



4

Dinosaurs and Dragons

Key Themes

- The Bible tells us how God created the universe.
- God created the universe by the power of His Word.

Key Passages

- Job 40:15–24, 41:1–2, 41:7–10, 41:14–21

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Identify the two dinosaur-like creatures described in the book of Job.
- Identify on which days of creation these types of animals were created.



Lesson Overview



Come On In

page 5

Students will review the books of the Old Testament. (There are many songs online that could make this easier and more fun for your students.)



Studying God's Word

page 5

Dinosaurs were created on Day Six, along with the other land animals, and lived with man. The book of Job mentions behemoth and leviathan—both dinosaur-like creatures. As we look through the lens of the Bible, the world of dinosaurs makes sense!



Activity 1: Dinosaur Maze

page 9

Students will complete a maze that illustrates that man and dinosaur-like animals (behemoth and leviathan) were created in the same week and lived at the same time.



Activity 2: Creation Cards Memory Game

page 9

Students will play a memory game with Creation cards from Lesson 1.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



COME ON IN

- If you haven't already done this, print onto card-stock and cut out sets of the Books of the Old Testament cards from the Resource DVD-ROM, Lesson 1. Make one set for every 4–5 students.

- Books of the Old Testament cards, one set for every 4–5 students



STUDYING GOD'S WORD

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.
- Print Tail Comparison images from Resource DVD-ROM.
- Print one copy of the Behemoth and Leviathan pictures from the Resource DVD-ROM.
- Print one copy of the Memory Verse Song sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM, Lesson 1, for your use in reviewing before the lesson.

- Student Take Home Sheets
- Behemoth and Leviathan pictures
- Tail Comparison images
- Memory Verse Song sheet



DINOSAUR MAZE

- Print one Dinosaur Maze from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

- Dinosaur Maze for each student
- Dinosaur Maze answer key
- Pencils



CREATION CARDS MEMORY GAME

- If you haven't done this, print and cut out the Creation cards from the Resource DVD-ROM, Lesson 1, for each team of two students.
- Place each set of cards in a plastic bag.

- Set of Creation cards for each team of two students



Memory Verse

Exodus 20:11 For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

► **Pace your lesson!** You can use the provided clocks to indicate the time each section should be completed to keep the lesson on schedule. While teaching, you can compare your anticipated times with the actual time and shorten or drop sections as necessary.





Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

To prepare yourself for this week's lesson, read Genesis 1:24–25; Job 40:15–24, 41:1–34. Meditate on the fact that God's Word is our final authority over man's word in every circumstance and situation.

We know that dinosaurs are perhaps used more than anything else to indoctrinate all of us into believing in millions of years of earth history. As we continue to explore Creation Week and the one who spoke all things into existence, we're going to take a more in-depth look at this very controversial subject—dinosaurs and dragons.

Let's begin in Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." This was the beginning of time as we know it. Before this moment in history, nothing existed except God. And then God created the universe in six days, about 6,000 years ago!

As we move on to Day Six of the Creation Week, we learn that God created all the beasts of the earth, everything that creeps on the earth, and man (Genesis 1:24–27). This reveals some very critical information. We know dinosaurs are land animals; we know land animals were created on Day Six; we know man was created on Day Six; so man and dinosaurs lived together at the same time only 6,000 years ago!

God references dinosaurs again in the book of Job. As God is describing His greatness to Job, He reminds Job of the largest animal He created—the behemoth (Job 40:15–24). The biblical description of this animal does not fit any living animal we know of today. It does, in fact, fit the description of a dinosaur—a sauropod—one of the largest dinosaurs, created by God on Day Six.

And to give us even more confirmation, God describes the leviathan in the next chapter (Job 41:1–34). What an amazing creature that must have been! This creature is mentioned four other times in Scripture (Job 3:8; Psalms 74:14, 104:26; Isaiah 27:1). It is believed that this was some sort of mighty dinosaur-like sea monster able to overwhelm the hunter (Job 41:9), but not too fierce for God. And what about the burning lights that flash from his mouth and shoot out fire (Job 41:18–21)? This is a creature unheard of today yet repeatedly mentioned by God and may very well have been a fire-breathing creature.

As you prepare for this lesson, proceed confidently knowing that the entirety of God's Word is truth (Psalm 119:160) and it should always be our starting point

and foundation when addressing questions presented by the world.

APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

We mentioned above that dinosaurs and man were created on the same day of Creation Week—about 6,000 years ago. But is that what we hear around us? Absolutely not! "Dinosaurs died out millions of years ago and could never have lived with man!" Over and over this message is repeated with no regard to what God's Word says. Our response to this ultimately comes down to whether we trust God's Word or man's word. There can be no compromise. Where does your allegiance lie? What is your worldview?

Why is this important? The belief that dinosaurs lived and died millions of years before man attacks the very foundation not only of the Bible, but of the gospel. The Bible makes it clear that God's original creation was "very good" (Genesis 1:31). Yet the fossils of dinosaurs reflect death, disease, suffering, cruelty, and brutality. If we accept that these fossils represent millions of years of earth history, then we are accepting death in the world before Adam's sin.

The Bible tells us there was no death in the garden. Both animals and man were originally vegetarian (Genesis 1:29–30). It was Adam and Eve's sin against a holy God that brought judgment on the whole creation—death, both spiritual and physical (Genesis 2:17, 3:19). In fact, it was Adam's sin that provoked the first killing of an animal in God's very good creation—the animal (or animals) God killed to provide Adam and Eve with skins to cover their nakedness (Genesis 3:21).

This first shed blood in the Garden of Eden was a foreshadowing of the Savior—the Lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world (John 1:29). Jesus came to earth in order to provide payment for the consequence of sin—which is death—and to offer eternal life (Romans 6:23). So you see, when we accept the notion of millions of years of animal death before the creation and Fall of man, we contradict and destroy the Bible's teaching on death and the full redemptive work of Christ.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Many believe the author of the book of Job was Job himself, who lived in the land of Uz (see Job 1:1). Most scholars agree that Job lived *after* the Flood of Noah's day (Job 22:16 makes an obvious reference to

the global Flood). Based on the text, biblical researchers have determined that Job lived to be over 200 years old. His life span fits with the life spans of the early descendants of Noah recorded in Genesis 11. This is important to note because it reveals that Job (and other men) lived with dinosaurs (behemoth and leviathan) after the Flood.

There are also several extra-biblical accounts of dinosaurs living with man.

Legends from around the world tell of heroes who killed large, reptilian creatures. The ancient Europeans, for example, called these monsters dragons. They appear in art, literature, and folklore. There are many Native American legends as well—of flying reptiles.

Then we have petroglyphs—rock paintings of dinosaur-like creatures. Similar images have been found on old pottery.

Other known historical accounts and legends of dinosaurs and/or dragons include:

- A Sumerian story dating back to 2000 BC or earlier that tells of a hero named Gilgamesh, who, when he went to fell cedars in a remote forest, encountered a huge, vicious dragon. He slew it, cutting off its head as a trophy.
- When Alexander the Great (c. 330 BC) and his soldiers marched into India, they found that the local people worshiped huge hissing reptiles that they kept in caves.
- China is renowned for its dragon stories, and dragons are prominent on Chinese pottery, embroidery, and carvings.
- Who can overlook the story of St. George, popular in England, which tells of the hero who slew the dragon that lived in a cave?
- In the 1500s, a European scientific book, *Historia Animalium*, listed several living animals that we would call dinosaurs.
- Ulysses Aldrovandus, a well-known naturalist in the sixteenth century, recorded an encounter on May 13, 1572 near Bologna, Italy between

a peasant named Baptista and a dragon whose description fits that of the small dinosaur *Tanystropheus*. The peasant killed the dragon.

Keep in mind that none of the above references use the word “dinosaur.” We wouldn’t expect to find the word in certain Bibles like the Authorized Version that was published in 1611. That’s because the term dinosaur wasn’t coined until 1841, not long after the bones of these great creatures were unearthed and studied. Before that, they were called dragons. You may notice that the Hebrew word *tannyn* is translated as dragon a number of times in the Old Testament. If you look at a King James Version translation, you’ll see the word is still used in several places (Nehemiah 2:13; Psalm 91:13; Isaiah 27:1; Ezekiel 29:3).

None of the evidence that dinosaur-like creatures lived with man is deemed valid by evolutionists. Why? Because their worldview is based on their own pre-suppositions—that dinosaurs lived millions of years ago. This prevents them from even considering the evidence, whether historical or biblical. Our worldview needs to begin with God’s Word as we rely on it for the foundation of all we believe.

For more information on this topic, see the Online Resource Page.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Lord, you alone laid the foundation of the earth. You determined its measurements. I am of small account, and yet the entrance of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. Please use this lesson to help me see how your truth compares to the lies I hear from the world—especially about dinosaurs. Lord, help me to rely completely on your Word and to share my confidence in your Word with the children I teach this week. I pray they will come to love it and trust it over any opinion of man.



COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will work together in groups of 4–5 to put the Books of the Old Testament cards in order. They can use the Books of the Bible poster and their own Bibles.
- They will read (or sing) aloud all the names of the books of the Old Testament.

Memorizing the books of the Old Testament can be easier and more fun when they are put to music. There are many songs recorded online for this purpose.



After all the students arrive, pray with them before beginning the lesson.



REVIEW

Using the Lesson Theme posters from previous weeks, quickly review the lessons with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you review the Lesson Theme posters. Reflect briefly on the passages you read, bringing the objectives and themes back into focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds, and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Studying God's Word

This week we are going to talk about a creature that is very interesting and fun. But it is a creature that lots of people have questions about! Can you guess what it is?

READ THE WORD

Turn to Job 40. Remember, Job is the name of the book we are looking at in the Bible, and 40 is the chapter number. Job is in the Old Testament right before the Psalms. *Help the children find this passage. Refer to the Books of the Bible poster.*

Starting at verse 15, I am going to read through to verse 24. *Wait until all the children have found the verses. Encourage them to follow along as you read.*

Job 40:15–24

Before we begin, I want you to know that this is God speaking to a man named Job. Job was a real historical person; he is mentioned by Ezekiel the prophet later in the Old Testament and James in the New Testament. He lived a long time ago, before Moses and after Noah.

? Can someone show me on our classroom timeline when Job lived? *Help students find Job, Moses, Noah, Ezekiel on the Seven C's Timeline.*

The passage I'm about to read describes a great animal. Listen carefully and I think you'll be able to come up with what type of animal it is. *Read Job 40:15–24 enthusiastically!*

EXAMINE THE WORD



Observe the Text

? What is this animal? First, what does the Bible call this creature? *Reread Job 40:15. Behemoth.*

Behemoth means “huge beast.” Can you say “behemoth” with me?

? Who made the behemoth? *Job 40:15. God!*

? What does behemoth eat? *Job 40:15. Grass.*

? How does God describe the tail of a behemoth? *Job 40:17. Like a cedar tree.*

A cedar tree is a big, tall tree with a wide trunk. So this animal must have a big, wide tail.

? The Bible says his bones and ribs are like beams of bronze and bars of iron. Are those things strong? Do you know of any animal alive today with a huge tail like a tree? That has huge bones and ribs? *Allow for answers.*

Some people say that God is referring to an elephant or a hippopotamus.

? Look at these pictures. Does an elephant have a big, wide tail? How about this hippopotamus? A tail like a cedar? I don’t think so. *Show Tail Comparison images, pointing out the hippo and elephant. No!*

? What animal could possibly match this description? Maybe it is an animal that isn’t alive anymore! How about a dinosaur? *Show Tail Comparison image, pointing out the dinosaur. Show the Lesson Theme Poster.*

That’s right. From the description in these verses, behemoth sounds like a dinosaur. Actually, behemoth is very much like *Brachiosaurus*, one of the large dinosaurs.

According to God’s Word, this animal would have to be one of the greatest creatures God had ever made—one that stood out above all other creatures. Not a hippo or an elephant. They just don’t seem to fit that description. But I think one of these large dinosaurs would fit pretty well! I believe the only animal that fits all of these descriptions in the book of Job is the dinosaur—and probably a big one like the *Brachiosaurus*! *Refer to the pictures of the Brachiosaurus, the hippo, and the elephant.*

Discover the Truth

OK. You may have heard that dinosaurs NEVER lived with men, right? And you’ve heard that they lived and died out millions of years ago, right? But God’s Word tells us something very different. In Job 40:15, God told Job, “Look now at the behemoth, which I made along with you.” God says to Job, “Look at it; I made it when I made you.” It sure seems like the behemoth dinosaur was living at the same time as Job.

► Tape the Tail Comparison images to the wall or board. Allow children to get a better look.

? But, we shouldn't be surprised at this. After all, who remembers what was created on Day Six, according to Genesis 1? You can refer to the Lesson Theme Poster from Lesson 1 of this quarter. All land animals and man.

Yes! That means ALL land animals. Some of those land animals are now extinct, like the dinosaur. But they were all created on Day Six with man!

We believe what the Bible says. It is our final and absolute authority. God's Word is true—every bit of it.



READ THE WORD

Let's read more of what God has to say here in Job. God describes an amazing animal here. I'll be reading from chapter 41. I am going to skip some of these verses so just listen carefully. I'm going to ask you to do your best to figure out what this animal is. Listen as God describes it. *Read Job 41:1–2, 41:7–10, and 41:14–21 with expression.*

Job 41:1–2, 41:7–10,
41:14–21

EXAMINE THE WORD

This sounds like an amazing animal! Let's look closer!

Observe the Text

? What is this animal called? *Leviathan. Write "leviathan" on the board.*

? Can you say leviathan with me?

Look in Job 41:1. See the word leviathan there? God says this animal lives in the sea, has terrible teeth, and is covered with scales. Light, fire, sparks, and flames come from his mouth; smoke comes from his nostrils; it has a strong neck; it is very difficult to kill it; and even the mighty hunters are afraid! *Show the picture of leviathan and/or the Lesson Theme Poster.*

Have you ever heard of an animal that lives in the ocean that looks like this? It sounds like a giant, scary sea monster!

Some say God was describing a crocodile; some say a killer whale or a great white shark. But again, like the behemoth, that doesn't make sense based on what God's Word tells us.

? What could this leviathan be? *Allow discussion.*

Some say this was a sea dragon. There are many stories about dragons that have scales and breathe fire. They are fierce and nearly impossible to defeat.

Have you seen a movie or read a story about dragons? You may think dragons are just pretend. But there have been dragon stories told all over the world. These are what we call legends. And they show up in so many different places around the world that it leads me to think dragons were real—people did see them. These legends confirm what God tells us in His



Word. It seems like both the behemoth and the leviathan are dinosaur-like creatures.

The leviathan lived in the sea and was not a land animal. So it isn't exactly right to call it a dinosaur, but it was like the dinosaur. And it is now extinct as far as we know! *Refer to the pictures and Lesson Theme Poster.*

Discover the Truth

- ? When was the leviathan created? Remember, this is a sea animal that could not be caught with a hook. *It was a sea creature, created on Day Five.*
- ? Is the Bible saying that all creatures, even the dinosaurs, were made on Days Five and Six—giant sea creatures, flying reptiles like pteronadon, and dinosaurs? *Yes!*

The Bible says that ALL land animals, birds, and sea creatures were created on Days Five and Six. And it was just about 6,000 years ago.

- ? What else did God make on Day Six? *God created man and woman.*

So, God created man and woman and all the land animals on Day Six, right? If the Bible tells us this so clearly, why do we get so confused when we hear something different? I think it is because we hear about dinosaurs living millions of years ago over and over and over. It isn't true, but we hear it so often we begin to believe it.

We have to believe the Bible. Dinosaurs were land animals. And ALL land animals were created on Day Six—the same day God created man!

Not only that, according to the Bible, dinosaurs and man lived together. Job described the behemoth and the leviathan—both dinosaur-like creatures that lived at the same time he lived.





Dinosaur Maze

MATERIALS

- Dinosaur Maze for each student
- Dinosaur Maze answer key
- Pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

Pass out the Dinosaur Maze with pencils. Have the children complete the maze. If you do not have time in class, send the sheet home with the students to complete.

Here is a maze for you to complete. Let's see how quickly you can do it! Help the dinosaur find his way to the people!

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

The Bible tells us that dinosaurs were created on the sixth day of creation. Dinosaurs are not millions of years old. They were alive just a few thousand years ago. People in Job's day could see them feeding in the marshes. If we hear or read something different from

what we read in the Bible, we must believe the Bible. The Bible is God's record of what happened and God cannot lie.

OK. So do you see? We can't rely on man's word. We can't always believe everything we hear! We have to consider what God says—and only what God says.

No matter how many times you hear that dinosaurs lived millions of years ago, it is not true. The Bible tells us how God created, when He created, and what He created. The Bible has to be our final authority.

Man and dinosaurs (and dinosaur-like creatures), like the behemoth and leviathan, were created on Days Five and Six of Creation Week. They lived together, side by side. And according to the Bible, that was about 6,000 years ago—not millions of years ago. That's the truth.



Creation Cards Memory Game

MATERIALS

- Set of Creation cards from Resource DVD-ROM, Lesson 1, for each team of two students

INSTRUCTIONS

Divide the students into teams of two. Pass out one set of Creation cards to each team. Use this time to review the days of creation by playing a Memory Game.

Place all cards face down on the table. Each student turns over two cards. If he turns over a day card and picture card that match, he keeps the pair and gets a point. If they do not match, turn the cards back over. The students alternate turns until all matches are made.

Let's review what God created on which day by playing a memory match up game

with our Creation cards. Pick a partner and I'll give each team a set of cards. Lay the cards face down and pick two cards. If the day card and picture card match, you get a point. Then let your partner have a turn. If they don't match, just flip them over and the next student plays.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

Are you learning all the days of creation? Remember our memory verse reminds us that everything in the whole universe was created in six 24-hour days!





Applying God's Word

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

Today we've talked about dinosaurs and dragons. Take a look at the Lesson Theme Poster. It will remind us that the Bible records these creatures were created during the Creation Week on Days Five and Six, only 6,000 years ago, along with man.

We read a description of a dinosaur—the behemoth—and a fire-breathing dragon—the leviathan—in the book of Job. Since Job lived after the Flood, it makes sense that the behemoth went aboard the Ark and survived. And the leviathan survived in the flood waters with all the other sea creatures. Refer to the Seven C's Timeline again. Point out Job and then Noah to establish the timing.

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

This week, look for opportunities to tell your friends what you learned about dinosaurs. You can tell them that even though the Bible doesn't use the word dinosaurs, it describes creatures that probably were dinosaurs. Those animals are the behemoth and the leviathan. God created dinosaur-like creatures on Days Five and Six of Creation Week 6,000 years ago. They lived at the same time as man.

When you hear that dinosaurs lived millions of years ago and that they could never have lived with man—remember what our Creator God has told us in Genesis and later in the book of Job. He was the only eyewitness to His creation. He does not lie.



► Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.



MEMORY VERSE

Exodus 20:11 For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

How is the memory verse coming?

The verse can be sung to the tune of the ABC song. See the Exodus 20:11 song sheet on the DVD-ROM.



GROUP PRAYER TIME

Be sure to pray with your class before you dismiss them.

- Praise God for including information about dinosaurs in the Bible, so that we have a reliable record from which to learn about His creation.
- Ask God to give us opportunities to share His Word with those around us.