

DINOSAUR

The nationwide movement for high standards has not only determined what students should learn, but also has mandated that students demonstrate what they know. Teachers who choose DINOSAUR will find it is a standards-based program addressing National Science, Math, and English Language Arts Standards. The content and skills taught in DINOSAUR are targets of most state frameworks for life science, telling time, and research. The DINOSAUR simulation provides the opportunity for performance assessment as students gather information about dinosaurs and demonstrate their skills at telling time. The teamwork required in the simulation and the culminating activity of a shadow play also addresses Applied Learning standards.

National Science Education Standards,

Content Standard C: Life Science

Characteristics of Organisms

- Organisms have basic needs. For example, animals need air, water, and food; plants require air, water, nutrients, and light. Organisms can survive only in environments in which their needs can be met. The world has many different environments, and distinct environments support the life of different types of organisms.
- Each plant or animal has different structures that serve different functions in growth, survival, and reproduction.

Life Cycles of Organisms

- Plants and animals have life cycles that include being born, developing into adults, reproducing, and eventually dying. The details of this life cycle are different for different organisms.

Organisms and their Environments

- All animals depend on plants. Some animals eat plants for food. Other animals eat animals that eat the plants.

Regulation and Behavior

- An organism's behavior evolves through adaptation to its environment. How a species moves, obtains food, reproduces, and responds to danger are based in the species' evolutionary history.

Diversity and Adaptations of Organisms.

- Extinction of a species occurs when the environment changes and the adaptive characteristics of a species are insufficient to allow its survival. Fossils indicate that many organisms that lived long ago are extinct. Extinction of species is common; most of the species that have lived on the earth no longer exist.

National Standards for School Mathematics

Number and Operations Standard

- Understand measurable attributes of objects and the units, systems, and processes of measurement. (time)

NCTE Standards for the English Language Arts

Standard 7: Students conduct research on issues and interests by generating ideas and questions, and by posing problems. They gather, evaluate, and synthesize data from a variety of sources to communicate their discoveries in ways that suit their purpose and audience.

Standard 12: Students use spoken, written, and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion, and the exchange of information.)

California Applied Learning Standards

Standard 6. Students will understand how to apply communication skills and techniques. Students will demonstrate ability to communicate orally and in writing.

Standard 8. Students will understand the importance of teamwork. Students will work on teams to achieve project objectives.