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Dear Friends of FACT and the Glendive Dinosaur & Fossil Museum,

One of the most challenging points we make as we give tours through the museum is that all animals were originally designed to eat plants. In Genesis 1:30, God declares, “And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.”

We often make assumptions about animal behavior based on what we think we know about the function of certain features (e.g. sharp teeth). However, some animals with sharp teeth that appear to be meat eaters at first glance are, in fact, vegetarians.



Figure 1: Fruit Bat Skull

Consider the fruit bat. “The fruit bat has sharp teeth that allow it to penetrate the skin of the fruit. They also have very long tongues that unroll when they are feeding. When they aren’t eating, the tongue rolls back up. It is tucked away internally around the rib cage rather than remaining in the mouth.”¹

If you found the skull of a fruit bat, you would likely automatically assume it was a meat eater, when it simply (and solely) eats fruit. It serves as a reminder that everything in God’s original creation was “very good”—without disease, violence or death. But when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, sin entered our world and everything changed. The perfect living place made for us became corrupted, and some animals began to eat meat, while others, like the fruit bat, continued to eat vegetation, as they were originally intended.

Understanding this truth doesn’t just provide knowledge about the past, but gives us hope for the future. Isaiah 11:7 tells us about the future God has in store for the earth, when He declares, “The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.” In other words, the Lord is going to restore His creation to its original state of perfection—a world without the destructive effects of sin.



To everyone who visited the museum, participated in a dig, prayed for our ministry or supported us financially, we want to say a huge, THANK YOU! We praise God for your encouragement and support throughout the 2018 season!

We are currently on pace for above-average attendance, and know that many who toured the museum were either encouraged in their faith or challenged to consider the Bible as *the* source of truth. Please pray that God will continue to use our message to open eyes and to equip many to share the good news of Jesus with those around them.

¹ <https://www.batworlds.com/fruit-bat/>

2018 Dig Report by Martha Lohman

Another dig season has come to a close. From the exciting first day of preparing the site for our dig guests, through the peak of summer's sapping heat, to those final digs, when we experience a shiver or two at the chill in the morning air, there is a consistent anticipation woven through the experience of excavating dinosaur fossils. It's extremely rewarding to see children's faces light up and to hear their voices rise an octave, when they find a bone (even among those whose interest and energy wane quickly)! There are also thought-provoking conversations that stretch minds, highs and lows, exuberance and the fatigue.

Anticipation also weaves through the lab as we repair and preserve fossils for others to enjoy. This year, we assembled a list of equipment needed to improve our fossil-prepping ability and sent it out to our readers. Several of you responded with donations for a number of those items, and we were delighted to purchase and begin using them. Our heartfelt "thank you" seems inadequate to express our appreciation for your generosity!

As a result, we acquired a "micro-jack," a tool which (when connected to a compressor) combines the precision tip of a dental pick with the power of a mini-jackhammer. It has helped greatly with preparing more delicate specimens, such as the tooth sockets of jaw pieces and the pitting of crocodile and turtle bones.



We also upgraded our micron blaster, which uses compressed air to shoot an abrasive (either baking soda or glass beads) through a handheld tip to remove matrix from a fossil. The new Comco unit provides greater power and control, as well as a dehumidifier, which will help protect against clogs in the lines (a problem with our previous version). We are now eager to revisit fossils in our display cases to give them an even better appearance!

We are also very thankful for the help of our summer interns, Aaron and Dartagnan, who gave us much-needed assistance in the museum, on the grounds and at the dig sites.

If you are interested in joining us for the adventure of an authentic dinosaur dig experience, please visit our website (creationtruth.org/digs) for more information. Our available spaces for the 2019 season are already filling up, so contact us soon!

We are also accepting applications for next year's internships (candidates must be 18 to apply). Send an e-mail to robert@creationtruth.org for information about this opportunity.

May our gracious Creator richly bless you, as you continue to pursue Him and to live for His glory alone!

Soli Deo Gloria!!

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