

# Scientists Find Fossils Of T. Rex Relative

The fossils of a dinosaur that was related to the giant meat-eater *Tyrannosaurus rex* have been uncovered in China. Scientists say the fossils of this new dinosaur are 160 million years old, which would make it the oldest tyrannosaur ever found. They say it lived 95 million years before *T. rex*. The new dinosaur is called *Guanlong wucaii*, which means, "crown dragon from the land of five colors" in Chinese.



Scientists found two *G. wucaii* skeletons. One of the dinosaurs was an adult, and the other was a six- or seven-year-old "child."

*G. wucaii* had a crown, or *crest*, on its head. The crest was about 2-1/2 inches high and very thin. Scientists don't agree on the purpose of the crest. Most think it was not strong enough to be used in battle. Some say it was filled with pockets for storing air. Others think it was just for show. It was a way for the animals to tell other member of its species, or maybe it helped them tell the difference between males and females.

## NEWS WORDS

*Tyrannosaurus rex*  
fossils      unusual  
crest      purpose

Scientists said that *T. rex* and *G. wucaii* were alike in many ways. They had teeth and openings in their skulls that were shaped the same. Both dinosaurs also walked on two legs. One big difference was their size. *G. wucaii* was about 9 feet long, but *T. rex* could grow up to 40 feet long.

## **MORE FACTS ABOUT THE NEW DINOSAUR**

- *T. Rex* had short arms and two fingers. *G. wucaii* had long arms and three fingers.
- Scientists hope studying *G. wucaii* will help them learn more about *T. rex*.

## THINK ABOUT THE NEWS

Scientists have many different ideas about why *G. wucaii* had a crest on its snout. Why do you think they have different ideas? From where do scientists get their ideas?