

Animals of the Late Paleozoic Era

The Paleozoic Era was between about 540 million years ago and about 250 million years ago. It is divided into six geological time periods. In order from first to last, these periods are the Cambrian, Ordovician, Silurian, Devonian, Carboniferous, and Permian.

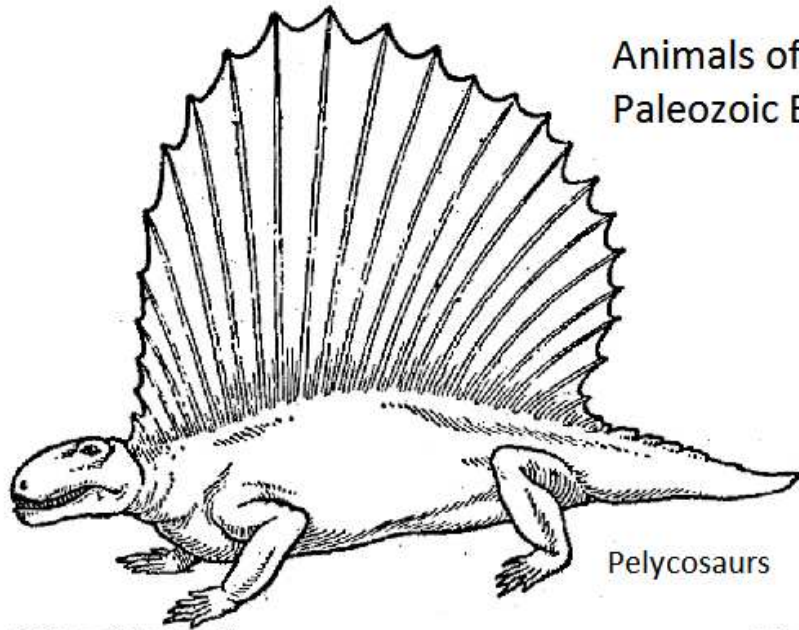
The pictures to the left illustrate some of the animals that lived on Earth during the late Paleozoic Era. The animals are all drawn to scale. To the lower left of the images is a picture of a modern human, six feet tall, for comparison.

The pelycosaurs and cotylosaurs lived during the Carboniferous and Permian periods. The Carboniferous lasted from about 360 million years ago to about 300 million years ago. The Permian lasted from about 300 million years ago to about 250 million years ago.

The pelycosaurs were synapsids, mammal-like reptiles. The cotylosaurs were lizard-like reptiles. Despite their appearance, these animals were not dinosaurs. The first dinosaurs did not come into existence until approximately 225 million years ago, about 25 million years after these animals became extinct.

Label each animal with the geological time periods during which it lived.

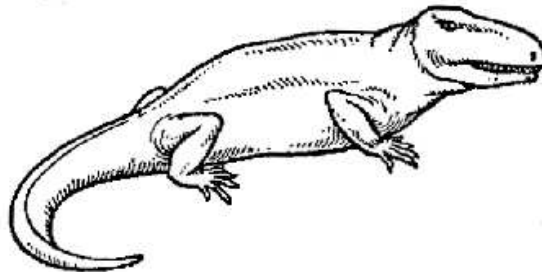
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Pelycosaurs



Modern Human, Six Feet Tall, Drawn to Scale



Cotylosaur

