



Transcript for *Titanosaur: Discovering the World's Largest Dinosaur* (Orchard Books, an imprint of Scholastic Inc.) Preview Video

Preview (0:00 – 6:02)

Hi everyone! It's Colleen from the KU Natural History Museum, and I just want to remind you about tomorrow's Story Book Science here on Facebook Live at 10am. Tomorrow I will be reading a book called *Titanosaur: Discovering the World's Largest Dinosaur*. This book is written by Dr. José Luis Carballido and Dr. Diego Pol, and it's illustrated by Florencia Gigena. And it is being read with permission from Orchard Books, which is an imprint of Scholastic Inc.

Now I'm so excited to read this book because it is about the biggest dinosaur in the world! That dinosaur is a titanosaur, specifically the titanosaur *Patagotitan mayorum*. Now *Patagotitan mayorum*, it was discovered first by a gaucho, so a skilled horseman, who was out looking for a lost sheep. And the gaucho was in an area of Argentina called Patagonia. So this is a map of South America, which is where Argentina is located. Argentina is this country here, and Patagonia is a region in the southern part of the country. So this is where the dinosaur was found. The paleontologists that led the dig to uncover the titanosaur, those are the authors of the book! So Dr. José Luis Carballido and Dr. Diego Pol, who wrote the book, they are the ones who led the dig to discover the titanosaur, the world's biggest dinosaur!

Now, the authors of the book, they're also paleontologists, and paleontologists study fossils. Now fossils are the remains of living organisms from a past geological age. So they lived a really, really, really long time ago! And fossils, in order to become a fossil, the remains have to go through a process where they become hard. So they look sort of like rocks. They feel sort of like rocks. But they aren't rocks, they're fossils.

Now there are fossils of lots of different things. So plants, animals, all of these organisms can become fossils. And fossils fall into one of two categories. So you can have body fossils or trace fossils. Now body fossils, those are remains that were direct parts of a body. So any part of a body that becomes fossilized is a body fossil. So some examples include bones. Bones are part of the body. So bones would be body fossils. You can also have teeth. Teeth are a part of the body. So those become fossilized. And also claws can be fossilized because claws are a part of a body. Now I have an example here. This is the claw of a *Dryptosaurus*. And it's not the real fossil. This is a cast, so that means that it's a copy of the real fossil. But this is a cast of a body fossil because claws, they come from the body. So they're body fossils.

Now before we talk about trace fossils, I want to say one more thing about body fossils. I recently learned that in some places in the world paleontologists who are looking and trying to find dinosaur bones, in order to determine if what they're looking at is a rock or a bone, they can actually lick it! Because in some places, the fossilized bones of dinosaurs, they have these pores or really tiny holes. And the paleontologists lick the sample they're looking at to determine if it's a bone because those tiny pores, they will suck away moisture. So the tongue will stick to a sample if it's a fossilized bone. Now that may not be the most sanitary thing to do. So another way to test if a sample is a rock or a bone, the paleontologist can also like their finger and then stick it to the sample because it would work the same way, except the finger would stick to the bone!

Now trace fossils, getting back to fossils, those are things that an organism did. So they indicate some sort of activity. And the organism that left a trace fossil, they might have made the trace fossil in their body, or they might have made the trace fossil using their body, but it's not a fossil of something that's a body part. So a really good example of this is a footprint, and if you have a series of footprints you'd have a trackway. Now this right here is also a cast. So it's a copy. And what I can tell from this is that it has three toes. So it's a track of a theropod or a meat-eating dinosaur that walked on two legs. And this shows us activity of the theropod. And we know that the theropod made it using its foot. But this is a trace fossil because it shows us that activity.

So I hope you join me tomorrow for Story Book Science here on Facebook Live at 10am. I will be reading *Titanosaur: Discovering the World's Largest Dinosaur*. So I hope to see you then! Bye!