



2025

CARNIAN PLUVIAL EPISODE

Where Dirt Meets Dinosaurs (and maybe even a brand-new species!)

BE A PART OF SOMETHING DIG!

Q: What kind of dinosaur
never gives up?

A: A Try-ceratops! 💪

ABOUT THE DIG

UNEARTHING THE CARNIAN PLUVIAL EPISODE — A PREHISTORIC FIRST

Dig Site Adventure: S. Bartolomeu de Messines

Hey junior explorers! 🙌

Grab your hat, pack your snacks, and get ready to travel back 232 million years. We're heading to S. Bartolomeu de Messines — a tongue-twister of a town in Portugal, where our team of super-smart scientists is on the hunt for ancient creatures and wild prehistoric weather!

This isn't just any dig. Oh no. We're looking for clues from a super weird time in Earth's history called the Carnian Pluvial Episode. Never heard of it? That's because it's one of Earth's best-kept secrets!

What Was the Carnian Pluvial What-Now?

Let's break it down:

"Carnian" = A long time ago (like, so long ago your great-great-great-great-great... well, you get it)

"Pluvial" = RAIN. And we're talking nonstop, soggy, puddle-jumping, swamp-making, monsoon-type rain

"Episode" = A big slice of Earth's history

So What Happened?

A bunch of volcanoes went kaboom, the sky filled with gas, the planet got super hot, and then... it RAINED. Like crazy.

Whole deserts turned into jungles. Old creatures went extinct. New ones started evolving — including the first true dinosaurs, early mammals, and even giant crocodile cousins!



Q: How do you invite a dino to tea?

A: Tea, rex? ☕



IN PORTUGAL

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Here in Portugal, our team of diggers, scientists, and dinosaur detectives is:

- Digging through old rocks that may have been around during the big rainy event
- Searching for fossils of creatures no one has ever seen before
- Studying ancient dirt and plants to figure out what the world looked like back then
- Taking samples back to the lab to scan, test, and maybe even discover a brand-new species!

And if we're lucky, this could be the first site ever in the Northern Hemisphere to show fossils from the Carnian Pluvial Episode.

WHY IT'S AWESOME

If we find what we think we will, this dig might:

- Prove the rainstorm was global (not just a Brazil thing!)
- Help us understand how animals and plants survived wild climate changes
- Discover new dinosaurs or early mammals that no one's ever named (wanna help us name one?)
- Give scientists super-important info about how Earth recovers after big disasters

Q: What do you call a dinosaur who wears glasses and uses big words?

A: A thesaurus! 📖



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FUN FACTS

DINO DAWN FACTS

✓ Dinosaurs weren't the kings yet — they were just getting started!

✓ Prehistoric Portugal might've looked like a muddy, dino-filled rainforest

✓ Fossils are packed in plaster "jackets" like dino burritos for their trip to the lab

✓ Some of the first mammals were the size of jellybeans

✓ We use teeny-tiny tools like toothbrushes to clean fossils (no T. rex-sized shovels here!)

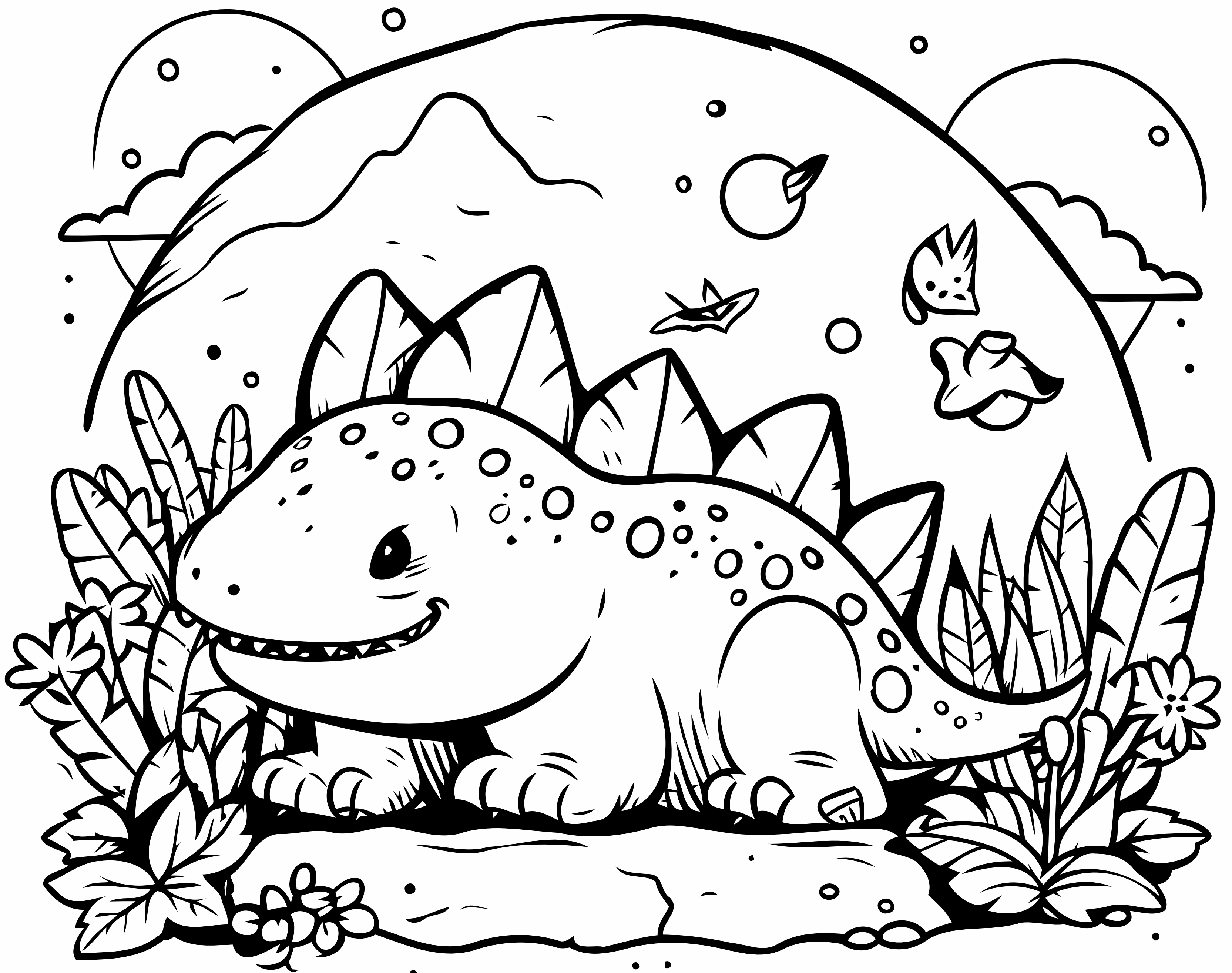
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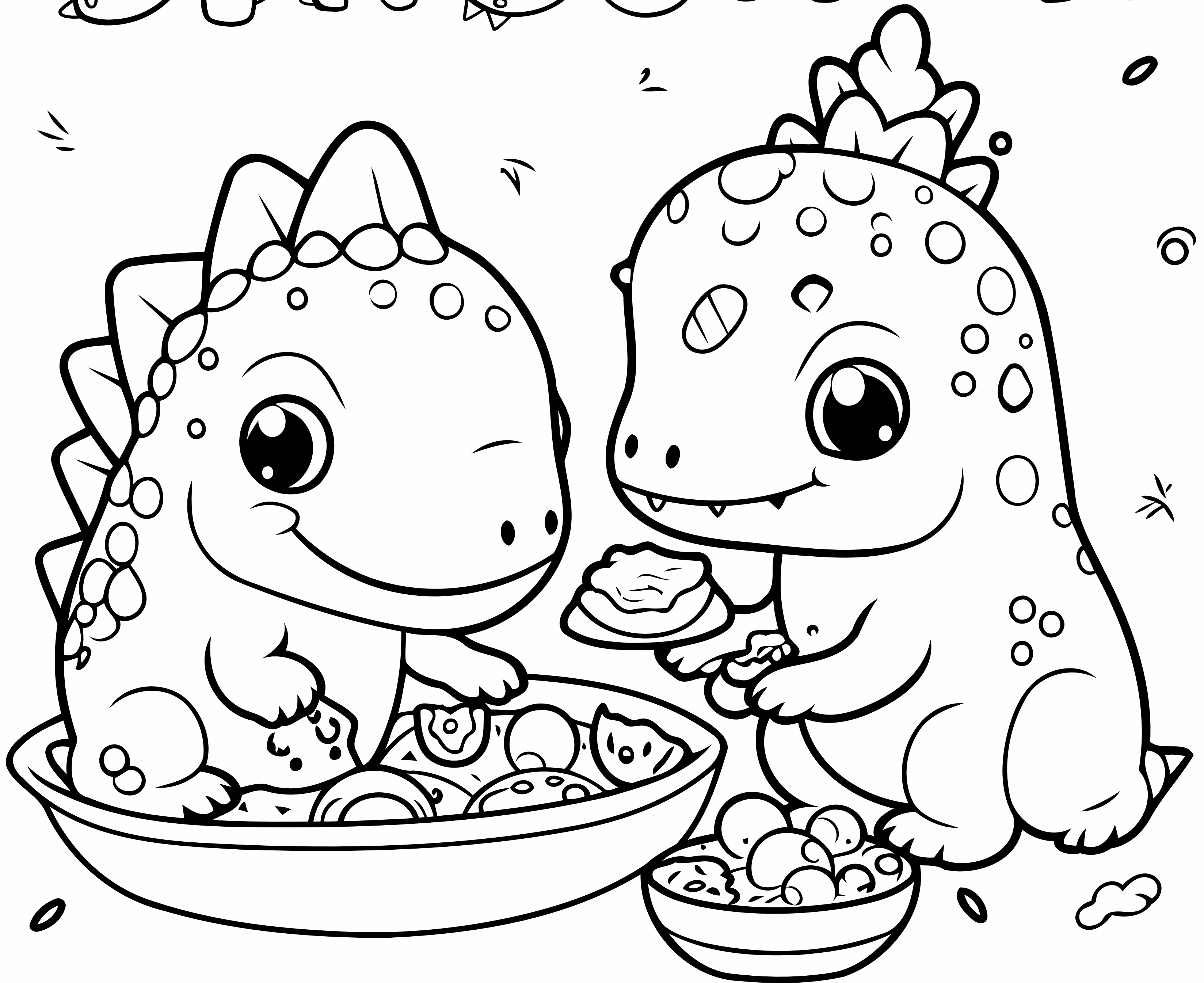
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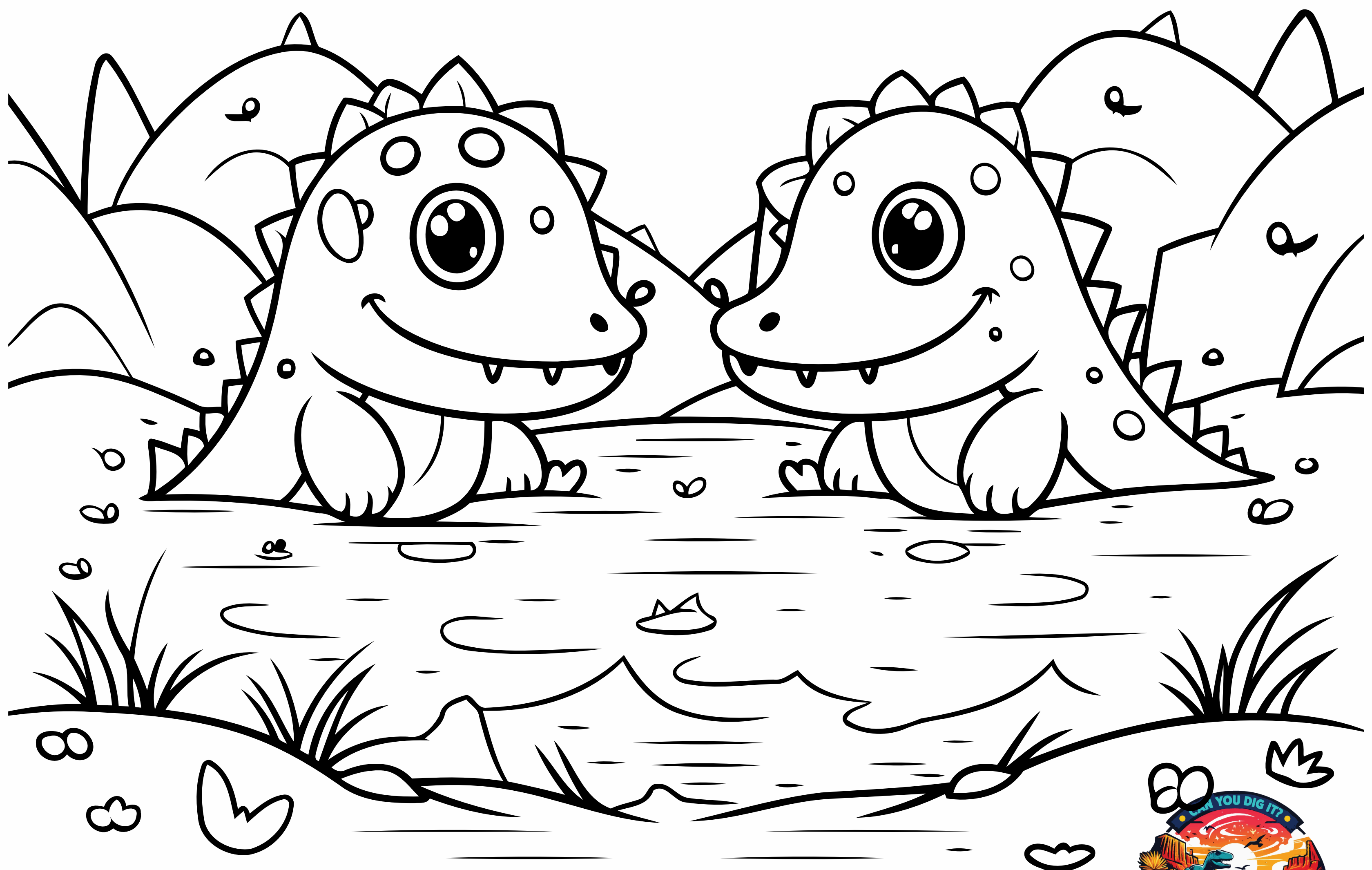
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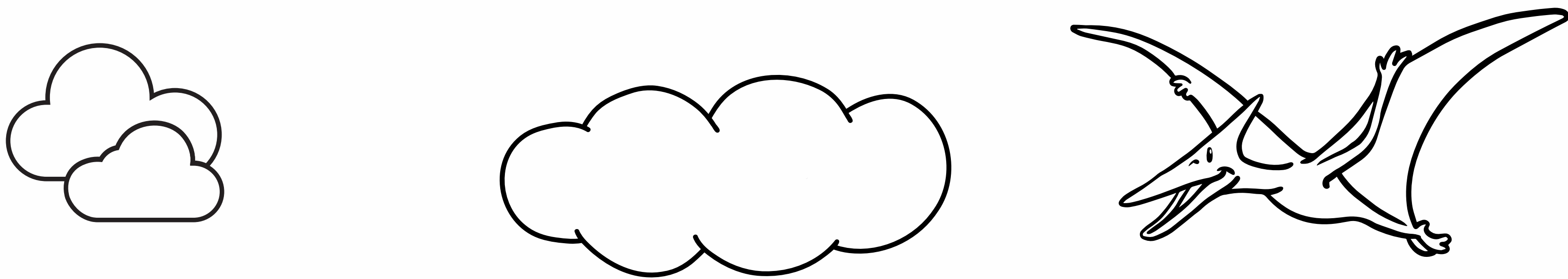
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