

INVESTIGATION QUESTION

How did upright posture give early dinosaurs a survival advantage over sprawling reptiles?

HYPOTHESIS

Hint: try writing it as "If ____, then ____, because ____."

Movement Comparison Table

Feature	Sprawling (lizard style)	Upright (dinosaur style)
How legs are positioned		
Energy required		
Speed achieved		
Distance covered		
How tiring it felt		

ANALYSIS

Based on your experiment, what specific advantages would upright posture give an animal in the Triassic environment (open landscapes, competition for food)?

CONCLUSION

Explain why upright posture may have been one of the key reasons dinosaurs eventually came to dominate the Triassic and Jurassic worlds.

CONNECT IT

Look up Eoraptor, one of the earliest known dinosaurs. Where was it found, how big was it, and what did it eat? How does it compare to your mental image of a dinosaur?

THINK FURTHER

The Triassic world was recovering from the worst extinction in Earth's history. Why might this recovery period have been a good time for a new group like dinosaurs to rise to dominance?

ADDITIONAL NOTES