

Description

Did Steven Spielberg's legendary movie "Jurassic Park" scare you? The huge dinosaurs with big teeth and long tongues sticking out of their gigantic mouths! But did you know that in reality, dinosaurs could not stick their tongues out? Yes, you read it right. Researchers at the University of Texas, Austin and at the Chinese Academy of Sciences discovered that the tongues of dinosaurs, especially those of *Tyrannosaurus rex* (or T-rex), remained attached to the lower part of the mouth. The researchers analyzed the hyoid bones of these dinosaurs and compared it to that of the birds. On analyzing the results, they concluded that the hyoid bone in dinosaurs is short and simple, similar to that of crocodiles and alligators. This suggests that the tongue, attached to the hyoid bone, must have been immobile in nature. The nature of the hyoid bone also throws light on the flight ability, specifically in the case of birds.

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Category

1. Checklist

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