



## Wildwood Days ~ Dinosaur activities

Dinosaurs are a perennial favourite so we have a whole range of activities in this theme. Most of the activities can be extended for an older age group and we have a selection of dinosaur books, fact files and resources available for all those dinosaur experts out there. Again, we're always willing to try something a bit different so just ask if you want an activity that's not listed. Please note – you can only choose one of the starred activities.

**Toy dinosaur hunt** - Our collection of plastic dinosaurs is hidden around our site for all the children to find. This is a great way for them to find their way around the site and test out their observation skills. We usually allow some time for them to play with the dinosaurs they've found afterwards.

**Fossil excavation** - We hide lots of miniature dinosaur skeletons and some fossils (ammonites and trilobites) in our sand pit and provide brushes and sieves for them to carefully excavate them. Once excavated we can clean off the fossils and try to work out what dinosaur/animal they're from.



\* **Make your own fossil** - This is done as a simple imprint in salt dough. The children choose one of the dinosaur toys or fossils to make a print of and then simply press it into the salt dough. They can make footprints, ammonites or skeleton imprints. A great souvenir to take home.



**Dinosaur foot print trail** - We lay a trail of different dinosaur footprints leading down to the end of our site. The children have to follow the trail and also work out what species of dinosaur made the prints using our footprint ID chart.

**Make a giant dinosaur collage** - We always do this using natural materials (sticks for the skeleton, leaves and bark, grass, etc). As a group they choose which dinosaur they want to make a picture of and we then help lay out the outline in string. They then go to collect the materials and fill in the collage.

\* **Dinosaur egg discovery** - We hide little toy dinosaurs inside eggs of either clay or ice. The eggs (1 for each child) are hidden around the site. Once they've been found they then have to carefully break apart their egg to extract the dinosaur inside. They can take the mini toy dinosaur home with them.



**Volcanic eruption** - In small groups the children work to make a mini volcano on site by heaping mud and stones around a plastic bottle. After adding the finishing touches to their volcano (toy dinosaurs, mini trees, etc.) they then add the ingredients to create an eruption (bicarbonate of soda, vinegar and food colouring). We also have a large concrete volcano on site so this can be used as well, or instead of the mini mud volcanoes.