

Teaching notes on 6.04a Dinosaur compounds

Slide 1

Learning objective: To use Ancient Greek-derived compound word parts to create a 'new' dinosaur.

Mouse-click on this slide will also make lucundus say 'salvete!' ('sal-way-tay') to the class. This means 'hello!' The pupils can reply by saying 'salve!' ('sal-way'). 'Salve' is the greeting used to one person and 'salvete' is a greeting to more than one.

On mouse-click, a birthday cake will drop into lucundus hands as he tells us, 'mihi dies natalis est!' (It's my birthday!). The next mouse-click will bring up the appropriate Latin response, 'felix dies tibi sit!' (Have a happy birthday!), followed by the words to the familiar Happy Birthday song in Latin, with which the class can join in. At this point, you can sing a Latin Happy Birthday to anyone in the class who's celebrating on that day. NB replace 'lucunde' with the name of the person being celebrated. If you use their Roman names, the boys' names will end in '-e' as this ending shows that we're talking to that person. So if a boy was called Fabius, we'd address him directly as 'Fabie' ('fab-ee-ay'). Girls' names stay the same ('-a' on the end).

Slide 2

Everyone knows about dinosaurs... or do they? What does the word 'dinosaur' actually mean? Mouse-click reveals that dino = terrible and saur = lizard. The name dinosaur was coined in Victorian times as palaeontologists (people who study fossils) began to classify the ancient fossilized creatures. The words 'deinos' and 'sauros' come from Ancient Greek.

Palaeontologists also used Ancient Greek words in compounds to name individual species of dinosaur according to their appearance, size or habits.

Slides 3-5

Here are some familiar dinosaurs, but can you guess what the compound parts of their name mean? Mouse-click reveals the following answers:

triceratops = three (tri) horned (cerat) face (ops)

tyrannosaurus rex = king (tyranno) lizard (saurus) rex (king – which is actually Latin, not Greek)

brontosaurus = thunder (bronto) lizard (saurus)

Slide 6

Here is a list of many of the most common compound parts used in naming dinosaurs. A print-out of this list can be handed out to the pupils so that they can complete the written exercise displayed on ...

Slide 7



Using existing compounds, the class can use their worksheets to synthesize an entirely new dinosaur. Mouse-click guides the class through the seven parts of the worksheet. The students may want to play around with possible compound combinations on a whiteboard first. Once the sheets are complete, pupils can show each other their dinosaur 'discoveries'.

Slide 8

The plenary slide:

Question 1 What does brontosaurus' name mean? [thunder lizard]

Question 2 How many horns do you think a monoceratops would have? [one]

Question 3 Would you run away from any dinosaur with 'carno' in its name? [yes, because 'carno' implies that it eats meat – including human beings!]