful-looking sauropods of the Morrison Formation.



KEY FACTS

- Approximately 21–23 meters long
- Had an exceptionally strong neck
- Possessed a massive whip-like tail



WHY IT MATTERS

Its skeleton reveals how some sauropods developed extremely robust bodies.



INTERESTING FACT

For decades, museum displays sometimes gave it the wrong type of skull.



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BRONTOSAURUS



DATE

About 156–146 million years ago



LOCATION

Western United States



Brontosaurus was a heavy-bodied relative of *Apatosaurus* with a long neck and powerful tail.



KEY FACTS

- Approximately 18–22 meters long
- Plant-eating diplodocid sauropod
- Walked on four column-like legs



WHY IT MATTERS

Its classification shows how scientific names can change when fossils are reexamined.



INTERESTING FACT

A 2015 analysis revived *Brontosaurus* as a separate genus, although the classification remains debated.





CAMARASAURUS



DATE

About 155–145 million years ago



LOCATION

Western United States



Broad teeth and a box-shaped skull distinguished this common sauropod from its longer, more slender relatives.



KEY FACTS

- Approximately 15–18 meters long
- Had strong, spoon-shaped teeth
- One of the most common Morrison sauropods



WHY IT MATTERS

Numerous fossils provide a detailed picture of sauropod growth and anatomy.



INTERESTING FACT

Its name means 'chambered lizard,' referring to air spaces in its vertebrae.





CERATOSAURUS



DATE

About 153–148 million years ago



LOCATION

United States, Portugal and Tanzania



A nasal horn and a line of small bony structures along its back gave *Ceratosaurus* an unmistakable appearance.



KEY FACTS

- Approximately 6–7 meters long
- Possessed large, serrated teeth
- Had four fingers on each hand



WHY IT MATTERS

It shows that differently built large predators shared Jurassic ecosystems.



INTERESTING FACT

Its nasal horn was probably more useful for display than combat.





TORVOSAURUS



DATE

About 153–148 million years ago



LOCATION

United States and Portugal



Massive jaws and blade-like teeth made *Torvosaurus* one of the largest predators of the Jurassic.



KEY FACTS

- Approximately 9–10 meters long
- Robust skull and powerful jaws
- Member of the megalosaur family



WHY IT MATTERS

Its fossils reveal connections between Late Jurassic North America and Europe.



INTERESTING FACT

Portuguese specimens may represent one of Europe's largest known predatory dinosaurs.





GIRAFFATITAN



DATE

About 150–145 million years ago



LOCATION

Tanzania



Towering above the East African landscape, *Giraffatitan* used its elevated neck to reach high vegetation.



KEY FACTS

- Approximately 22–25 meters long
- Front legs longer than hind legs
- Closely related to *Brachiosaurus*



WHY IT MATTERS

It is one of the best-known giant sauropods from Africa.



INTERESTING FACT

The famous mounted 'Brachiosaurus' in Berlin is now classified as *Giraffatitan*.

