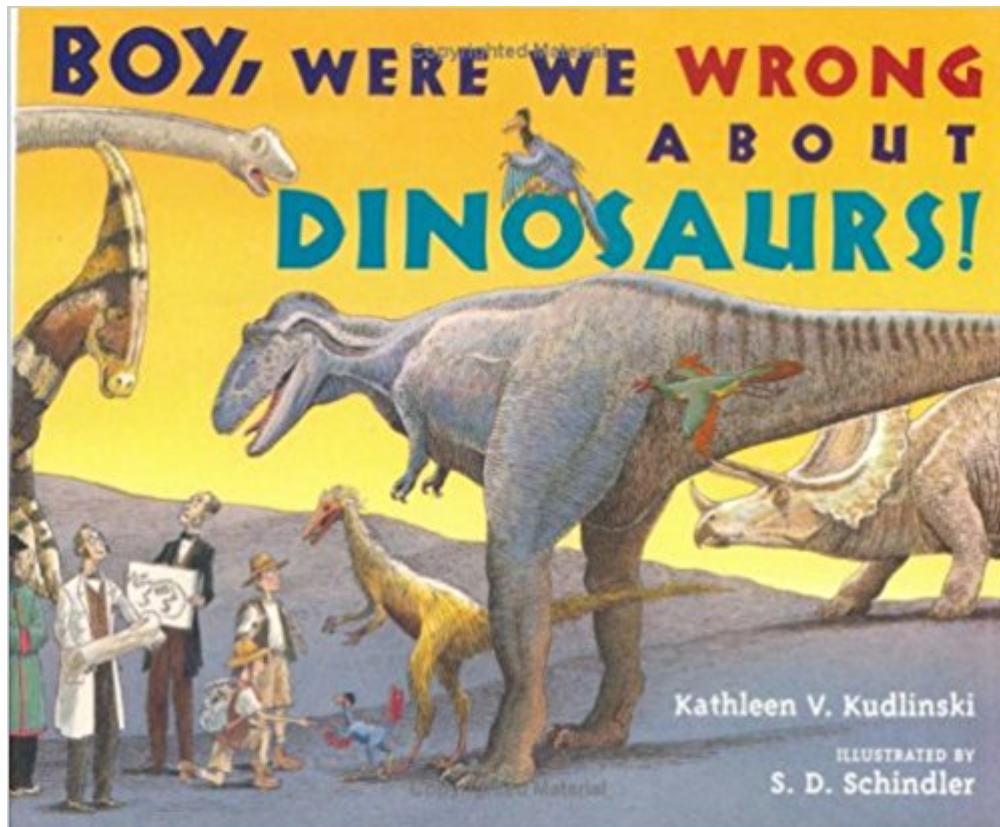




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# Boy, Were We Wrong About Dinosaurs!



## Synopsis

The ancient Chinese thought they were magical dragons. Some old-time scientists thought that because they were so big, all they could do was float in water. Boy, were they wrong! Even today, once-common notions about dinosaurs are being revised as new discoveries are made. This lively book about the perennially popular subject of dinosaurs offers fascinating insight into how certain theories were formed, and then how those theories were proved or disproved. It demonstrates that scientific thought is as creative as it is logical and invites budding scientists to come up with their own ideas.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD900L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Dutton Books for Young Readers; First Edition, 1st Printing edition (September 22, 2005)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 0.4 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #834,694 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #85 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Fossils](#) #541 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Biology](#) #1006 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dinosaurs](#)

Age Range: 6 - 8 years

Grade Level: 1 - 3

## Customer Reviews

Grade 2-4 — Kudlinski presents a number of early dino theories — a spike on the nose of the *Iguanodon*, drawings that depicted dinosaurs dragging their tails in the mud and running on spraddled, lizardlike legs — and shows, in her simple text, how further discoveries disproved these, and other, assumptions. She includes data on present-day concerns with such topics as scales and feathers, coloration, and infant care. She discusses the demise of the dinosaurs, the probable evolution of birds, and the fact that some books still on library shelves and even for sale in bookstores may be promulgating old, disproved theories. One small carp: lizards do

not just lay their eggs on the ground, then leave. They tend to dig holes or provide other shelter for their eggs first, and then, yes, they leave. Graced with colorful, realistic illustrations that reflect the text, this book is simple, attractive, and informative, and a take-off point for a discussion on the scientific method.~œPatricia Manning, formerly at Eastchester Public Library, NY Copyright ~œ Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

**\*Starred Review\*** K-Gr. 3. What could be more heartening to children than the unabashed admission that grown-ups make mistakes? Science has had its share of theories once accepted as fact but later superseded, and the mystery of dinosaur fossils seems to have brought out the imaginative side of scientists. Beginning with the ancient Chinese, who decided that dinosaur fossils came from dragons that still lived, the story fast-forwards to nineteenth-century scientists, who guessed that Iguanodon's sharp, conical bone was a spike on its head, rather than a spur on its hand. One mistaken idea after another is examined and illustrated with an ink drawing juxtaposed against a single-color background. Further information comes to light, and the information is corrected on a page showing a dinosaur drawing tinted with full-color washes. Intelligently designed and imaginatively conceived, the artwork makes the text more understandable and the whole book more beautiful. It also reflects the outlook of the text, portraying the scientists of each generation as earnest, sometimes puzzled searchers who did the best they could with the evidence available. The ending returns to the Chinese beliefs, stating that if birds are the descendants of dinosaurs, then they still live. Best of all, the closing paragraph acknowledges that the search is not over yet: the children fascinated by this book may one day find new answers to old questions about the dinosaurs. Carolyn Phelan Copyright ~œ American Library Association. All rights reserved

I purchased this book for primary teachers for use in their classrooms, and not necessarily for teaching about dinosaurs. It seemed to be equally as suited to an examination of the nature of science and how scientists "operate". Every page holds opportunities to describe how scientific ideas change as new information is gathered, and to stress that being "wrong" is a normal part of scientific discovery. Teachers can also ask students to point out the evidence that scientists used to modify early theories about dinosaurs. It can be emphasized that although the author uses the term "guess" several times, coming to conclusions based on observations is not guessing, and that modifying ideas after gathering additional data is acceptable and desirable.

This book is an awesome look at how scientific thinking changes over time. It was on the NSTA

trade books top 100 list. My 8th grade students found it entertaining but it would be appropriate for much younger children.

my students love this book

This book was for my 6 year old grandson, who LOVES dinosaurs. I was intrigued by the description, as I want him to read, but to also not take everything he reads as being a fact. This book got him to thinking about what he has been told about dinosaurs and that we still have a lot to learn. Excellent book.

A student of mine picked this up at a dinosaur museum and I have since bought it for several children as a gift. It is so informative and the illustrations are great! I also bought one for infant my son for when he's older!

Bought it for my grandson. My son, his father, love it and says it is very well done. They read it over and over.

Great book for my kids

My son enjoyed it

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