

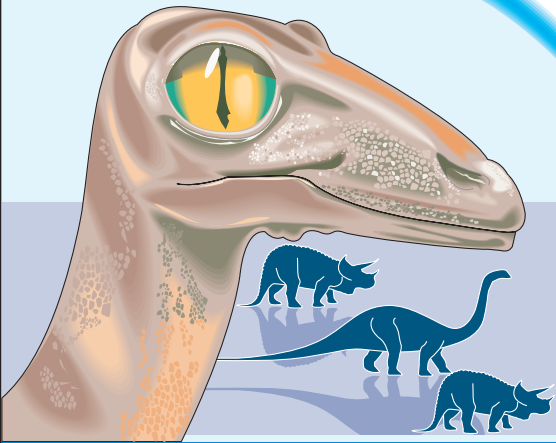
## EXTINCTION THEORY

# Were the dinosaurs killed by a massive asteroid?

The discovery in 1990 of a huge crater on the seabed off the northwest tip of the Yucatan Peninsula suggests that a massive asteroid struck the earth 65 million years ago, and may have killed half of all species of plants and animals

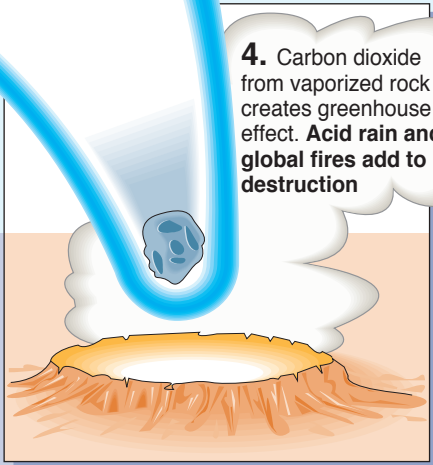
**1. Dinosaurs rule the earth for 160 million years**

The largest dinosaurs measure almost 28m in length



145 million years ago  
**JURASSIC PERIOD**

**2. Sixty five million years ago a 10km wide asteroid smashes into the Gulf of Mexico at over 36,000kmh. Impact causes environmental disaster**

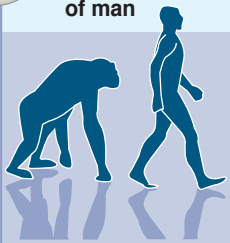


65 million years ago  
**CRETACEOUS PERIOD**

**3. Tidal waves up to five kilometres high. Dust clouds obscure sun causing earth to cool**

**4. Carbon dioxide from vaporized rock creates greenhouse effect. Acid rain and global fires add to destruction**

**5. Extinction of dinosaurs allows mammals to dominate the earth. Ultimate supremacy of man**



**TERTIARY & QUATERNARY PERIODS**

250km

**Impact debris**  
Tampico

Mexico City

MEXICO

**Huge crater, 180km wide, believed to be 65 million years old**

Yucatan Peninsula

Chicxulub

