Dinosaurs Alive!

Description

In Dinosaurs Alive!, students will have the exciting opportunity to utilise some of the most cutting edge technology employed by palaeontologists, including high-resolution X-ray cross-section databases, the LSC Science departments' image-capture microscope, 3D modelling, and 3D printing. Students will also have the opportunity to use papers from internationally renowned journals to obtain data, and use the 'Paleocast' website as a resource for interviews with current palaeontologists.

Unit Topics

Students will study ancient supercontinents, Australian mega fauna, major dinosaur groups, major extinction events, important fossil sites, extinction themes, palaeontologists and dinosaur colouration.

Skill Development

Students will develop skills in Earth Science, such as Geology,Palaeontology, Biological classification, scientific research methodology, and interpreting scientific data.

Possible Assessment Tasks

- Excursion Investigation & Report: Australian Synchotron/Local Sites/Museum
- Poster Review of a published scientific article
- Construction of a website about a dinosaur: Biology, Behaviour, Physiology, Fossil record, Research, Applied Technology.
- 3D Print & 3D scan a dinosaur bone, and incorporate this data as a feature in the above website
- Extinction events: a literature review of major extinction events, what caused them, and an overview of the evidence associated with the event.
- Poster Presentation: Deciphering complex dinosaur trackways (footprints)

Activities/Camps/Excursions

- *Melbourne Museum Dinosaur Gallery*
- *Flat Rocks (Inverloch) and Koonwarra*
- *Australian Synchotron*

Career Options

Palaeontologist, Scientist, Historian.