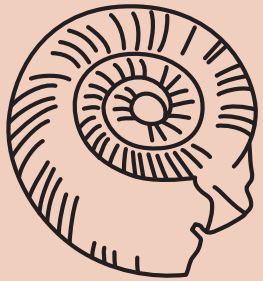
Recovering the past

What remnants of living things can you see in the fossils?

How do fossils form?

Find an example of a mineralised, trace, and impression (mold or cast) fossil.

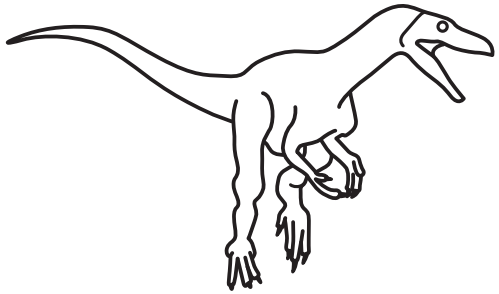


What is a dinosaur?

Look at Eoraptor. What features tell us that it was a dinosaur?

Is Eoraptor a lizard- or a bird-hipped dinosaur? Why?

Look at Afrovenator and Jobaria to your right. Classify each as a lizard- or bird-hipped dinosaur.



Spotlight on Australia

What was Pangea?

What organisms from Pangea have been preserved as fossils?

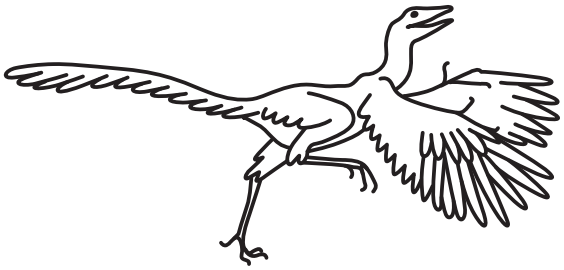
How does the distribution of the fossils support the theory of continental drift?

The evolutionary journey

Describe the physical features of *Archaeopteryx*, one of the earliest known birds.

What do bird-like dinosaurs, early birds and modern birds have in common?

How do we know birds evolved from dinosaurs?



Living on the edge

What fossils have been found at Lightning Ridge?

What types of animals lived here in the early Cretaceous?

How do the fossils help us to understand the past environment in Lightning Ridge?

Favourite fossil

Find your favourite fossil.

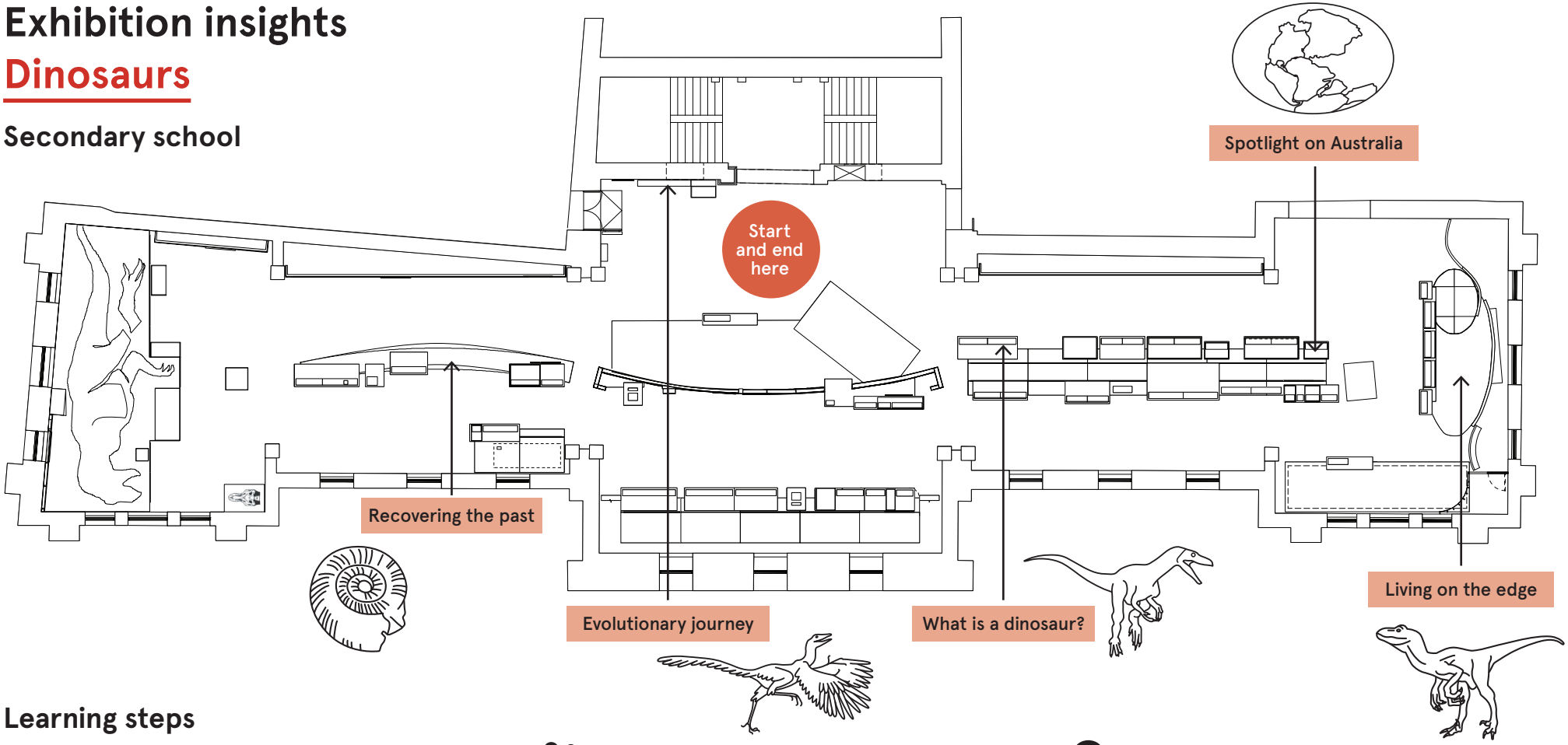
Why does it interest you?

What does it tell us about the past?

Exhibition insights

Dinosaurs

Secondary school



Learning steps

Connect - Use the map to find the dinosaurs and fossils. Encourage students to look closely at the them and connect with what they see, think and feel. Read nearby text panels or touchscreens for extra information.

Share – Facilitate opportunities for students to share and discuss their ideas about the dinosaurs and fossils using the insight questions to help them.

Reflect – Ask students to reflect on their findings from each display. We suggest you share ideas and findings as a whole group to help refine key messages and learning outcomes.

How to use
Exhibition insights can be used as they are or cut up and distributed amongst your group. The cards can be done in any order, and students can work individually or in small groups.

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM