

# Can You Outrun a Dino?

## **Introduction:**

What if you lived during the Mesozoic Era, could you outrun a dinosaur? That is the question we're going to answer with this activity!

Using trace fossils, we know how far apart different dinosaurs' steps were – both while walking and while running. We're going to compare your steps to different dinosaurs to see if you could get away from these meat eating reptiles!

## **Step 1: Measure Your Legs**

The first thing we need to do is to find a dinosaur that has legs about as long as your legs. It wouldn't be fair to make you race a giant Tyrannosaurus!

Get a partner and have one of you sit on the ground with your legs straight out in front of you. Measure the entire length of your legs, from your heel to your booty. Then, swap and measure the other student.

## **Step 2: Find the Dino You Are Racing**

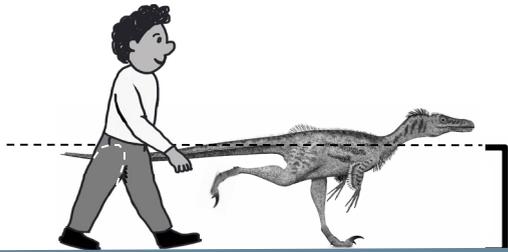
Look at the four dinosaurs on the back of this page. Find the dinosaur that has legs the same length as your... or a little smaller. This is your competition. Write your dinosaur's name on the bottom of that page.

## **Step 3: Race Your Dino**

Your teacher will walk you through how to track your distance, then you'll compare that to how far your dinosaur racer got with the same number of steps.



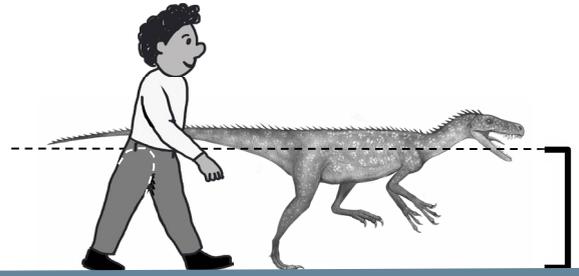
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**VeeLo**

*(Velociraptor)*

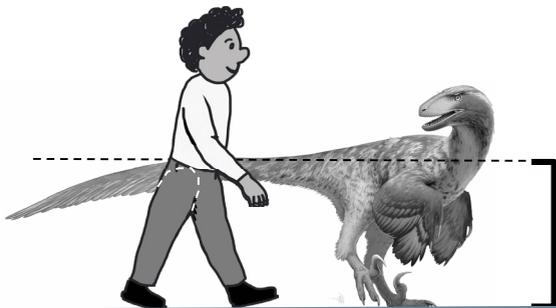
Leg length: about 20 inches



**SanJuan**

*(Sanjuansaurus)*

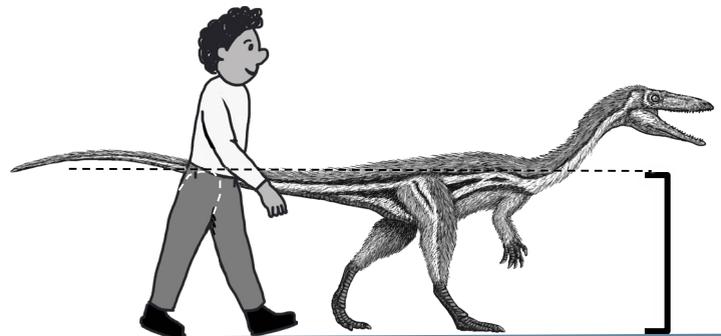
Leg length: about 25 inches



**DeeNo**

*(Deinonychus)*

Leg length: about 30 inches



**CeeLo**

*(Coelophysis)*

Leg length: about 35 inches

I am racing \_\_\_\_\_

