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## Feather Stars

In addition to the long-stemmed stalked crinoids, there are other types of sea lilies living today without stalks, called feather stars. One day while we were filming at the Alaska Sea Life Center, I saw a living feather star and realized I had found a match to a fossil collected nearly 5,000 miles away in Germany. To me, these two invertebrates look similar.



Dinosaur-Age Feather Star

*Pterocoma pennata*

Jurassic, Germany

California Academy of Sciences, USA



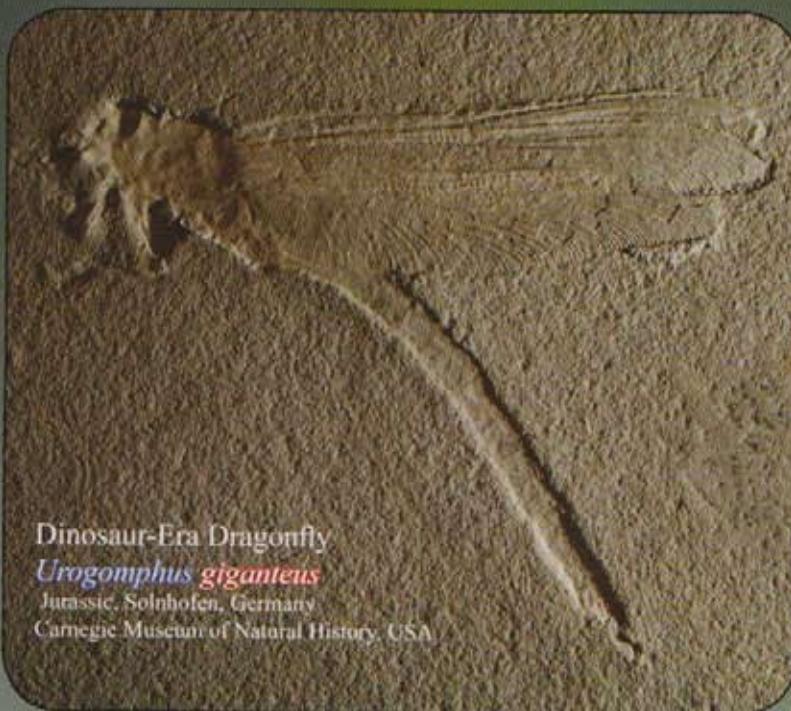
Living Feather Star

*Flacrometra serratissima*

Alaska Sea Life Center, USA

## Other Fossil Insects

**Author's Note:** The fossils on these next six pages were found at the Solnhofen Quarry in Germany described in Chapter 5.



Dinosaur-Era Dragonfly

*Urogomphus giganteus*

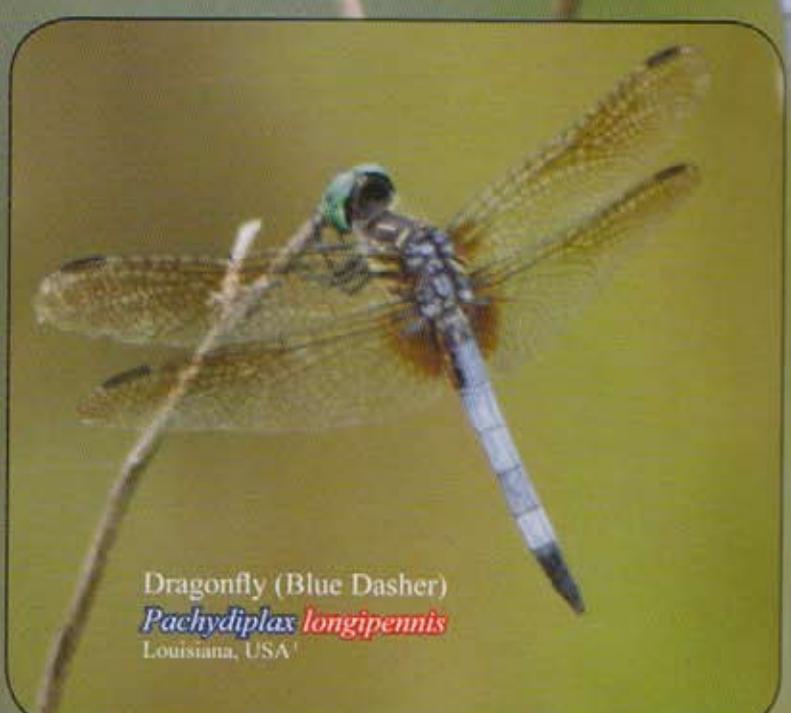
Jurassic, Solnhofen, Germany

Carnegie Museum of Natural History, USA



## Dragonflies

When I started my expedition, I was aware that dragonflies had been found in dinosaur rock layers, but these fossils were assigned a different genus — not closely related to modern dragonflies. I always believed this; yet, when I put the fossil dragonfly next to a living dragonfly, I was not so convinced.



Dragonfly (Blue Dasher)

*Pachydiplax longipennis*

Louisiana, USA

Modern Gliding Lizard  
*Draco volans*

Indonesia  
Jura Museum, Germany



Modern Gliding Lizard  
*Draco (species unidentified)*  
Malaysia



## Summary

Many modern-looking lizards have been found alongside dinosaurs, including iguana-like lizards, ground lizards, tuatara-like lizards, and gliding lizards.

# LIVING FOSSILS ARE FASCINATING

In 1938, the discovery of a large, unusual fish turned the scientific community on end. Dubbed a “living fossil,” the discovery of a coelacanth in South Africa shocked scientists around the world who thought this type of fish had died out millions of years prior during the process of evolution.

Living fossils are organisms found preserved in the fossil record, which still exist in similar form today. If the core concepts of the theory of evolution presuppose change over time, then how can these living fossils exist for millions of years remaining virtually unchanged?

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