



TEACHER'S RESOURCE GUIDE

Time Soldiers[®] Book #1: Rex

BY ROBERT GOULD AND KATHLEEN DUEY

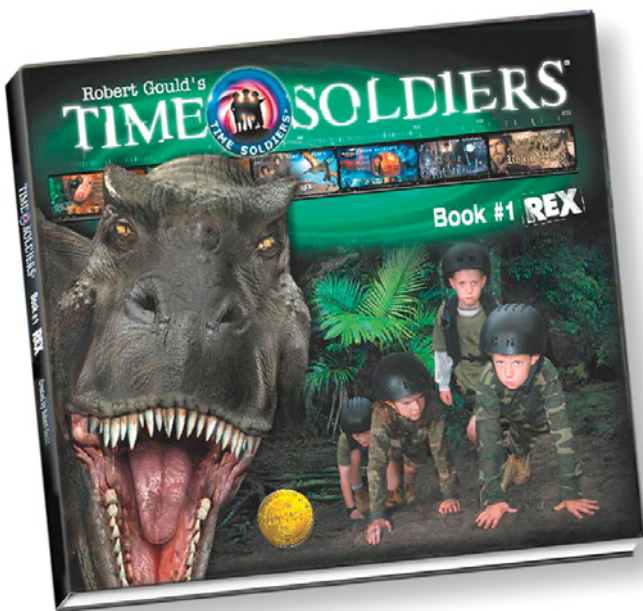
About This Book...

In this introduction to the Time Soldiers[®] series, readers will be captivated by the adventures of six young friends who leave behind the present-day world of technology and electronics when they venture into a secret portal that leads them on a trip back in time. Beauty and danger exist side by side in this prehistoric world of lush forests, pristine water...and dinosaurs. Fascinated—and puzzled—by the creatures of this new land, the explorers embark on a journey that calls for courage and quick thinking as they try to escape the fury of Tyrannosaurus Rex and find their way back home.

About This Guide...

Using real-life images along with digital special effects and high-adventure plots, Big Guy Books has developed a series of children's books to capture young readers. As much fun as a computer game and better than television, these books will introduce readers to the enchanting world of reading for fun!

In this guide to Rex, you will find creative ways to enrich your lesson plans and make reading more exciting for your students. The following activities will challenge your students' imaginations and effectively promote skills across the curriculum.



Creative classroom activities for young readers

Prereading Activities

Rex provides an exciting opportunity to introduce young students to the world of science fiction. Before reading the book, review the components of fiction with the class and compare them to the elements of science fiction. Also, discuss the concept of time travel and ask students to name other books that they have read about time travel. Finally, ask students to recall information and facts that they know about dinosaurs, particularly Tyrannosaurus Rex.

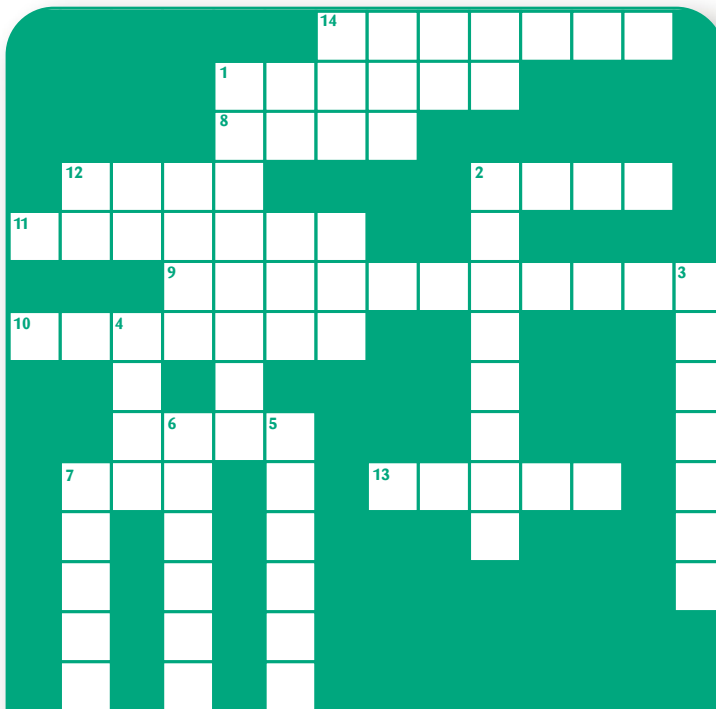


Vocabulary Development

Crossword Puzzle

Below is a vocabulary list of words used in Rex. Work with a partner to find the definition of each word. Then use these definitions to complete the crossword puzzle.

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|---------|---------|
| ARID | CLEARING | CLENCH | CURIOUS |
| EERIE | FATIGUES | FURY | GRAVITY |
| IMITATE | LUSH | MASSIVE | PALE |
| PORTAL | PREHISTORIC | STEEP | STURDY |



ACROSS

1. To grip tightly
2. A violent anger
8. Thick, rich and plentiful
9. Belonging to a time before people started recording history
10. A force that pulls all things to the center of the earth
11. To act the same as or like another
12. Having skin color that is light or lighter than normal
13. Rising sharply to make climbing difficult
14. Very big and solid

DOWN

1. An area of land free from trees or shrubs
2. Sturdy clothing worn by soldiers
3. Eager to learn, especially in situations that are unusual or strange
4. Very dry; not enough water for most plants to grow
5. Very strong or firm
6. A door or entrance
7. Strange in a scary way

Reading Comprehension

Writing Enrichment

- ◆ Adam and Mikey had a lot of fun playing with the young dinosaurs. Imagine you were on this adventure, too. Choose a dinosaur that you would have ridden and then write a short paragraph about your experience.
- ◆ When the Time Soldiers found the gold, they thought they were rich! If you had been with the Time Soldiers, what would you have done with your gold?
- ◆ Not much is said in the story about the man in the dark suit. Who is this man? Why do you think he is at the time portal? Is he trying to help the Time Soldiers or keep them from their mission?

Discussion Questions

1. Every story has characters, a plot and a setting. The setting is the time and place of the story. In Rex, describe the setting on both sides of the time portal.
2. Name some of the gear that the Time Soldiers brought with them through the time portal. Could they have used anything else?
3. The Time Soldiers know that their parents will need proof that the kids saw the dinosaurs. What evidence do they have to prove they traveled through time?
4. Mariah and the other Time Soldiers were puzzled by some of the things they experienced. Give a few examples of things that just didn't make sense. Choose one of these examples and give your best explanation for it.
5. Yikes! Look at the creature spotted in the viewfinder on page 42. What do you think it is?

Curriculum

Enrichment Activities

Retelling the Story

Read the following sentences. If the sentence is true, print a "T" on the line next to the sentence. If it is false, print an "F" in the blank, and then correct the sentence to make it true.

- ___ 1. When Rob and Mikey told their parents about the time portal in the woods nearby, their parents were eager to see it.
- ___ 2. When the Time Soldiers got to the time portal, they saw two dinosaurs.
- ___ 3. The Tyrannosaurus Rex was sleeping when the Time Soldiers first saw it.
- ___ 4. The Time Soldiers narrowly escaped the Tyrannosaurus Rex only to land at the feet of a prehistoric lizard.
- ___ 5. As the Time Soldiers' rafts rushed downstream, they narrowly missed a giant boulder in the river.
- ___ 6. The Time Soldiers used a compass to find their way back to the time portal.
- ___ 7. On their way to the time portal, the Time Soldiers found diamonds.
- ___ 8. Adam surprised his friends when he climbed on the back of a baby Centrosaurus.
- ___ 9. Mariah decided to play with a young Apatosaurus, and it is a good thing she did! While riding on its back, Mariah spotted the lake near the time portal.
- ___ 10. As the Time Soldiers left the woods, Mariah turned back to see the young Centrosaurus coming through the time portal.



SCIENCE: Paleontology is more than just the study of animal fossils. These scientists look at all forms of life existing in prehistoric time: plants, animals and other organisms. Today, paleontologists are working at sites all around the world. Use the Internet to learn about this occupation and present-day dig sites. Then be a paleontologist for a day. Choose a site to study and create a science log of your work. Begin by explaining your project. Make several daily entries to report your findings. Remember to describe the conditions at your site and mention the tools that you are using. You might also want to create a map of your dig site.

SCIENCE/DINO DIET: People often think of dinosaurs as ferocious beasts that ate other animals. It's true that some dinosaurs were meat eaters. Those dinosaurs were known as **carnivores**. But others ate plants and other vegetation; these animals are called **herbivores**. Many dinosaurs were like most humans; they ate a combination of meat and plant materials. Still other dinosaurs were **scavengers**. They fed off the bodies of dead animals.

Take a look at the dinosaurs mentioned in *Rex*. Write the name of each dinosaur on a piece of paper. Then look up information about that animal to find out if it was a carnivore, herbivore or scavenger. (Hint: Six dinosaurs were mentioned in the story.)

After you have finished, choose six more dinosaurs and add their names to your list. Identify each as a carnivore, herbivore or scavenger.

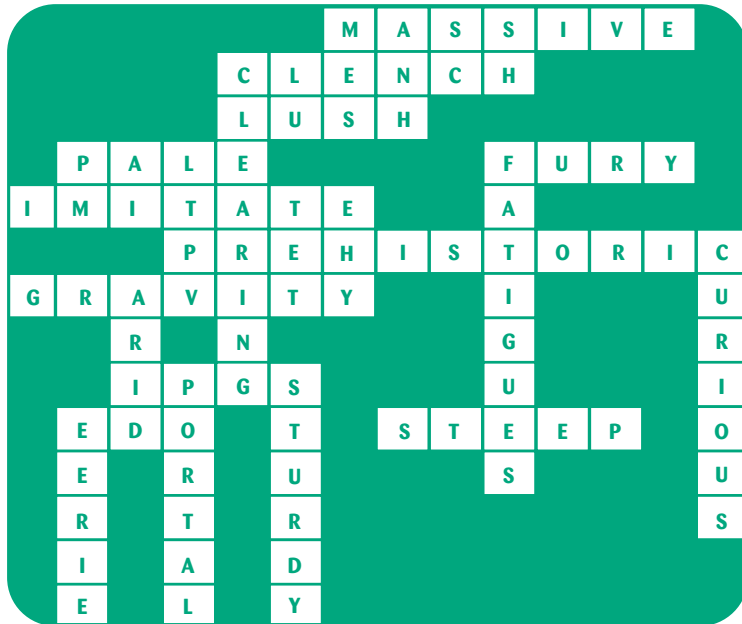
SCIENCE/RESEARCH SKILLS: Learn more about these dinosaurs. Choose several characteristics about these animals (for example, height, weight, speed, where it lived, whether it walked on two legs or four legs, if it had wings or horns, and so on). Search for this information in the library or on the Internet. Then create a chart to record this data. Write the name of each dinosaur in a column across the page. Next, write each characteristic in a space down the left side of the page. Add your findings to the remainder of the grid. (Don't forget to include the diet facts with these characteristics!)

MATH: Take a look at the size of the dinosaurs that you have been researching. Which was the tallest? Which was the shortest? Which weighed the most? The least? List these dinosaurs according to size, beginning with the largest and ending with the smallest.

Answers

Vocabulary Development

Crossword Puzzle



Reading Comprehension

Discussion Questions

1. The present-day setting includes urban development, homes, roadways and traffic noise, woods, electronics and humans. The prehistoric world has lush forests; clean, fresh lake water; and prehistoric life.
2. The Time Soldiers brought a video-camera, slingshots, rafts, paddles, backpacks, fatigues and helmets.
3. The Time Soldiers had the videotape and gold nuggets as evidence.
4. Situations that didn't make sense included dinosaurs from different time periods and the anti-gravity pool. Also, only one hour had elapsed in present-day time, but considerably more time had passed in the prehistoric world.
5. If you said some kind of primate, you're right!

Retelling the Story

1. F *Their parents didn't believe their story.*
2. T
3. F *It was feeding off a Triceratops.*
4. T
5. T
6. F *The Time Soldiers followed the river back to the lake that led to the time portal.*
7. F *They found gold!*
8. T
9. F *Mikey, not Mariah, rode the Apatosaurus and discovered the lake.*
10. F *Tyrannosaurus Rex, not the young Centrosaurus, was coming through the time portal.*

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Six kids enter a time portal into an ancient world of dinosaurs and danger.

Hardcover 1-929945-18-3\$12.95

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Note: The Teacher's Resource Guides are available to download at: www.biggybooks.com



An AR® quiz for Rex is available at Renaissance Learning: www.renlearn.com.
Reading Level: 3.2

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ISBN 1-929945-30-2