Do you wish you could visit the past and see pterosaurs flying around. Yes! Some pterosaurs were small like paper airplanes while others were as big as small airplanes. Pterosaurs were the first vertebrates (animals with backbones) to develop powered flight. All day you would see these fascinating birds flying around you. Some would be flapping their wings while others would be gliding. There’s only one way to know what pterosaurs were like. You can only look at fossils since pterosaurs are extinct to know who they were.

To a paleontologist a fossil is like a clue to a detective. Paleontologists can study a pterosaur’s movement and also their diet by studying pterosaur fossils. A trackway shows paleontologists how pterosaurs walked. In addition, we also know how pterosaurs
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took off into air, mostly by studying trackways. I would like to add on that fossils of teeth helped explain the pterosaur's diet. Palaeontologists saw what the teeth were made for and then inferred on the food they ate.

A fossil is the remains of an ancient organism. It's very rare for a fossil to be formed from soft tissues such as organs like skin or muscle. Normally a fossil is formed from hard parts of organs. Like teeth, shells, and bones. A fossil says it all about the identity of a pterosaur.

A fossil of the Dsungaripterus weii shows palaeontologists what this species of pterosaur ate. The Dsungaripterus weii had a heavy point snout. Because of this palaeontologists think that it used its snout to dig out clams. Therefore, the pterosaur would then use his round, strong back teeth to crack the clam open like a nutcracker. No other pterosaur did this to eat. This clearly implies that this pterosaur was unique.

Hence, we all want to know about the great animals that pterosaurs were. But there's only one way! Yes, one very helpful way. Palaeontologists look at fossils and they have the answers to what pterosaurs were like. A fossil is talking and telling us their history. But would you like to see pterosaurs out
in the wild once again? Studying pterosaurs would be much easier. Lastly, we would learn a lot from a fascinating bird like this one.
Fossil of Dsungaripetus

Wing

Snout

Eye

Back teeth

Arm

Hand

Fingers