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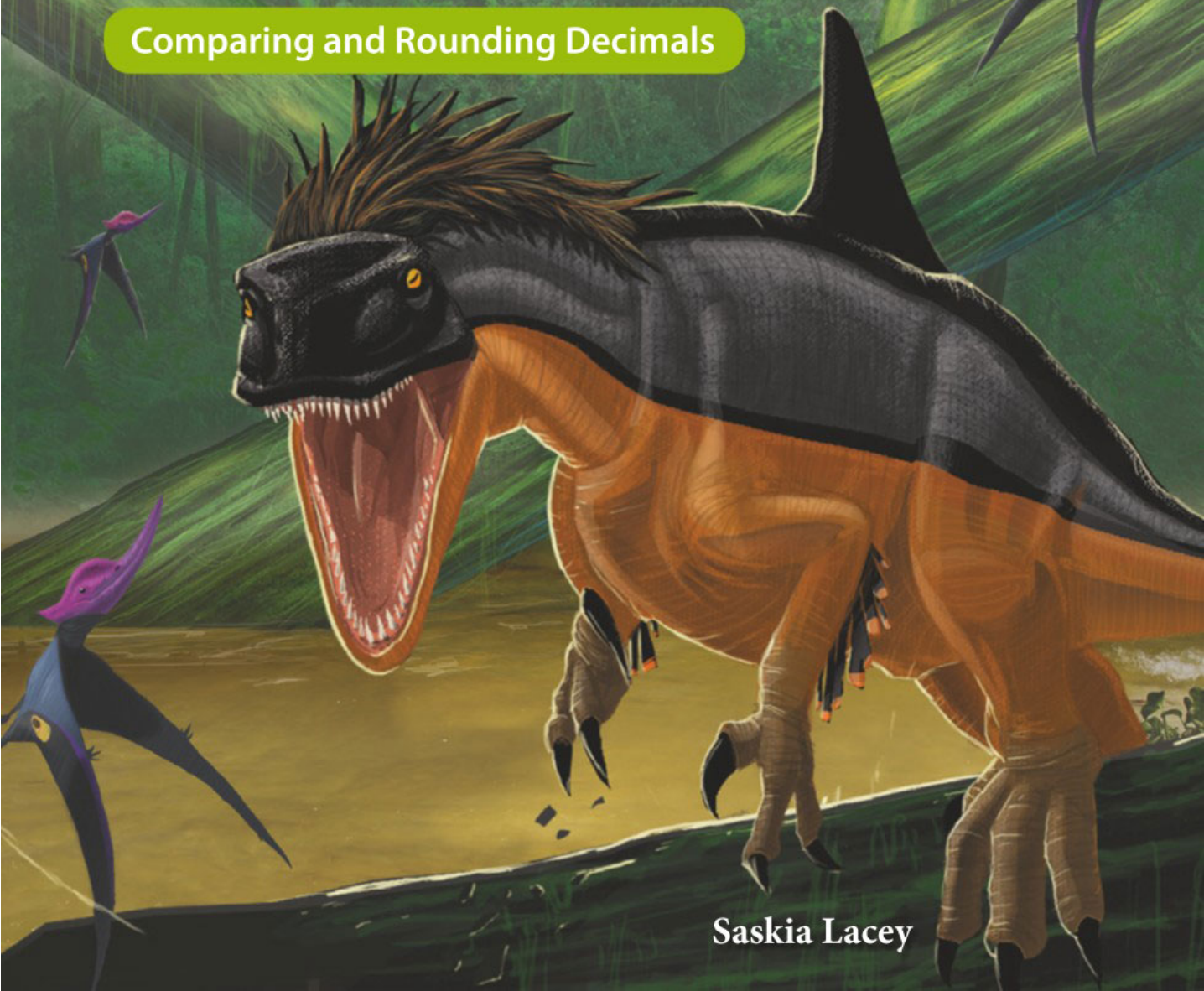
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Amazing  
Animals

# EXTREME Dinosaurs

Comparing and Rounding Decimals



Saskia Lacey

# The Meaning of Extreme

The word *extreme* is used quite a bit. People use it to describe nearly everything. They use it to describe food and sports. Sometimes the word is used to talk about TV shows and hobbies. There are extreme nappers, extreme cyclists, and extreme eaters. You name the activity, and someone is doing it in an “extreme” way. But, can all these activities really be called extreme?

Take a peek at the word’s definition. *Extreme* means “exceeding the ordinary, usual, or expected.” To put it simply, something that is extreme is outside of the “norm.”

Dinosaurs were amazing reptiles. Some were truly extreme. These beasts existed during the Mesozoic (MEH-so-zoh-ick) era. They battled the wilderness and each other to survive. Each dinosaur had its own unique **adaptations**. But there were some dinosaurs that stood out from the rest. They were the biggest and fiercest. They were the strangest or most dangerous prehistoric reptiles. These dinosaurs have names like Titanosaurus. They are the ones that earned the title of extreme!



**The Spinosaurus was an extreme dinosaur because it was the only one that scientists believe lived on land and in water.**



# Biggest Brutes

The longest land animals in history were mighty and strong. Each of these big **brutes** earns the right to be called extreme!



titanosaurs

## Titans of the Prehistoric World

The world's largest dinosaurs were plant eaters. They were part of the sauropod family. The largest and longest sauropods were from the diplodocid and titanosaur groups. Though extreme in size, titanosaurs were not **vicious** creatures.

In 2013, a new species of titanosaur was found in Patagonia. Hundreds of bones were discovered. This species may be the largest animal to ever stomp the earth. So, just how big was this **extinct** animal? It may have weighed around 70 tons (63,503 kilograms). That is the combined weight of more than 20 elephants! It was over 130 feet (40 meters) long and 65 ft. (20 m) tall. Picture a five-story building stomping around, and you can imagine how big titanosaurs were.

The titanosaur's heart might be one of its most extreme **traits**. It was a huge organ that was about 6 ft. (2 m) around—about the height of a man. With each beat, the titanosaur's heart pumped 24 gallons (91 liters) of blood.

Over the years, many reptiles have held the title of biggest ancient creature. Brontosaurus and Diplodocus are a few former titleholders. But some scientists believe that titanosaurs dwarf both those species.



Scientists believe this fossilized femur, or thigh bone, is from a sauropod.

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