



Dinosaurs shrank to keep warm!

A new theory explaining how theropods (a type of dinosaur) were able to evolve into birds has been suggested, despite the lack of fossil evidence. The researchers from the University of Chile suggest that as dinosaurs evolved into birds, they shrank in order to become warm blooded. The branch of theropod dinosaurs, which gave rise to modern birds, decreased massively in size from 163kg beasts that roamed the land, to birds weighing less than 1kg over the period of 50 million years. The scientists believe that as dinosaurs slowly decreased in size, they developed to have higher metabolism. This evolutionary process allowed the creatures to burn energy from food at a faster rate and regulate their own body temperature.

Can you imagine a dinosaur with feathers?



Pictured: A photograph of a Cryolophosaurus ellioti theropod dinosaur skeleton at Orton Geology Museum taken by James St. John.

Carrots falling from the sky



Pictured: A Brush-tailed rock wallaby eating some of the carrots dropped during Operation Rock Wallaby taken from Matthew Kean's Twitter page.

The New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service have dropped over 1,000 kilograms of vegetables (mostly sweet potatoes and carrots) and water from the sky to feed hungry wallabies affected by the Australian bushfires. As the name 'Operation Rock Wallaby' suggests, the mission is primarily targeting brush-tailed rock wallabies, which normally feed off the grasses, shrubs and leaves that have been torched by the fires. The species was already classed as endangered prior to the fires, making the success of Operation Rock Wallaby all the more important. New South Wales Environment Minister, Matthew Kean, said the food drops would be used state-wide as a short-term strategy to help endangered animals.



Biscuits baked in space!



Pictured: NASA astronaut Christina Koch tweeted from the space station, posing with Italian astronaut, Luca Parmitano and one of the individually wrapped cookies from Cristina H Koch's Twitter page.

Following a ride home on a SpaceX Dragon capsule, the first food to be baked in space has landed back on Earth. Researchers want to inspect the handful of chocolate chip cookies baked by astronauts in a special Zero G oven. This is the first oven designed to work in the microgravity environment aboard the International Space Station. The oven and the pre-made cookie dough were launched to the space station in November on a Northrop Grumman Cygnus spacecraft. In total, five cookies were baked by the astronauts, one at a time. "Crew members may experience psychological and physiological benefits from eating flavourful cooked meals," NASA said about the experiment.

Would you miss home cooked food if you were in space?

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