

Dodo

(Raphus Cacullatus)

This is the animal behind the phrase 'as dead as a dodo', meaning it's gone... just like the dodo.

Fact File

Size: 1m tall

Weight: 10 – 18kg

Habitat: Mauritius

Diet: seeds, roots and fallen fruits

Reason for extinction: It was hunted by sailors for its meat and preyed upon by animals.

Last seen: 1662

Interesting fact: The dodo was a flightless bird.



Woolly Mammoth

(Mammuthus Primigenius)

Fact File

Size: 4m tall and more

Weight: 6 tonnes

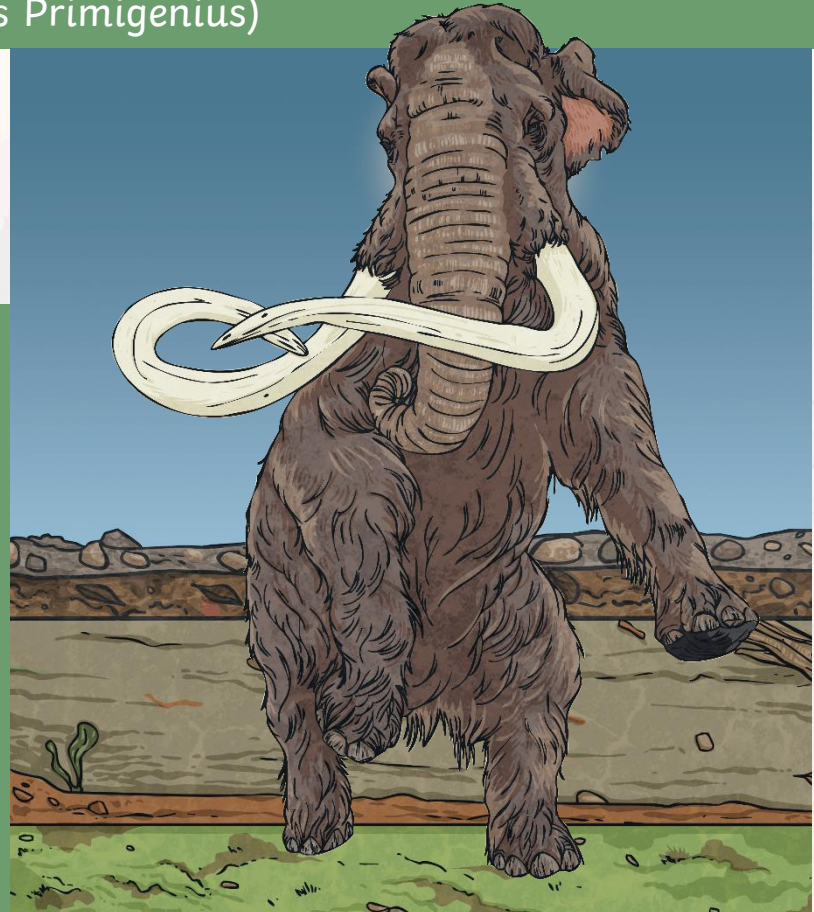
Habitat: It came from Africa to North America and Eurasia.

Diet: grazed on grass

Reason for extinction: It was hunted by humans and it lost its habitat.

Last seen: Wrangel Island in the Arctic Ocean around 1700 BC

Interesting fact: Its tusks were up to 5m long!



West African Black Rhino

(*Diceros Bicornis longipes*)

Fact File

Size: 3 – 3.8m long

Weight: 800 – 1400kg

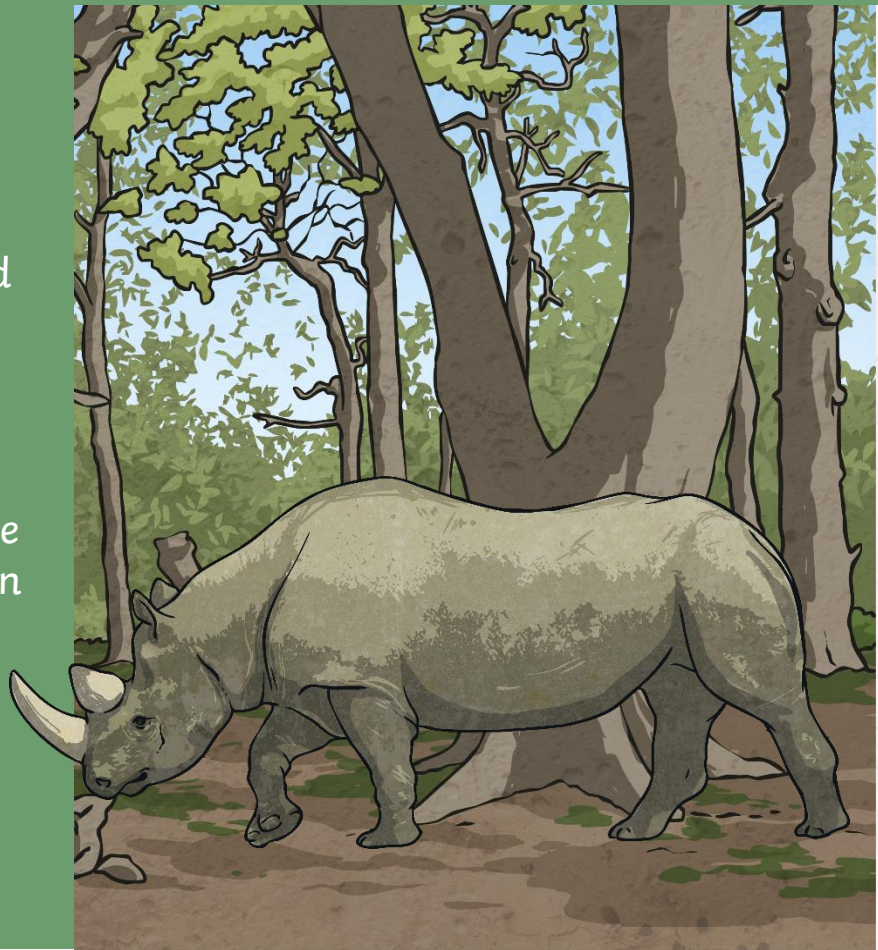
Habitat: South-East Africa in semi-desert savannah, wetlands, forest and woodlands

Diet: herbivore

Reason for extinction: It was hunted by humans for its horns.

Last seen: In 1930, the species became protected but was last seen in 2006 in Cameroon and pronounced officially extinct in 2011.

Interesting fact: Its two horns were 55 – 130cm and 2 – 55cm long and were thought to have medicinal powers.



Diplodocus

(Diplodocus Longus/Carnegii/Hallorum)

Fact File

Size: Up to 27m long

Weight: 12 tonnes or more

Habitat: It lived on the plains and in the sparse woodland on the edge of forests in North America. The climate was semi-arid with a wet season.

Diet: herbivore

Reason for extinction: Scientists are yet to find out... what do you predict?

Last seen: 152 million years ago (before the mass extinction of 66 million years ago)

Interesting fact: It had two rows of teeth at the front of its mouth.



Great Auk

(Pinguinus Impennis)

Fact File

Size: 75 – 85cm tall

Weight: around 5kg

Habitat: North Atlantic Islands

Diet: fish and crustaceans

Reason for extinction: It was hunted for food and its feathers.

Last seen: 1844

Interesting fact: It looked like a penguin and could not fly.



Sabre-Toothed Cat

(Smilodon)

Fact File

Size: around 1.5m long

Weight: around 200kg

Habitat: It lived in the grasslands of North and South America.

Diet: animals that were herbivores like sloths, mammoths and mastodons

Reason for extinction: It is thought to be a mix of climate change and human colonisation.

Last seen: 10 000 years ago

Interesting fact: Its huge front teeth were up to 20cm long.

