



DINOSAUR STAMP CHALLENGE GAME

AGE RANGE: Primary

Games provide an ideal learning tool. Children not only accumulate facts and information but also practise mathematical skills and socially interact with others. This game will also provide them with further information about hunting for fossils.

TIME: 30 minutes.

CURRICULUM LINKS: Mathematics, English, History, Science, Geography, PE.



ACTIVITY

The Dinosaur Stamp Challenge is a time travelling fossil hunting game, where the fossil hunters travel back to the place where the bones were discovered. If they land on a dinosaur stamp square they are immediately sent back to the point in time where the fossil was found e.g Polacanthus (Isle of Wight 1865).

The game can be played with between two and eight players. Dino cards, dinosaur stamp cards, counters and a spinner have been provided. The player with the highest spin starts the game.

- Taking it in turns each player spins the spinner (or rolls a dice) and moves the number of spaces shown.
- If they land on one of the spaces which has a dinosaur stamp they take the appropriate dinosaur stamp card.
- Should they land on a 'Dino' square then they take a 'Dino' card and follow the instructions.
- The game ends when all players have completed the hunt.
- The player with the most dinosaur stamp cards is the winner.

LOWER

The game can be played without using the 'Dino' cards. Get the children to produce their own simple dinosaur track game using the blank template.

ADVANCED

If the children have collected any dinosaur stamp cards during the game, get them to list the names and see what they can find out about them on the internet. Encourage the children to make some additions to the game. They can use the blank cards, counters, spinner and board game templates provided.

FURTHER IDEAS

- Get the children to create their own card game linked to the dinosaurs shown on the stamps.
- Discuss how they might be able to come up with a dinosaur game that might be played during a PE lesson. Ask them to write down some ideas and then get the others in the class to try it out. It can then be modified if necessary.
- Make up a dinosaur rhyme and put some actions to it. This can then be taught to a younger group of children. See if it could be turned into a simple game.
- Investigate the type of equipment used by fossil hunters. Find out what a fossil pick is and why you would need to wear protective glasses when searching for fossils.
- Imagine that the class were going on a real fossil hunt. Make a list of what they would need. What do you think Mary Anning would have used in the 19th century to look for fossils?
- How do scientists work out the age of dinosaur bones or dinosaur eggs?