

# Dino Names

Did you ever wonder how dinosaurs got their names? Some were named after the scientist who discovered them or the place they were found. Other times, Greek and Latin root words that describe the appearance or behavior of the species are combined. For example, the word “dinosaur” is a combination of two Greek words: **dino**, meaning “terrible,” and **saur**, meaning “lizard.” Together, the two roots words join to give us the word **dinosaur**, meaning “terrible lizard”!

## VOCABULARY WORD:

### Binomial Nomenclature:

a formal system of naming species of living things by giving each a name composed of two parts.

## Dino Name Challenge

This month, we are challenging you to create, name, and share your dinosaur creation with us on social media!

Imagine you discover a dinosaur in your hometown. Draw a picture or make a model of your dinosaur. **Use the chart above to combine root words to create your dino’s name, or add your own descriptive words in any language that you choose!**

Have your grown up share your creation on social media or email

[communications@mpm.edu](mailto:communications@mpm.edu) and we will share what you have done!

ROOT WORD	MEANING
ANKYLO	CROOKED
DINO	TERRIBLE
MEGA	LARGE
MICRO	SMALL
NYCHO	CLAW
PED	FOOT
REX	KING
SAUR	LIZARD
TRI	THREE
YOU PICK!	_____

## Here’s an Example!



**MICRO · TRI · TAIL · SAUR**  
“small three tail lizard”