

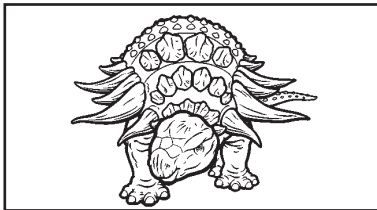
# Fossilized Fashion:

## How Dinosaurs Looked



Fancy frills, sharp horns, pointy spikes, massive sails on their backs—dinosaurs had them all! The question is: Why did dinosaurs sport these far-out features? For clues, scientists often compare dinosaur designs with those of modern animals. Check out this album of animal fashions. Try to guess what the features are for!

1. What is the function of the armor on these animals?



A. *Edmontonia*

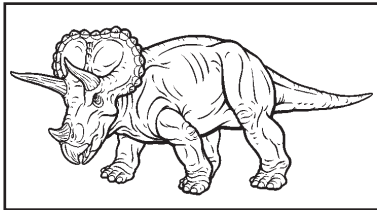


B. Armadillo

### Clues

Weighing in at over 3.5 tons, *Edmontonia* had relatively short and muscular legs that supported a heavy load on its back. It also sported hornlike spikes on its sides.

2. What is the function of these horns and frills?



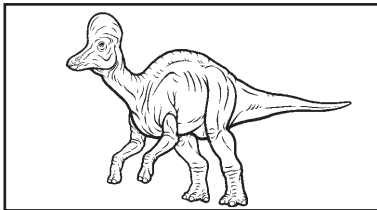
A. *Triceratops*



B. Rhinoceros

A young *Triceratops* typically had smaller horns and frills. These features became fully developed only when the animal reached maturity.

3. What function did the *Hadrosaur* crest serve?



A. *Hadrosaur*



B. Cassowary

Scientists think that the crest on the *Hadrosaur's* head may have been brightly colored. They also think it may have looked different in males and females.

### Frisly Fact:

What color were dinosaurs? We don't know for sure, but scientists look to dinosaurs' closest relatives for clues. Reptiles and birds are often very colorful, so dinosaurs probably were, too!

### Wrap-Up!

Design your own dinosaur. Think about the features you would like your dinosaur to have. First, list its traits, then draw a sketch on paper. Why does your dinosaur look that way?

ANSWERS  
1. *Edmontonia's* armored back was for self-defense; 2. *Triceratops* horns and frills were to attract mates and compete with rivals; 3. *Hadrosaur* crests were used to attract mates, recognize members of its own species, and possibly distinguish males from females.