

# Dinosaurs & Birds

Did dinosaurs evolve into birds? Many scientists imagine they did. In movies, television shows, and artwork, they're often shown as bird-like. But dinosaurs were very different from birds, and nobody's ever seen one kind of animal transform into another kind. From the beginning, birds have always been...well, birds!

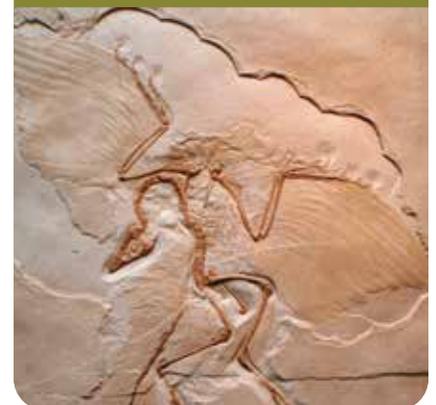
- ✓ Artists often draw dinosaurs with feathers to reinforce the idea they evolved into birds. But research shows "feathers" found on dino fossils are likely just decayed skin fibers.
- ✓ Scientists disagree on which fossils show evolution. They haven't found any genuine dinosaur-to-bird transitions.
- ✓ Fossils of dinosaurs and birds are buried in the same rock layers. That means they lived at the same time, so it didn't take millions of years for birds to appear.
- ✓ A dinosaur that started to evolve into a bird over time wouldn't survive. In-between skeletons, lungs, and other systems won't work.



Help the dinosaur find her baby.



The fossil pictured here is known as *Archaeopteryx*. Some scientists claim this creature was part bird and part dinosaur. But there's no evidence that it was anything but a bird. It had wings, feathers, and feet that allowed it to perch on things just like many birds do today.





What are some of the differences between dinosaurs and birds?



**Birds**

Feathers

Warm-blooded

Beaks for preening feathers

Breathe in a one-way loop

**Dinosaurs**

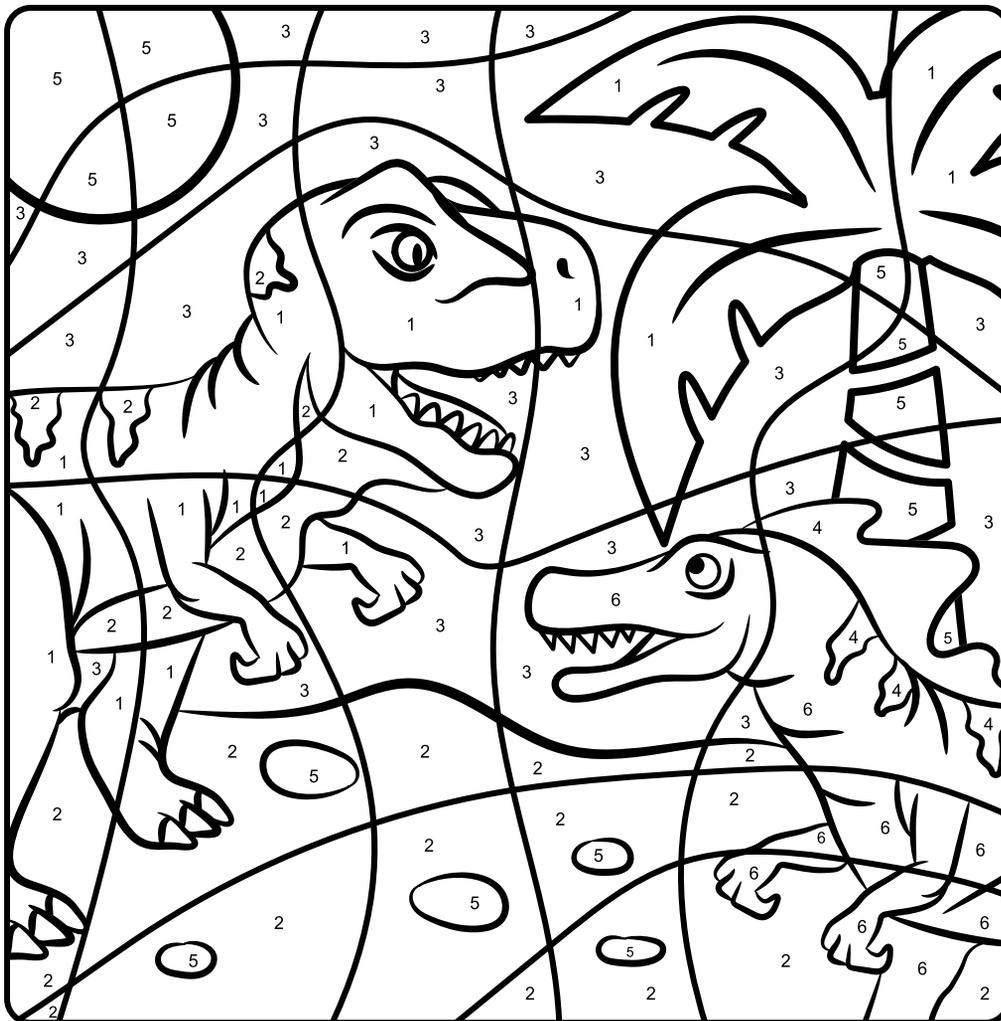
Scales/thin filaments under skin

Likely cold-blooded

No beaks for preening

Breathe in and out

Color by number



Did you know?

Pterosaurs weren't dinosaurs. They were reptiles like dinosaurs, but dinosaurs were land animals while pterosaurs were designed to fly.

- 1 green
- 2 yellow

- 3 blue
- 4 red

- 5 orange
- 6 purple

"I know all the birds of the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field are Mine." (Psalm 50:11)

