

ANCIENT REPTILES OF NEW ZEALAND

In 2010, NZ Post Collectables celebrated five of our incredible extinct reptiles with a series of stamps. Which have you heard of before?

These species thrived in Zealandia for 20 million years but disappeared from our continent 65 million years ago as the environment changed and conditions weren't right for them anymore.



Allosaurus

- Largest meat eater on land at 12m long.
- Top of the food chain. Hunted in packs like lions do today.
- Could open its jaws extremely widely, meaning it could attack large prey.



Anhanguera

- Our most common type of pterosaur.
- Wingspan of five metres.
- Could fly from birth!
- Fish eater.
- Lived in large coastal nesting colonies like seabirds do today. Laid leathery eggs.



Titanosaurus

- Last descendant of the giant sauropods; small for being a member of this family as it was only 14m long.
- Weighed about 13 tonnes!
- Ate from the treetops. Liked large ferns.
- Lived in a big herd for protection.



Moanasaurus

- An endemic type of mosasaur.
- Found in the shallow coastal waters of Zealandia.
- A fearsome predator with a snake-like body. Moved through the water with its paddle-like feet like crocodiles today.
- 12m long with a 78cm long skull.



Mauisaurus

- A type of plesiosaur called an elasmosaur. It's known for its tiny head and very long neck.
- The largest of its kind in the world at 20m long.
- Could only eat small fish and squid.
- Lived in shallow coastal waters.



Be in to win a Presentation Pack. This includes stamps, a mini sheet, stickers, a first day cover, and an A2 map.

To be in to win: Work out who on this page is a dinosaur, marine reptile, or flying reptile. Email your answers to kccinbox@forestandbird.org.nz.

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Thanks NZ Post Collectables (collectables.nzpost.co.nz)