

Ceratosaurus

21 Cool Facts you never knew about the Ceratosaurus!



1. Ceratosaurus was a large theropod dinosaur that lived during the Late Jurassic period, around 160-145 million years ago.

2. It lived two other large carnivores at the time, the Allosaurus and the Torvosaurus and probably competed for food with them.

3. The name Ceratosaurus means 'horned lizard', and comes from the Greek language referring to the horns on its head!

4. It weighed about one ton (1-2000 pounds), and would be about 18-23ft long

5. Ceratosaurus had horns, three horns just like a Triceratops.

6. However they were much blunter and less long. They were probably used to attract mates rather than defense

7. It also had bony spikes along its back, which were likely for defense, though they were not particularly large.

8. The head of Ceratosaurus was quite large for its size and could measure 60 cm long (24 inches)

9. This horn was about 7 cm long, although when living could have been longer. It also had horns on its brow, above each eye.

10. The teeth of Ceratosaurus were blade-like and serrated, ideal for slicing through flesh

11. They were also very long for a dinosaur of this size and could be nearly 4 inches long!

12. Ceratosaurus had four fingers on each hand, not three or two like other theropod dinosaurs

13. The first complete skeleton of Ceratosaurus was discovered in 1883-4, in the USA.

14. Ceratosaurus fossil brains (yes that's a thing) have shown that it would have had a very good sense of smell.

15. It had quite a deep (tall) tail that some scientists have suggested might have been adapted for swimming,

16. It is thought that Ceratosaurus and Allosaurus were the top predators in their ecosystem and would have competed for food.

17. The first African fossil of Ceratosaurus was discovered in Tanzania in 1913.

18. Diplodocus would have probably needed about 600 lbs of food every day to live

19. Ceratosaurus was found by Marshal Felch in 1883 near Canon City in Colorado

20. Ceratosaurus looks more difficult to say and pronounce than it is. It has just four syllables and is said like this: Seh - Rah - Toe - Sore - Rus.

