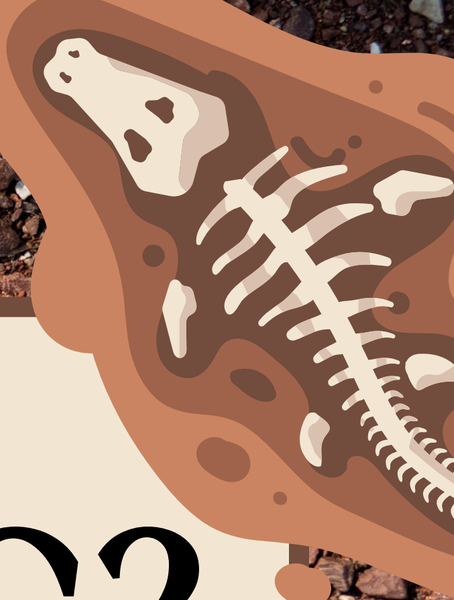
WAS THAT A HUG?

Can we guess how animals were behaving based on their skeleton?





Background infos

- The video was produced and published by **PBS (**Public Broadcasting Service)

- It tells the story of a **discovery** made by paleontologists in 1975 in South Africa.



Background infos

- **The Triassic period** began after the Permian-Triassic mass extinction.

- A single supercontinent, **Pangea**, and a punishingly hot, arid climate.

- Major **evolutionary turnover**

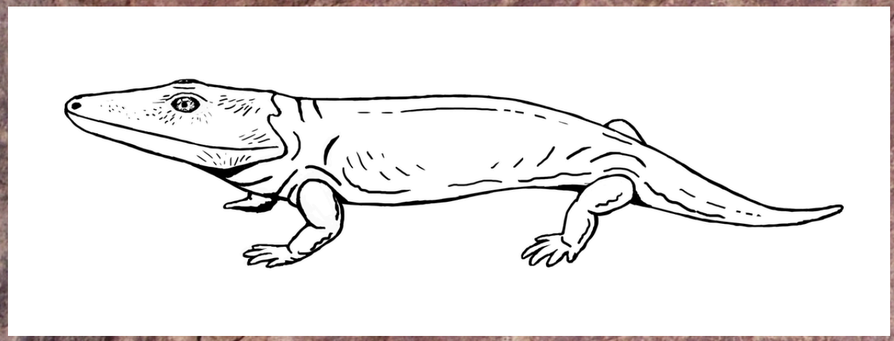
- The period end with End-Triassic mass extinction crisis which **paved the way for the age of dinosaurs.**



Background infos

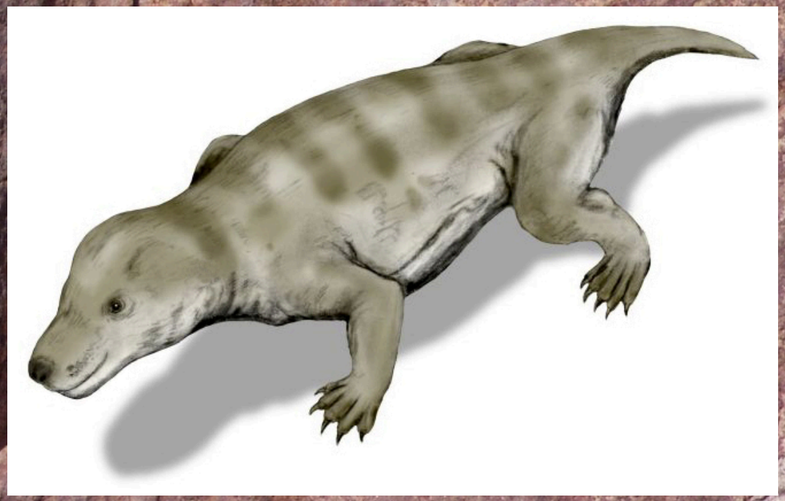
- **Broomistega**

Extinct genus of **primitive amphibian**
Its ecology and appearance could be compared to the one of **giant salamanders**
measured about 30 centimeters



- **Thrinaxodon**

A **carnivorous proto-mammal**, transitional forms between “reptiles” and mammals
burrow creator
measured about 50 centimeters in length, weighed around 3 kg



@Wikipédia

Survival adaptation



Crucial role in how species cope with environmental challenges
Animals evolved into remarkable strategies

Building burrows

↓

Morphological adaptation = **burrowing leg**

Estivation

↓

Able to slow down their metabolism and reduce their activity during hot periods in order to survive

Paleoecology

- Studies the **way of life of organisms that are now extinct**
- Studies the relationships they maintained with one another and with their environment
- **Studies the paleoenvironments**



Interspecific interactions

Describes the diverse ways **different species** influence one another within an **ecological community**. Classic examples include competition, mutualism, parasitism, and traditional predation.

Some interactions are uncommon and can be **hard to interpret** and understand properly.

- Cross species adoption
- Interspecific "Pet" Phenomenon
- Cross-Species Hunting Team



Some helpful vocab

flash flood = crue soudaine
burrow = terrier
stash away = mettre de coté
snapshot = aperçu
to decay = se décomposer
wander = errer
crawl = ramper

forerunner = précurseur
forelimbs = membres antérieurs
washed in = emporté par les eaux
sheltering = se mettre à l'abri
habit of retreating = habitude de se réfugier

How to pronounce

burrow → « BEU-rô »

Triassic → « traï-A-sic » (Le Tri se dit « traï », pas « tri »)

ecosystem → « I-ko-sis-teum »

estivation → « ès-ti-VÉ-cheune ».

Rules of the game - The Fossil race

- 3 groups of 3-4

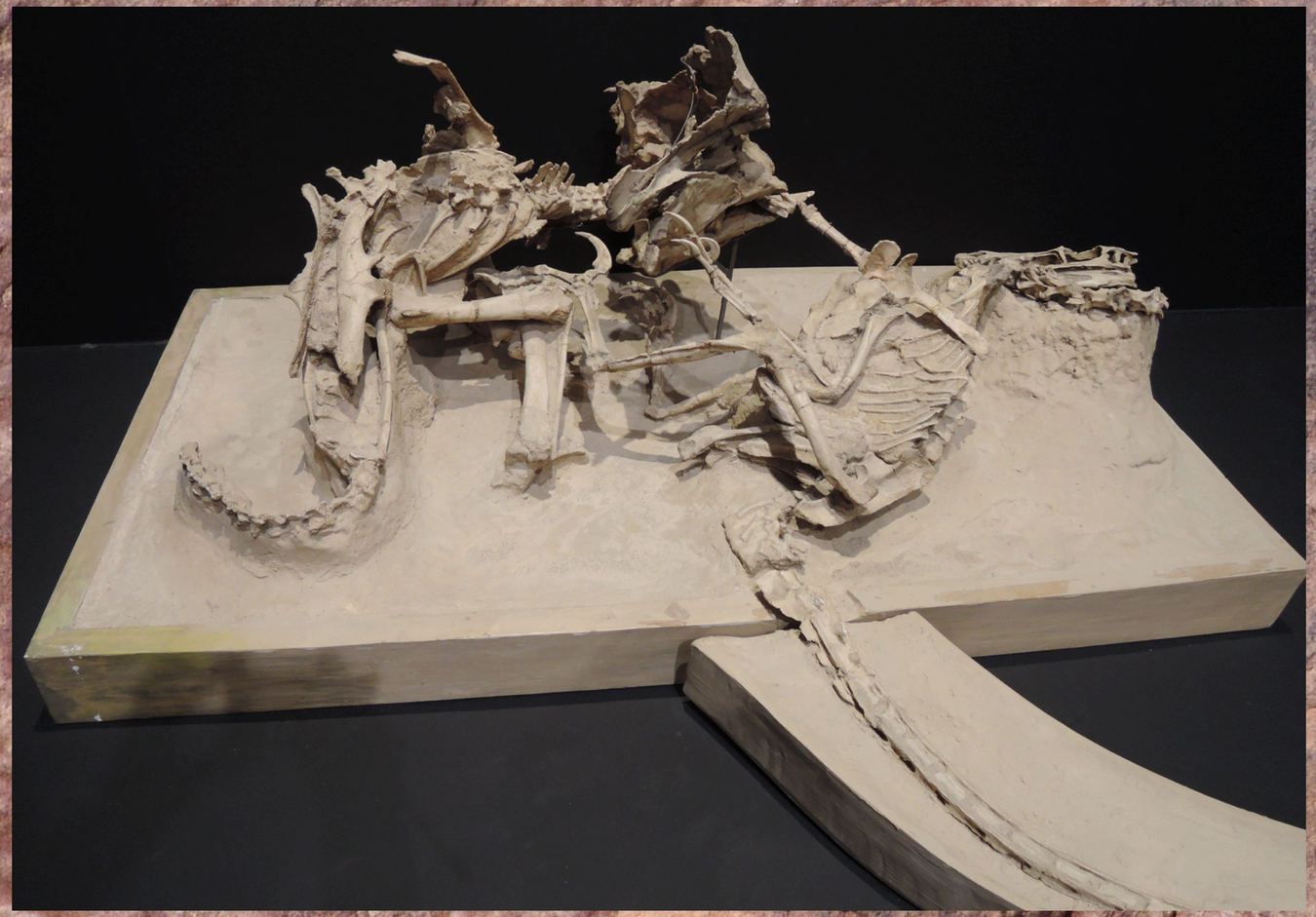
1) Kahoot !
2) 6 different specimen of fossils
   - only one right scenario
   - What you need to interpret :
     - The different species/taxa
     - The number of specimens
     - What is happening in the “scene”
   - if you guess the right scenario, you can start to analyze the next, the first group to interpret the 6 fossils right wins!

Fossil number 1





Fossil number 2





Fossil number 3





Fossil number 4





Fossil number 5





Fossil number 6



