

# PONGIDS

## THE GREAT APE KIND

The figure in this display case is modeled

### WATER AND WASTE

POSSIBLE LABOR-SAVING SYSTEMS ON

LIQUID WASTE REMOVAL SOLID WASTE REMOVAL

### OBSERVATIONAL SCIENCE

Fossils We Find Today

These canines indicate different species of bears. They are not simply variations of the same species.

## one WORLD two VIEWS

Layers deposited gradually over millions of years harden over time.

Which of these two scenarios best explains the observed smooth bending without breaking of all these layers?

**FLOOD MODEL**

Layers deposited rapidly during

When area is pushed up the hardened rock layers fracture.

**FLOOD MODEL**

### 7D'S OF DECEPTION

### DISREGARDING GOD'S WORD

# ARK SIGNS

## That Teach a Flood of Answers

<sup>1</sup> 2 Peter 3:9  
The Lord is not slow to fulfill His promise...He is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

<sup>2</sup> Revelation 21:3-4  
They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them. God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death. Grief, crying, and pain will no longer exist, because the former things have passed away.

<sup>3</sup> 1 Corinthians 15:26  
The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

### MAMMUTHUS "EARTH HORN"

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>HEIGHT</b><br>11ft<br>3m | <b>WEIGHT</b><br>14,700 lb<br>6,670 kg |
|-----------------------------|--|

**FAMILY**  
ELEPHANTIDAE

**KIND**  
ELEPHANT

Recovered from Miocene through Holocene rock layers of every continent except Antarctica and Australia.

Stretching over 11 feet high at the shoulders, Mammuthus primigenius—or the woolly mammoth—was about the same size as a modern African elephant.

### WHY DID ICE AGE ANIMALS GROW SO LARGE?

The fossil record reveals that many Ice Age animals grew larger than their ancestors from the time of the Flood. Why would these creatures increase in size in colder climates?

During cooler conditions, larger animals generally have many survival advantages over the smaller representatives within the same kind.

- Larger animals are usually better at intimidating predators.
- Larger animals often move faster.
- Larger animals typically stay warmer due to an advantageous surface area-to-volume ratio.
- Larger animals tend to live longer.
- Larger animals require less food per pound.

### TECHNOLOGICAL EXPLOSION

We have experienced rapid growth in technological achievement over the past century, but this does not mean that we are smarter today than our great grandparents. The innovations enjoyed today were built upon the shoulders of our predecessors.

### And God Blessed Them

COVENANT 9:1

**Image Bearers**  
Although man was corrupt, the Lord reiterated that man is still made in God's image, and thus all human life is of immeasurable value.

**Domination**  
God said that all of the animals were placed under man's authority, reflecting His directive to man in the Garden of Eden.

**Marriage**  
Similar to the Lord's blessing on man in Genesis 1, He instructed Noah and his family to be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.

### HOW COULD NOAH FIT ALL THE ANIMALS ON THE ARK?

**IMAGINE THE EARTH AS IT WAS BEFORE THE FLOOD**

The forests are lush and fertile. The air is thick, warm, and fragrant. The continents, looking mostly as a single land, a great unbroken surface.

Covered by grass, thousands of creatures roam over the plain. Among the various regions of open meadows, but only slight representations of every land creature, are scattered here and there. Approximately 100 species of animals, including most of the small plants, and birds and beasts. These three animals will represent those Ark's in the new world.



# ARK SIGNS

That Teach a Flood of Answers



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# Introduction

The Ark Encounter is a one-of-a-kind attraction featuring dozens of world-class exhibits within its spacious interior. Themed exhibits allow visitors to experience what life may have been like on the Ark. Packed with beautiful artwork, lifelike sculptures, stunning dioramas, and edifying videos, the teaching exhibits in the Ark effectively communicate biblical topics related to Noah, the Ark, the Flood, and most importantly, the gospel message of Jesus Christ.

As content manager for the attraction, I know that each exhibit brought its share of challenges. My assistant, Mike Belknap, and I had the responsibility of writing the text for all of the signage, but each and every display involved many other skilled individuals. We frequently consulted experts in relevant disciplines as we sought to explain a wide variety of complex topics in an easy-to-understand manner. For example, our team often met with Dr. Andrew Snelling (PhD, geology) as we worked on the Ice Age and Flood Geology exhibits, and we checked with specialists in biology and genetics while working on the animal exhibits. All content was thoroughly reviewed by experts before being handed over to our talented graphic designers who transformed our words into attractive signs.





Working behind the scenes with the Ark Encounter's design team was an honor. To have witnessed each of the extraordinary exhibits develop from the initial brainstorming sessions into the finished product enjoyed by thousands of visitors every day at the Ark has been one of the most unique experiences of my life.

Knowing that lives have already been changed for eternity as they have come face-to-face with the gospel message at the Ark Encounter makes all the challenges and long hours we faced well worth it. My prayer is that many more people will come to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ through the teaching at the Ark Encounter and products like this book.

Since we could not fit every Ark sign into a book this size, we selected the primary teaching exhibits for inclusion in this work.

Sincerely,  
Tim Chaffey,

Content Manager, Attractions Division of Answers in Genesis



# HOW LARGE WAS THE ARK?

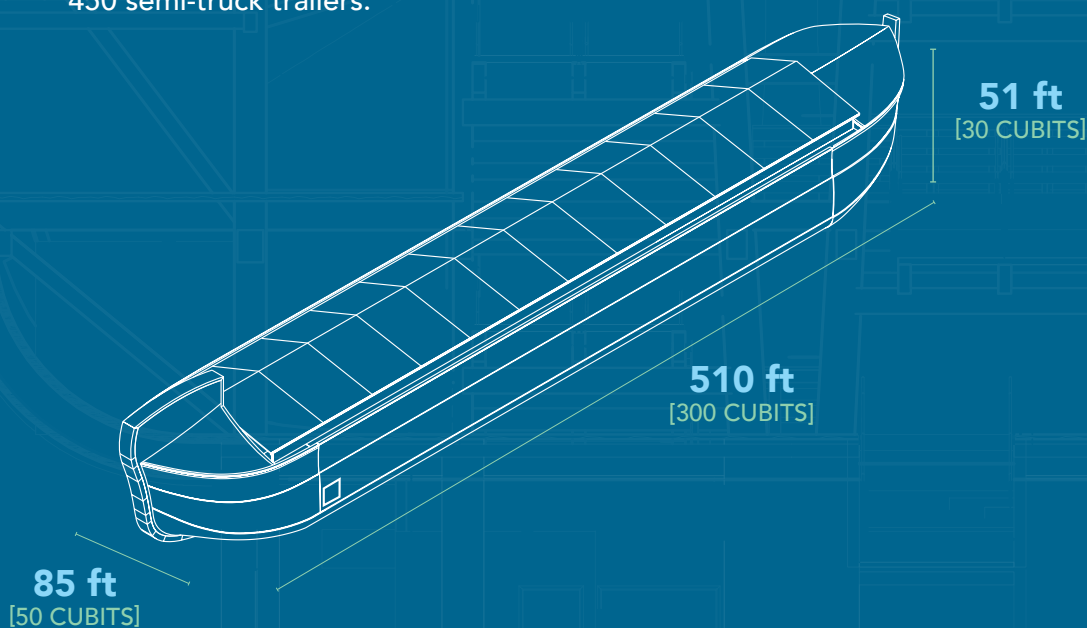
God told Noah to make his Ark 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits tall. However, we cannot be certain which cubit Noah used.

## WHICH CUBIT DID WE USE?

The Ark Encounter decided to use a royal cubit since major construction projects in the ancient world were often based on them. Beginning with one of the shortest common cubits of 17.5 inches, we added a handbreadth of 2.9 inches, yielding a royal cubit length of 20.4 inches. Most of the royal cubits in ancient times measured between 20.4–21.6 inches, placing our cubit on the short end of the spectrum.

## ADDING UP

Based on a 20.4-inch cubit, our Ark measures 510 feet long, 85 feet wide, and 51 feet tall. The Ark's volume is approximately 1.88 million cubic feet, large enough to contain nearly 450 semi-truck trailers.





# ALL ABOUT CUBITS

## WHAT IS A CUBIT?

A cubit is a common measurement used by a number of ancient cultures. The cubit is equal to the distance between a person's elbow and the tip of their longest finger.

## HOW LONG IS A CUBIT?

Modern units of distance, such as the meter or foot, are standardized. However, in ancient times, cubit lengths were not consistent across cultures. Consequently, a variety of cubit lengths were used. The normal cubit mentioned in the Bible is estimated to have been between 17.5–18 inches.

## WHAT IS A ROYAL CUBIT?

Many ancient construction projects were built using a royal cubit, which adds the width of four fingers (approximately 3 inches) to the standard cubit.

## DID YOU KNOW?

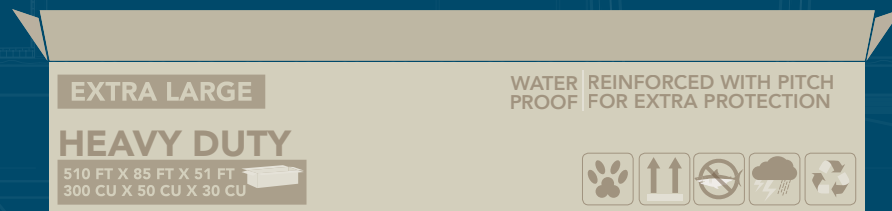
Although we do not use cubits in construction today, the term is still applied to the area of the arm near the elbow called the *cubital fossa*, and the vein in that region often used for intravenous procedures is called the median cubital vein.



[1 ARK CUBIT = 20.4 INCHES]  
ACTUAL SIZE

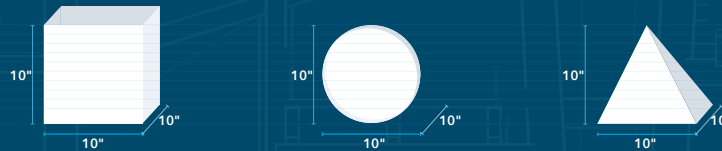
# WAS THE ARK SHAPED LIKE A BOX?

Noah's Ark is often depicted as a large box-shaped vessel. This popular image has led many to believe that Noah's Ark must have been shaped like a long rectangular barge, but is that necessarily the case?



## DIMENSIONS NOT SHAPE

The Bible describes the Ark's dimensions, but simply knowing the maximum length, width, and height of an object does not mean that we know its shape. For example, an object ten inches long, wide, and tall can be a cube, a sphere, or even a pyramid.



## PURPOSE NOT SHAPE

Like many other Hebrew nouns, the word translated as Ark (*teyvah*) seems to convey its purpose rather than its shape. Outside of the Flood account, *teyvah* is only used to describe the "ark of bulrushes" in which baby Moses was placed (Exodus 2:3,5). Both of these arks were built to preserve life, possibly giving us a clue to its meaning.

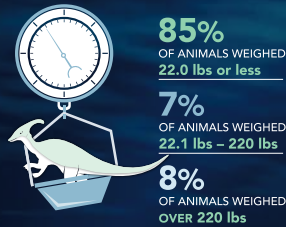
## WHAT DOES TEYVAH MEAN?

Many Hebrew lexicons state that *teyvah* is likely derived from the Egyptian word for sarcophagus. If this is accurate, what would a sarcophagus, a container for the dead, have to do with preserving life? A reasonable solution is that ancient Egyptians believed a sarcophagus preserved a person for the afterlife.

# EVERY THING FiTS

Current estimates from Ark Encounter researchers place **1,398 animal kinds** on board the Ark.

Each of these animal kinds and their basic needs—such as food, water, and waste disposal—has been accounted for in the layout of the Ark.



**8**  
PEOPLE



**447**  
TRACTOR-TRAILERS COULD FIT IN  
THE ARK [53 FT X 8.5 FT X 9.3 FT]



883 FT TITANIC



510 FT ARK [300 CUBITS]



**85 ft**  
[50 CUBITS]

**51 ft**  
[30 CUBITS]

**1 CUBIT**  
= **20.4 IN**

**1**  
DOOR



306 FT STATUE OF LIBERTY



250 FT BOEING 747

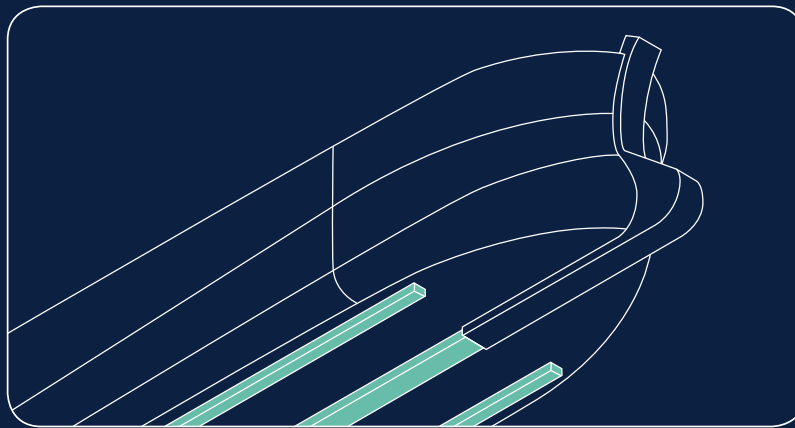
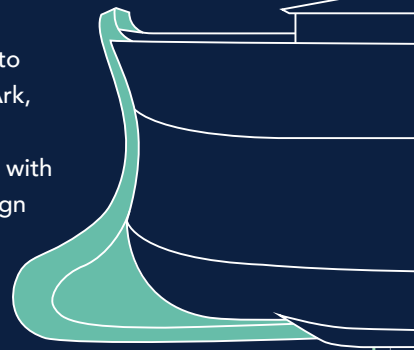


# THE ARK'S DESIGN

UNIQUE DESIGN ELEMENTS GIVE THE ARK AN IDEAL BLEND OF STRENGTH, STABILITY, SEAKEEPING, AND SAFETY.

## THE STERN PROJECTION: NOT A TYPICAL RUDDER

The long protrusion at the stern is not meant to be a moveable rudder to manually steer the Ark, as some have imagined. The stern projection assists the bow fin in turning the ship to point with the wind. This skeg-like structure reflects design elements found on many of the earliest large ships of the Mediterranean.

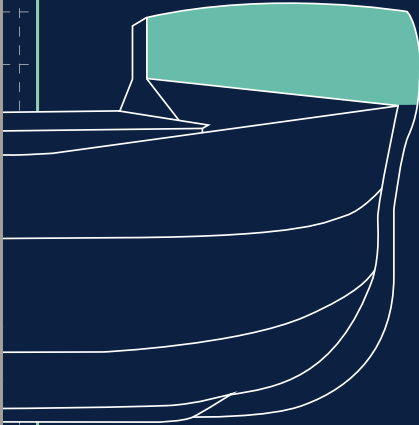


## THREE KEELS

Many ships feature a single keel, the prominent structure along the centerline of the hull that increases the vessel's stability. The three keels improve stability, increase roll damping, and protect against abrasion. It would also allow the Ark to remain upright after running aground while the floodwaters decreased.

## THE ARK'S DESIGN

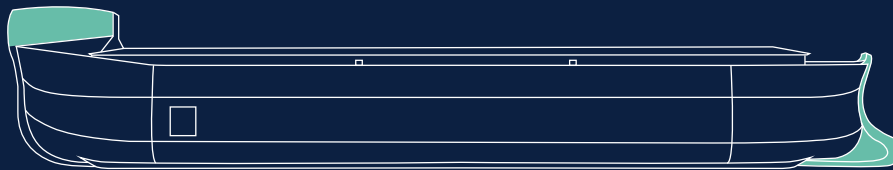
### THE BOW FIN: NOT A TYPICAL SAIL



Although it looks somewhat like a sail, the large structure on top of the Ark is not intended to propel the ship through the water. Instead, the large bow fin catches the wind like a sail, but this structure is immovable and is designed to turn the ship to align with the wind similar to the way a weather vane lines up with the wind.

### FRONT TO BACK?

Many modern ships feature a large underwater protrusion in the front called a bulbous bow. This fact has led some to believe that we have confused the front and back of the Ark. A bulbous bow is designed to reduce drag by minimizing bow waves at speed, but the Ark would not be going fast enough to require one. Also, since the Ark has no means of self-propulsion it would be pushed along by the wind and waves with the rigid sail in the front and the immovable rudder at the back. Thus, the bow and stern are accurately labeled on the Ark.



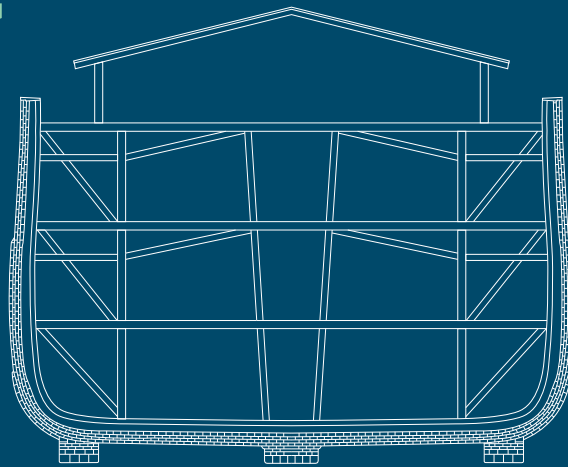
↑  
**BOW**

↑  
**STERN**

# BUILDING THE HULL

## WATERPROOFING & ENGINEERING

The problem with long wooden ships is that they tend to flex in the waves, causing the planks to slide against each other and break the waterproofing seal. To solve this problem, the hull must be constructed in a way that prevents the planks from sliding.



CROSS SECTION OF HULL  
[SHOWING PLANKING LAYERS]



HULL DETAIL  
■ SACRIFICIAL LAYERS ■ CEILING

## MULTIPLE LAYERS

The Ark Encounter design features three layers of structural planking to improve shear resistance in the hull. It also includes two outer sacrificial layers below the waterline to protect against damage from scraping and collision.

## SHEAR-RESISTANT CEILING TIMBERS

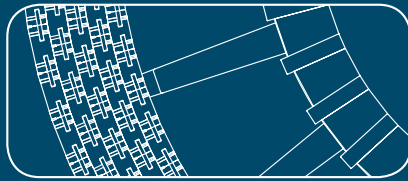
The ceiling of a wooden ship consists of thick timbers attached to the inside of the hull. These timbers increase the strength of the hull and provide attachment points for the internal decks.



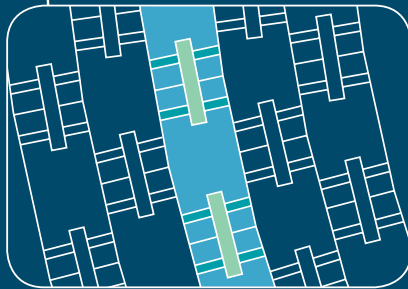
# BUILDING THE HULL

## EDGE-JOINED PLANKING

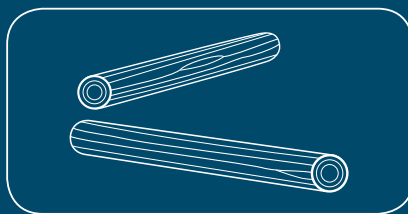
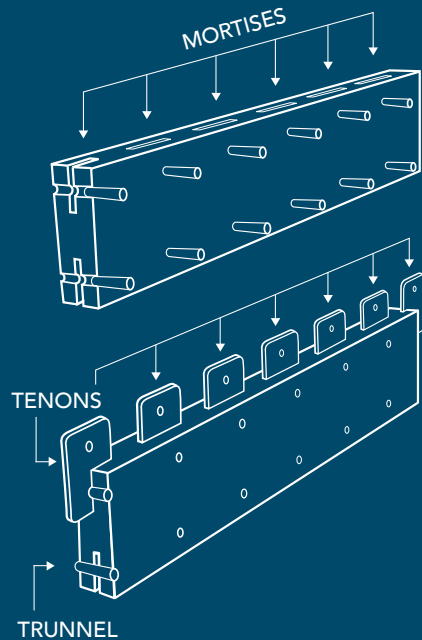
Ancient Greek ships featured planking with mortise and tenon joints. These interlocking pieces would prevent the planks from sliding and loosening up.



HULL DETAIL  
[SHOWING PLANKING LAYERS]



PLANKING LAYERS DETAIL  
■ PLANKS ■ TENONS ■ TRUNNELS



## TRUNNELS

Large wooden dowels driven through pre-drilled holes would further protect against sliding planks. Also, the wooden trunnels would expand in water making a watertight and permanent connection.



## PITCH

God told Noah to coat the Ark inside and out with pitch. Since petroleum-based pitch formed as a result of the Flood, the pitch Noah used was likely made from tree resin, providing further waterproofing for the Ark.

## THE STAHLCKERIID KIND

Status: presumed extinct  
Adult lengths: 9.8–13 ft (3–4 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *PLACERIAS*

- Better resembling something from science fiction than any animal today, stahleckeriids were a kind of non-mammalian synapsid—being more similar to mammals than modern reptiles.
- Like other stahleckeriids, *Placerias* (depicted here), boasted tusk-like features that were actually facial flanges rather than teeth or true horns.
- The largest known stahleckeriids weighed up to 2.2 tons (2000 kg) when fully grown.



## THE CYNOGNATHID KIND

Status: presumed extinct  
Adult length: up to 4.8 ft (1.5 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *CYNOGNATHUS*

- Cynognathids and similar groups are considered to be non-mammalian synapsids because they were more like mammals than lizards or crocodiles.
- Cynognathids had opossum-like bodies and may have even sported whiskers.
- The family is named after its only known member, *Cynognathus*, meaning "dog jaw."



## THE HYENA KIND

Status: three living genera  
Adult lengths: 1.8–5.6 ft (55 cm–1.7 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *ICTITHERIUM*

- Originally classified as dogs, hyenas form a kind of their own.
- The largest known member, *Pachycrocuta*, stood 3.3 feet (1 m) high at the shoulder.
- Wild populations today are only found in Africa and western Asia, but fossil remains have been found in places like England, Java, and Mexico.





# CANIDS

## THE DOG KIND

The figure in this display case is modeled after the extinct canid, *Hesperocyon*. Over 160 fossil specimens of *Hesperocyon* have been collected from Eocene and Oligocene rock layers of Canada and the United States.



Modern wolves, jackals, foxes, and other dogs belong to the family Canidae. Since the members of this family can interbreed they are considered to be of the same created kind. This means that all post-Flood canids descended from the members of this kind Noah brought with him on the Ark.

Canines are the only living canids, but historically there were at least two other major groups: the hesperocyonines and borophagines—the latter of which were the “bone-crushing” dogs of North America.



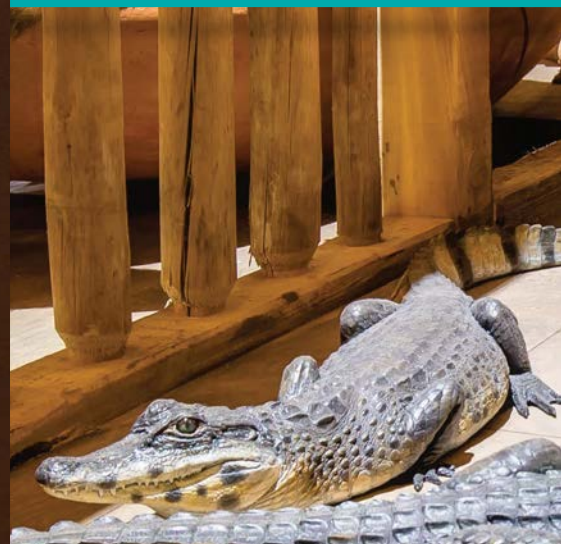
## THE ALLIGATOR KIND

Status: four living genera

Adult lengths: 3.3–39 ft (1–12 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *CAIMAN*

- Alligatorids buried in the same rock layers as dinosaurs were often smaller than most modern representatives.
- Giant fossil caimans recovered from Miocene rock layers of South America, *Purussaurus* and *Mourasuchus*, achieved a maximum estimated length of 39 feet (12 m).
- Crocodylians—alligators, crocodiles, diplocynodonts, gharials, planocraniids, and pristicampsids—may form one created kind, but Ark Encounter researchers separated them to avoid underestimating the number of Ark animals.



## THE THYLACOSMILID KIND

Status: presumed extinct

Adult lengths: 2.6–6 ft (80 cm–1.8 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *THYLACOSMILUS*

- Resembling saber-toothed cats, the South American thylacosmilids are instead classified as metatherians—a group that includes marsupials.
- *Thylacosmilus* reached the size of a jaguar, though the other members of the kind were smaller.
- It is believed that female thylacosmilids carried their young in a rear-facing pouch.



## THE SIMOSUCHUS KIND

Status: presumed extinct

Adult lengths: 2.5 ft (75 cm)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *SIMOSUCHUS*

- These crocodile-like reptiles likely used their leaf-shaped buckteeth to munch on plants.
- *Simosuchus* means "pug-nosed crocodile" and refers to the flattened faces characteristic of this genus.
- Some researchers believe that they were fossorial—that is, they burrowed.





# FELIDS

## THE CAT KIND

The figure in this display case is modeled after the extinct felid, *Proailurus*. Fossil specimens of *Proailurus* have been collected from Oligocene and Miocene rock layers of Germany, Mongolia, and Spain.



Modern lions, tigers, bobcats, and other cats belong to the family Felidae. Since the members of this family can interbreed they are considered to be of the same created kind. This means that all post-Flood felids descended from the members of this kind Noah brought with him on the Ark.

Living felids are represented by felines and pantherines, but historically there were at least two other major groups: the proailurines and machairodontines—the latter of which were the saber-toothed cats.



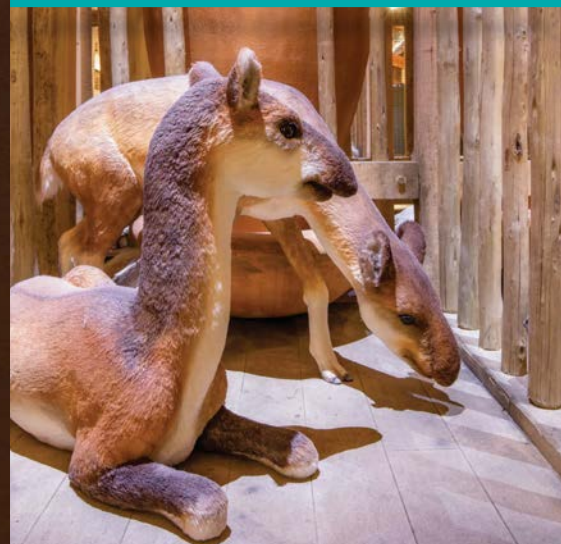
## THE MACRAUCHENIID KIND

Status: presumed extinct

Adult lengths: 6–9.8 ft (1.8–3 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *THEOSODON*

- The South American macraucheniids are the only known kind featuring both a long neck and facial trunk.
- Like other macraucheniids, our Ark representatives, modeled after *Theosodon*, bore three toes on each foot.
- Macraucheniids had a size range similar to camelids, but are thought to have gone extinct during the Ice Age.



## THE SILESAUR KIND

Status: presumed extinct

Adult lengths: 2.3–9.8 ft (70 cm–3 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *SILESAURUS*

- Silesaurs were not true dinosaurs but were a part of a group that included them—Dinosauriformes.
- They were facultative bipeds, meaning they could move on two legs if necessary.
- The largest known member of this kind, *Asilisaurus*, grew up to 3 feet (90 cm) high at the hips.



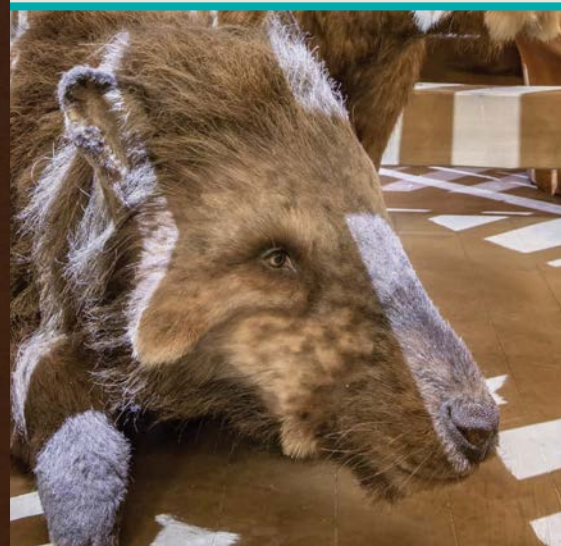
## THE ENTELODONT KIND

Status: presumed extinct

Adult lengths: 4–10 ft (1.2–3 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *ARCHAEOTHERIUM*

- Once considered pig relatives, entelodonts were a unique kind known only from fossils found in pre-Ice Age rock layers.
- Nicknamed "terminator pigs," entelodonts ranged from two to over six feet high.
- Certain entelodonts apparently hoarded their prey in meat caches.





# ARCHAEOPTERYGIDS

## THE ARCHAEOPTERYX KIND

The figure in this display case is modeled after the archaeopterygid, *Archaeopteryx*. Fossils of *Archaeopteryx* have been collected from Jurassic rock layers of Germany.



Long branded a poster child of evolution, *Archaeopteryx* poses no difficulty for biblical creationists. Even many evolutionary scientists now reject the idea that *Archaeopteryx* was a direct ancestor of modern birds—a fact that often remains unrecognized on a popular level. There is a deep lack of consensus among evolutionists regarding the origin of modern birds.

New fossil specimens, as well as the way in which some researchers now define birds as avian dinosaurs, have sparked disagreements on how to classify *Archaeopteryx*. Regardless of how people classify *Archaeopteryx*, only animals within a created kind are related; and kinds never change into other kinds. *Archaeopteryx* was neither a “missing link” nor a hodgepodge of different animal traits. Rather, this creature was a complete, fully functioning, and fascinating bird.



## THE CATTLE KIND

Status: nine living genera

Adult lengths: 2.6–15.7 ft (80 cm–4.8 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *MIOTRAGOCERUS*

- Bovine are a very diverse group of animals that include buffalo, bison, and certain antelopes.
- When we see the word *cattle*, we often envision modern domesticated members of the genus *Bos*—cows and bulls—but when extinct forms are factored in, this kind is accurately described as "antelope-like."
- The gigantic Ice Age species, *Bison latifrons*, is the largest recorded representative of this kind, surpassing 2.2 tons (2000 kg) in weight and reaching a shoulder height of 8.2 feet (2.5 m).



## THE STEGOSAUR KIND

Status: presumed extinct

Adult lengths: 13–30 ft (4–9 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *HESPEROSAURUS*

- Fossil remains have revealed that stegosaur plates were covered in keratin, the same material as hair and fingernails.
- Plate shapes may have been different between males and females, something called a sexually dimorphic trait.
- Stegosaur spikes, or the "thagomizer," were probably used defensively, as indicated by injuries found on an allosaur tail bone.



## THE PACHYCEPHALOSAUR KIND

Status: presumed extinct

Adult lengths: 4.5–15 ft (1.4–4.6 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *PACHYCEPHALOSAURUS*

- Recognized as the classic "head-butting dinosaurs," pachycephalosaurs weren't born with domed caps.
- Originally considered a unique species, it now seems that *Dracorex hogwartsia* was just a juvenile *Pachycephalosaurus*.
- Broad tail bases likely accommodated a hindgut, while the remainder of their tails were flattened side-to-side and stiffened internally by tendons.





# PONGIDS

## THE GREAT APE KIND

The figure in this display case is modeled after the extinct pongid, *Pierolapithecus*. Fossils of *Pierolapithecus* have been collected from Miocene rock layers of Spain.



*Pierolapithecus* is popularly considered the ancestor or near-ancestor of modern apes and humans. But the Bible teaches that the first man, Adam, was formed of the ground and made a living being when God breathed into his nostrils. Furthermore, the Bible teaches that Adam's sin in the Garden of Eden first introduced human and animal death. This means that death—and by necessity, evolution—could not have taken place prior to Adam's sin. Apes and humans are therefore different created kinds.

Some will point to “ape-men” as proof of our non-human ancestry. The problem with this claim is that all of these supposed “missing links” are best identified in one of the following ways: fully humans, fully non-humans, or frauds. Once trumpeted as proof of human evolution, Piltdown Man and Nebraska Man, for example, are now identified as a deliberate fraud and a fossilized pig tooth, respectively. *Australopithecus afarensis* of “Lucy” fame was a chimpanzee-like, tree-dwelling ape, while Neanderthals were the fully human descendants of Noah. So rather than challenging the Bible's claims, these fossil finds are consistent with the scriptural record.



## THE SPINOSAUR KIND

Status: presumed extinct

Adult lengths: 25–50 ft (7.6–15.2 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *BARYONYX*

- Spinosaurus were a group of large predatory dinosaurs known for their crocodile-like heads, huge hooked claws, and sailbacks.
- The group is named after its largest member, *Spinosaurus*, who may have spent much of its time in the water.
- At least one representative, *Baryonyx* (depicted here), did not sport a sail.



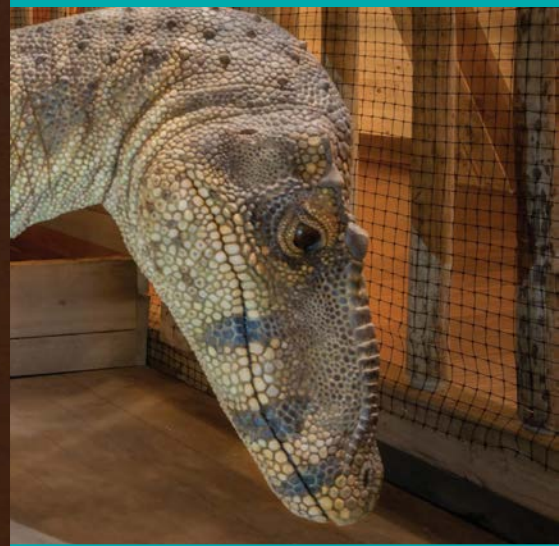
## THE TYRANNOSAUR KIND

Status: presumed extinct

Adult lengths: 9–43 ft (2.7–13 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *TYRANNOSAURUS*

- Tyrannosaur tooth marks are routinely identified on apparent prey and healed bite injuries from would-be victims.
- The age of the oldest known tyrannosaur individual is estimated at 28 years.
- The presence of medullary tissues in the bones of a sub-adult *T. rex* indicates that the specimen was female and had reached reproductive maturity before achieving full size.



## THE PAKICETID KIND

Status: presumed extinct

Adult lengths: 3.3–6.6 ft (1–2 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *PAKICETUS*

- Recent studies suggest a semi-aquatic lifestyle for pakicetids, but they may have been fully terrestrial.
- They had unusually dense limb bones, possibly to provide ballast in shallow water.
- Pakicetid fossils have been recovered from pre-Ice Age rock layers of India and Pakistan.





## WHAT DID THE ARK'S CARNIVORES EAT?

After making everything, the Lord stated that people and animals were to eat vegetation (Genesis 1:29–30). It was not until after the Flood that God permitted man to eat meat (Genesis 9:3). We cannot be sure when certain animals began to eat meat, although the fossil record provides strong evidence that carnivory occurred prior to the Flood.

If carnivorous activity was prevalent in the pre-Flood world, it is still possible that the animals the Lord sent did not eat meat or that they could have survived for one year without it.

There have been modern examples of animals normally considered to be carnivores that

refused to eat meat, such as the lion known as Little Tyke.

However, if some of the Ark's animals did eat meat, there are several methods of preserving or supplying their food. Meat can be preserved through drying, smoking, salting, or pickling. Certain fish can pack themselves in mud and survive for years without water—these could have been stored on the Ark. Mealworms and other insects can be bred for both carnivores and insectivores.

## DO THESE LOOK LIKE WHALES?

Pakicetids were a small family of mammals whose remains have been found in Eocene rock layers of Pakistan. Pakicetids are currently promoted in popular models of evolution as transitional forms to ultimately help bridge the gap between extinct land animals and modern whales.

On the one hand, biblical creation does not automatically exclude mode-of-life changes occurring within animal kinds. For instance, we have the example of kakapos—flightless parrots from New Zealand—having apparently descended from flying ancestors. So the basic idea that members of a whale kind shifted

from land-dwelling lifestyles to water-dwelling lifestyles may seem somewhat plausible.

On the other hand, one of the greatest weaknesses of the pakicetids-to-whales idea is a lack of evidence. The changes necessary for converting pakicetids into modern whales are extreme and particular; a flood of change contrived from only a few drops of evidence. Even a cursory glance reveals that pakicetids and other supposed whale ancestors were quite unlike modern whales.



## THE RHINOCEROS KIND

Status: four living genera

Adult lengths: 5–16 ft (1.5–5 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *TRIGONIAS*

- The earliest known rhinos were relatively small and hornless, or bore small nasal bumps.
- Most members of this kind featured between one and three facial horns.
- Rhinos are unusual in that all living genera are found in rock layers below Ice Age deposits.



## THE CHALICOTHERE KIND

Status: presumed extinct

Adult lengths: 7.5–11 ft (2.3–3.4 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *ANISODON*

- Chalicotheres may have looked a bit like giant ground sloths, but were actually more physically similar to tapirs, rhinos, and horses.
- Minimal tooth wear indicates that these animals ate soft plant material.
- Fossils of this kind persist into the early stages of the Ice Age, though some suggest that the “Nandi bear”—an unconfirmed African animal—may actually be a late-surviving chalicotheres.



## THE REBBACHISAUR KIND

Status: presumed extinct

Adult lengths: 20–50 ft (6–15 m)

### REPRESENTATIVE SHOWN: *NIGERSAURUS*

- Sauropods are known for their great size, but not every variety was extremely massive. Stretching about 15 feet (4.6 m) nose to tail, these young rebbachisaurids are half the size of adults.
- The *Nigersaurus* is named for the Republic of Niger, the nation in which its fossils were originally discovered.
- Facial features indicate that they were low-level grazers, like the behemoth described in Job 40:15–24.



# WERE UNICORNS ON THE ARK?

Skeptics frequently mock the Bible because some older translations include the word *unicorn* in the text. Naturally, this word conjures up images of a mythical, white horse-like animal with a single horn on its head. But is this what the biblical writers had in mind? Does the Bible mistakenly teach the existence of this mythical animal?

Newer Bible versions translate the Hebrew with terms like “wild ox” or “wild bull.” Biblical passages that describe this creature mention the following characteristics:

- Great strength (Numbers 23:22, 24:8)
- Not suitable to keep near children or to use for plowing a field (Job 39:9–10)
- Younger animal can skip about (Psalm 29:6)
- One horn (Psalm 92:10) or two horns (Deuteronomy 33:17)

The characteristics of this creature do not fit the horse or a horse-like animal, but there is an animal that fits these descriptions quite well—the rhinoceros. They are incredibly strong, unfit for domestication, and young rhinos can skip. Rhinos can also have one horn or two horns. And just as is seen on two-horned rhinos today where one horn is larger than the other, Deuteronomy 33:17 mentions the two-horned version of this creature and implies that one horn is larger than the other.

The King James Version of the Bible was translated in 1611. At that time, rhinos were often referred to as unicorns. More than two centuries later, the 1828 edition of Webster’s Dictionary included the following definition for unicorn: “An animal with one horn; the Monoceros. The name is often applied to the rhinoceros.” This is still reflected in our classification system. The Indian rhinoceros has a single horn and is called *Rhinoceros unicornis*. The black rhinoceros boasts two horns and bears the Latin name *Diceros bicornis*.

Countless skeptics have asked whether there would be unicorns at the Ark Encounter. There is no reason for them to wonder any longer. Here are the Ark’s unicorns—the rhinoceros kind.