



W H A L E C L A S S

Circle Time Guide

Dinosaurs! Big Feet, Big Teeth

Week of May 24–28 · 13 minutes a day · ages 2.5–6

dinosaur · big · teeth · roar · egg

Everything you need, one page per day

Week Overview

 Print · laminate · ring-bind · hold this all week. One page per day, in your hand, at the circle. Every script here is word-for-word the same as the teachers' page. 🇨🇳 六一儿童节 (Children's Day) falls on Tuesday 1 June — next week; Day 2 flags it so the children know it is coming.

Five words they'll own by Friday

dinosaur

big

teeth

roar

egg

Littles (2.5–3)

One word + a gesture is a win: **“ROAR!”** with a big open mouth, **“Big!”** with arms wide, **“Egg!”** with two hands making a ball.

Bigs (4–6)

Sentence frames: **“It is a big dinosaur.”** · **“It has sharp teeth.”** · **“I can roar!”** · **“The dinosaur has an egg.”**

Never ask a little for a sentence. They will get there by watching the bigs.

The week at a glance

- Mon** **Big Dinosaurs** — Magic Box: the biggest dinosaur toy you own. Game: big dinosaur / small dinosaur stomp-and-tiptoe. Shelf: Tray 1 · Big → small grading.
- Tue** **Big Teeth** — Magic Box: a giant paper tooth + a mirror. Game: count the teeth, then the leaf-eater / meat-eater sorting run. Shelf: Tray 2 · 3-part cards and Tray 3 · Leaf/meat sorting.
- Wed** **Dinosaur Eggs** — Magic Box: an egg buried in sand. Game: crack the egg — guess what's inside. Shelf: Tray 4 · Dig the eggs.
- Thu** **ROAR!** — Magic Box: a huge paper footprint everyone stands in. Game: roar and freeze with the hand volume dial + the action cards.
- Fri** **Measure a Dinosaur** — every prop back in the box + 12 metres of string. Game: unroll one whole T-rex down the corridor and walk it. Full song, top to bottom.

The 13 minutes, every day

2 min **Magic Box hook** — chant, shake, sniff, dramatic peek.

4 min **Teach** — the day's word, dramatised with the object. Get it wrong once on purpose.

3 min **Song** — chorus → today's new verse → chorus.

3 min **Game.**

1 min **Close** — whisper → normal → shout.

MONDAY

Day 1 • Big Dinosaurs

Today's words: **dinosaur • big • small**

Grab: the biggest dinosaur toy you can find, in the Magic Box; one tiny dinosaur (or a bottle cap) hidden in your pocket; the theme poster + blu-tack.

2 MIN MAGIC BOX HOOK

Shake the box. It is *heavy* today — struggle with it. Hold it to your ear. Whole class chants:

EVERYONE “What’s in the box? What’s in the box?”

Peek in. Jump back. Growl at the box. Peek again. Then lift out the big dinosaur with two hands.

TEACHER “A DINOSAUR! Look — it is **BIG!**” (*hold it high, arms wide*)

Everyone opens their arms as wide as they go. **“Big!”** Bigs: **“It is a big dinosaur.”**

4 MIN TEACH • BIG AND SMALL

Big dinosaur in one hand. Then — surprise — the tiny one out of your pocket. Chant it, three times each, getting faster:

Big dinosaur — **STOMP, STOMP, STOMP!** (*stand, stamp with flat feet*)

Small dinosaur — tip, tip, tip. (*tiptoe on your fingertips, tiny voice*)

Big dinosaur — **ROAR!** (*arms up, huge*)

Small dinosaur — roar... (*squeaky little roar*)

Littles do the action and say the one word — **“Big!”** Bigs say the frame: **“It is a big dinosaur.”**

Teacher fails: hold up the **tiny** dinosaur and say “Look! It is **BIG!**” Wait. Let them shout you down twice — correcting the teacher is free English.

3 MIN GAME • BIG DINOSAUR, SMALL DINOSAUR

“One, two, three — eyes on me!” You hold up one dinosaur. They move to match it.

TEACHER “BIG dinosaur!” (*hold the big one high*)

Everyone stands tall and stomps around the circle. **“Big! Big! Big!”**

TEACHER “Small dinosaur...” (*whisper, hold the tiny one low*)

Everyone crouches and tiptoes with tiny steps. **“Small...”**

Six or seven swaps, faster and faster, then a surprise long **freeze**. Last round a Big is the caller.

*This is the stop-and-go control game hiding inside a dinosaur game. Both toys go straight onto the shelf after circle as **Tray 1**.*

1 MIN CLOSE

Everyone crouches down small, then grows all the way up — whisper → normal → shout:

EVERYONE “It is a big dinosaur... it is a big dinosaur... IT IS A BIG DINOSAUR!”

Got 3 spare minutes? *Dear Dinosaur (Chae Strathie) — or any dinosaur picture book. Don't read every word: point, name, roar, turn the page.*

Today's song moment (3 min): chorus twice with the actions, then Monday's verse — “Dinosaur, dinosaur, big and tall, / long, long ago — the biggest of all!” — then the chorus again. Full song on page 8.

TUESDAY

Day 2 • Big Teeth

Today's words: **teeth** • **sharp** • **flat**

Grab: a giant paper tooth in the Magic Box (cut a white card triangle the size of your hand); a hand mirror; one real leaf and one clean chicken bone or toy bone; the Leaf Eater / Meat Eater signs (pages 12–13) on the floor.

2 MIN MAGIC BOX HOOK

One quick notice before the box: **六一儿童节** — Children's Day — is next Tuesday, and we will celebrate it then. Now the box chant.

EVERYONE “What's in the box? What's in the box?”

Pull out the giant tooth. Hold it beside your own smile.

TEACHER “A TOOTH! A dinosaur tooth — as big as my hand! Have **you** got teeth?”

Pass the mirror around fast — everyone finds their own teeth. **“Teeth!”**

4 MIN TEACH • SHARP TEETH, FLAT TEETH

Two hands, two kinds of teeth. Show them on your own fingers:

Sharp teeth — point, point, point! (*fingers up like fangs, snap them together*)

Sharp teeth eat **meat**. (*hold up the bone, big chomp*)

Flat teeth — grind, grind, grind. (*flat palms rubbing, jaw side to side*)

Flat teeth eat **leaves**. (*hold up the leaf, slow munch*)

Littles just chomp and shout **“Teeth!”** Bigs use the frame: **“It has sharp teeth.”**

Teacher fails: *put on your sharp T-rex teeth and try to munch the leaf — chomp, chomp, spit it out, look baffled. They will tell you exactly what is wrong.*

3 MIN GAME • COUNT THE TEETH, THEN SORT

“One, two, three — eyes on me!” First, count together: hold up the giant tooth and add paper teeth to your grin one at a time — **one, two, three, four, five!** Everyone counts, then counts their *own* teeth with a finger and a lot of laughing.

Now the sorting run. Two signs on the floor: **Leaf Eater!** and **Meat Eater!** Give each child one dinosaur card (page 14).

TEACHER “Flat teeth... or sharp teeth? GO!”

They run to their sign and hold the card up. **“Leaf eater!”** Bigs: **“It has flat teeth. It eats leaves.”**

*Swap cards and run it three times. The cards and the two signs become **Tray 3** on the shelf this afternoon — same work, sitting down.*

1 MIN CLOSE

Big toothy smiles, hands like fangs — whisper → normal → shout:

EVERYONE “It has sharp teeth... it has sharp teeth... IT HAS SHARP TEETH!”

Got 3 spare minutes? *How Do Dinosaurs Eat Their Food?* (Jane Yolen) — do the naughty bits, then the good bits.

Today's song moment (3 min): chorus twice with big teeth showing, then Tuesday's verse — “Big sharp teeth — one, two, three, / this dinosaur is smiling at me!” Party day: sing it a third time, faster. Full song on page 8.

WEDNESDAY

Day 3 • Dinosaur Eggs

Today's words: **egg** • **nest** • **crack**

Grab: a plastic egg (or a paper one) buried in a tub of sand or rice, in the Magic Box; a spoon and a small brush; one tiny dinosaur hidden *inside* the egg; five paper “nests” (crumpled paper rings).

2 MIN MAGIC BOX HOOK

The box is heavy and it *rustles*. Box chant, then lift out the tub of sand — nothing to see. Hand a Little the spoon.

TEACHER “Something is hiding in here. Dig... dig... dig...” (*everyone whispers “dig, dig, dig”*)

Brush the sand away. The egg appears. Gasp.

TEACHER “An EGG! A dinosaur egg!”

“Egg!” Bigs: “The dinosaur has an egg.”

4 MIN TEACH • IN THE NEST

Egg in two cupped hands, passed slowly round the circle — very, very carefully.

One little egg in a big, big nest, (*hands make a ball, then a nest*)

Warm and quiet — sh, sh, sh. (*finger on lips, rock the egg*)

Crack! Crack! Crack! (*three loud claps*)

Out comes a tiny dinosaur — **ROAR!** (*pop up from a crouch*)

Then count the nests: one, two, three, four, five eggs. Littles say **“Egg!”** and make the ball with their hands; Bigs count and say **“Five eggs in the nest.”**

Teacher fails: count the five eggs as “one, two, three, five!” Wait for the outrage.

3 MIN GAME • CRACK THE EGG

“One, two, three — eyes on me!” The egg goes behind your back. Inside is **something** — nobody has seen it yet.

EVERYONE “Crack, crack, crack — what’s inside?”

Take guesses first: **“A dinosaur!” “A bird!” “A baby!”** Every guess gets a nod. Then crack it open in slow motion — the tiny dinosaur is born. Everyone hatches with it: curled up on the floor, then **POP** up and roar.

Hatch three more times, because they will demand it.

*Then the sand tub, the spoon and the brush go on the shelf as **Tray 4** with five eggs and five nest hollows — today's circle, sitting down, all week.*

1 MIN CLOSE

Everyone curled up as an egg, growing bigger on each repeat — whisper → normal → shout:

EVERYONE “The dinosaur has an egg... the dinosaur has an egg... THE DINOSAUR HAS AN EGG!”

Got 3 spare minutes? *Ten Little Dinosaurs or any counting dinosaur book — count on fingers, don't read the story.*

Today's song moment (3 min): chorus twice, then Wednesday's verse from curled up small on the floor — “In the nest there is an egg, / crack, crack, crack — a tiny leg!” Sing it twice: once tiny and quiet, once hatched and enormous. Full song on page 8.

THURSDAY

Day 4 • ROAR!

Today's words: **roar** • **loud** • **quiet**

Grab: a huge paper footprint in the Magic Box (draw round a dinner plate, add three fat claws, cut it out); the 8 action cards (page 15) in a basket; the wall poster of **roar**.

2 MIN MAGIC BOX HOOK

Box chant. Pull out the giant footprint and lay it on the floor without a word. Look at it. Look worried.

TEACHER "Whose foot is THIS? Not my foot..." (*put your shoe inside it — tiny*)

Every child gets to stand in it, both feet, one at a time — the whole class counts them in.

TEACHER "A dinosaur was HERE! What does a dinosaur say?"

"ROAR!"

4 MIN TEACH • LOUD ROAR, QUIET ROAR

Your hand is the volume dial: hand low = tiny roar, hand high = enormous roar. Practise the dial:

Hand on the floor — *rrr* (*a mouse-sized roar*)

Hand at your tummy — **rrROAR** (*a normal roar*)

Hand in the sky — **ROOOAAAR!** (*the whole class, standing*)

Hand behind your back — **silence**. (*freeze, mouths shut*)

Littles just roar and stop. Bigs say the frame first: **"I can roar!"** then do it.

Teacher fails: *put your hand in the sky and roar like a mouse. They will lift your arm for you.*

3 MIN GAME • ROAR AND FREEZE

"One, two, three — eyes on me!" Everyone stomps around the footprint roaring while your hand is up. Hand behind your back — **FREEZE**, silent statues. Three seconds. Hand up again — roar.

Four or five rounds, longer freezes each time. Then swap in the basket:

TEACHER "Pick a card. What can you do?"

A child draws an action card, does it, and the class copies and says it: **"I can stomp!" "I can dig!" "I can swish my tail!"** Littles just do the action and shout the verb.

*Every child draws one card. The basket goes on the shelf beside **Tray 1** afterwards — the same game, alone or in twos.*

1 MIN CLOSE

Crouch, then rise, then jump — whisper → normal → shout:

EVERYONE "I can roar... I can roar... I CAN ROAR!"

Got 3 spare minutes? *Never Tickle a T. Rex! or any roaring book — one roar per page, and let the littlest child be the roar-master.*

Today's song moment (3 min): chorus twice, standing, then Thursday's verse quiet first then loud — "I can roar! I can ROAR! / Louder, louder — roar some more!" Finish sitting, so they land quiet. Full song on page 8.

FRIDAY

Day 5 • Measure a Dinosaur

Today's words: **dinosaur** • **big** • **teeth** • **roar** • **egg**

Grab: every prop from this week back in the Magic Box (dinosaur, tooth, egg, footprint); a long ball of string cut to **12 metres** — a real T-rex, nose to tail; tape; the awards (page 17).

2 MIN MAGIC BOX HOOK

Box chant. This time the box is full — pull the props out one at a time, fast, and let them shout the word before you can say it.

TEACHER “What's this?” (*the tooth*)

“**Teeth!**” — then the egg “**Egg!**” — the footprint “**Big!**” — the dinosaur “**Dinosaur! ROAR!**”

Last out of the box: the ball of string. Nobody knows what it is for. Say nothing. Smile.

4 MIN TEACH • QUICK-FIRE REVIEW

All five words, one prop each, three rounds, faster every round. Littles shout the word and do the gesture; Bigs answer in the frame.

dinosaur (*stomp*) — “It is a big dinosaur.”

big (*arms wide*) — “It is BIG!”

teeth (*fang fingers*) — “It has sharp teeth.”

roar (*hands round mouth*) — “I can roar!”

egg (*hands make a ball*) — “The dinosaur has an egg.”

Teacher fails: hold up the egg and say “Teeth!” One last time — this is your assessment, and you'll hear instantly who has the five words.

3 MIN GAME • MEASURE A DINOSAUR

“One, two, three — eyes on me!” Tape one end of the string to the classroom door. Now unroll it down the corridor — keep going — *keep going* — while the class chants “**Big! Big! BIG!**”

TEACHER “This is ONE dinosaur. Nose... to... tail. Let's walk it!”

The whole class walks the length of the string, counting steps out loud. Then lie down head-to-toe along it and count how many children long a T-rex is.

“**Big! Big dinosaur!**” Bigs: “**The dinosaur is very big. I am small.**”

Leave the string taped down the corridor all afternoon. Every parent at pick-up will ask about it, and every child will answer in English.

1 MIN CLOSE

Back in the circle, awards in hand. Crouch small, grow enormous — whisper → normal → shout:

EVERYONE “It is a big dinosaur... it is a big dinosaur... IT IS A BIG DINOSAUR — ROAR!”

Hand each child their “**You are a BIG dinosaur!**” award (page 17) with their egg drawing (page 16) to take home.

Today's song moment (3 min) — the finale: chorus → Monday → Tuesday → Wednesday → Thursday → Friday's verse (“Big, big dinosaur, small, small me — / stomp together, one, two, three!”) → chorus. Top to bottom, standing, every action. Full song on page 8.

★ Theme Song · “Dinosaur Stomp”

The one song of the week — sung at every circle. Same chorus daily, one new verse each morning, full song on Friday.

C (0003)

F (2010)

G7 (0212)

Am (2000)

Strum: Down · Down · Down-Up (“stomp — stomp — stomp-chick”). Can't manage it yet? Four slow downs per bar works fine — the kids only hear the fun.

Tempo: heavy marching pace — this is a stomping song, so let it be slow and thumping rather than fast. **Am** is one finger, same finger as F's first shape; if it beats you today, play **F** instead and nothing breaks. Chant it without the uke first; add chords once they know the words.

CHORUS — SING IT EVERY SINGLE DAY

C Stomp, stomp, stomp — **F** big **C** feet! (stamp on every beat)

F ROAR! ROAR! **C** Show your **G7** teeth! (roar, then bare your teeth)

Am Long, long neck and a **F** swishy tail, (one arm the neck, one hand the tail)

C Dinosaur, dinosaur — **G7** big as a **C** whale! (arms as wide as they go)

Sing the chorus twice each time. On the last “whale!” everyone stretches as wide as they can and holds it.

ONE VERSE A DAY — VERSES USE ONLY C AND G7

Monday · Big Dinosaurs

C Dinosaur, dinosaur, big and tall, (reach up on tiptoe)

G7 Long, long ago — the **C** biggest of all! (arms wide, hold it)

Tuesday · Big Teeth

C Big sharp teeth — one, two, three, (three fang fingers)

G7 This dinosaur is **C** smiling at me! (enormous toothy grin)

Wednesday · Dinosaur Eggs

C In the nest there is an egg, (curl up small, hands over head)

G7 Crack, crack, crack — **C** a tiny leg! (three claps, one leg pokes out)

Thursday · ROAR!

C I can roar! I can ROAR! (hands round your mouth)

G7 Louder, louder — **C** roar some more! (everyone stands for the last roar)

Friday · Measure a Dinosaur

C Big, big dinosaur, small, small me — (arms wide, then hands tiny)

G7 Stomp together, **C** one, two, three! (three enormous stomps)

The build: each day sing chorus → today's verse → chorus. By Friday they know five verses without ever “learning” the song — Friday's finale is the whole thing top to bottom, and it doubles as your review of the entire week.

IF YOU'RE BRAND NEW TO UKULELE

Practice this loop for five minutes tonight: **C** (4 strums) → **F** (4 strums) → **C** → **G7** → **C**. That's nearly the whole song — the only new shape is **Am**, which is one finger on the G string, second fret. C is one finger too, and the verses are just C and G7.