

Name: _____



THE DINOSAURIOS

Triceratops



This dinosaur lived approximately 68 million years ago at the end of the Cretaceous period in North America. Triceratops is one of the last species of dinosaur that appeared before the mass extinction of most of the dinosaurs, which happened in the Cretaceous-Tertiary.

Its name means three-horned face, it is one of the most easily recognizable dinosaurs with its characteristic three horns. It had one short horn on its snout and two long ones, almost a meter long, above his eyes.

It is distinguished by a huge bone plate, or gola, on his head, which was part of its skull bones. Paleontologists do not think it help the triceratops fight because the plate was very thin and fragile, but that it helped to regulate the dinosaur's temperature among other things.

The Triceratops has been very well documented. The first remains found were a pair of horns attached to a piece of the roof of the skull, which was found near Denver, Colorado, United States in the spring of 1887. Although that was over a hundred years ago, a complete skeleton has not been found so far.

The triceratops was a very strong, heavy dinosaur. They were about 9 meters long, about 3 meters high, and it is estimated that it could weigh about 12 tons. Its four huge, strong legs supported all that weight, and it was well armed to face other giants of its time. It was herbivorous, which means it ate plants.

