

# Prehistoric Discoveries

Several prehistoric discoveries have been making news over the past few weeks.

Workers digging in Arizona discovered the bones of a prehistoric camel. Scientists estimate the camel to be 10,000 years old. This is the first prehistoric camel found in Arizona. Prehistoric camels were bigger than today's camels. In the months ahead, the skeleton will be put on display.



This summer, the bones of a new species of dinosaur that lived underground will go on display for the first time. Scientists found the 95-million-year-old bones in a burrow, or hole, in Montana. Inside the burrow were the bones of an adult and two young dinosaurs. The adult dinosaur was about 6 feet long and had a very long tail. It had long legs, so it probably ran fast. It had short arms that would have been good for digging.

This is the first dinosaur ever found that lived underground. Scientists think these dinosaurs went underground to get away from bad weather and to hide from bigger, meat-eating dinosaurs.

## **NEWS WORD BOX**

estimate	skeleton
burrow	material
similar	support
cousins	related

Scientists also recently made a very important discovery about dinosaurs and birds. Now scientists think that *Tyrannosaurus rex* and the chicken are distant cousins! They learned this by studying some material from a 68-million-year-old *T. rex* bone. The bone material was similar to material in chicken bones. Some scientists have thought for many years that dinosaurs and birds are related. These findings help support that idea.

## **MORE FACTS ABOUT DINOSAURS**

- Did adult dinosaurs take care of their young? Scientists think the adult dinosaur found in the burrow may have been taking care of the two smaller dinosaurs. They will continue to look for more proof that dinosaurs were good parents.
- Bones of prehistoric camels have been found in Colorado too.

## **THINK ABOUT THE NEWS**

Will scientists continue to discover new things about dinosaurs in the years ahead? What makes you think that way?