

## Pterosaurs

A Pterosaur is a flying reptile that lived long before birds evolved. Fossil Pterosaurs are very rare because their bones were hollow and light. The first one found in the UK was discovered by Mary Anning in 1828 near Lyme Regis, now part of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site. This Pterosaur is known as *Dimorphodon*, a flying reptile about the size of a crow. The most well-known type of Pterosaur is the Pterodactyl.

Pterosaurs are the earliest vertebrates known to have evolved powered flight. Their wings were formed by a membrane of skin, muscle, and other tissues stretching from the ankles to a dramatically lengthened fourth finger.

Pterosaurs have also appeared in fiction as in Arthur Conan Doyle's 1912 novel *The Lost World*.

*Pterosaurs ruled the skies from the late Triassic to the end of the Cretaceous Period (220 to 65 million years ago) with adult wing spans ranging from just 10 inches to 33 feet!*

## The Jurassic Coast

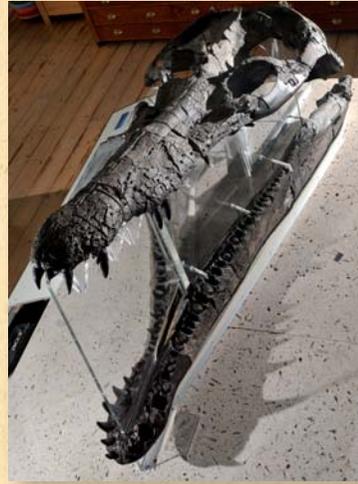
The Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site is England's first natural World Heritage Site - it is known as the Jurassic Coast. It covers 95 miles of truly stunning coastline from East Devon to Dorset, with rocks recording 185 million years of the Earth's history.

World Heritage status was achieved because of the site's unique insight into the Earth Sciences as it clearly depicts a geological 'walk through time' spanning the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods.

World Heritage Sites are places of 'outstanding universal value' selected by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation).

For more information on the Jurassic Coast visit [www.jurassiccoast.org](http://www.jurassiccoast.org)

Sam Rose / Jurassic Coast Team

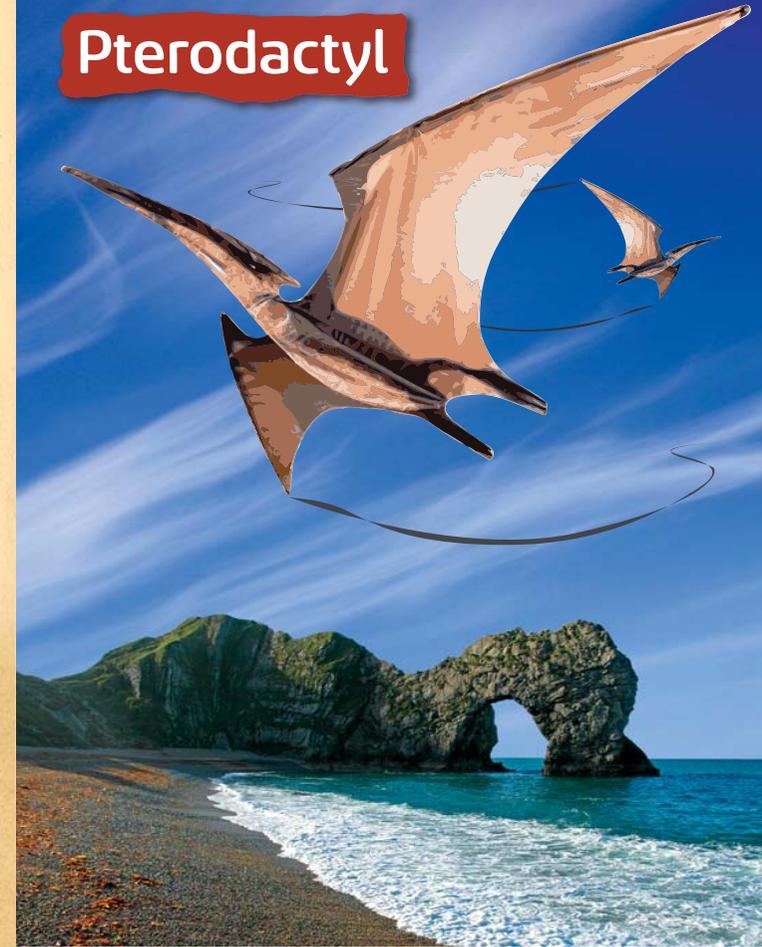


*The Pliosaurus, which lived at the same time as Pterosaurs, discovered on Dorset coast*

Background image: 'Duria Antiquior' by Henry De La Beche. Reproduced courtesy of the Department of Geology, National Museum of Wales

# JURASSIC KITES

## Pterodactyl

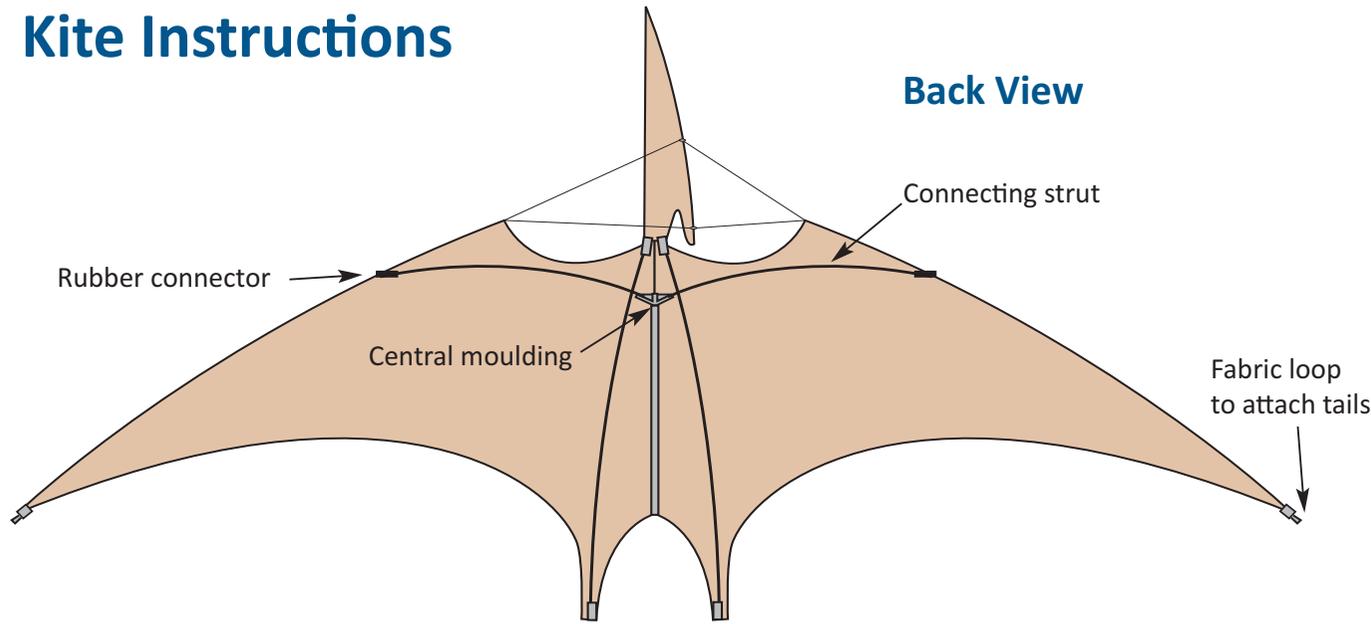


## Assembly & Flying Instructions

*Plus information on Pterosaurs and the Jurassic Coast*

**JURASSICCOAST** 

# Kite Instructions



Back View

## Assembly

The main wing, body and leg struts are already in position. On unrolling your kite you will find two loose connecting struts. Insert these two struts between the central moulding and the rubber connectors on each wing as shown in the diagram. You are now ready to fly!

## Flying

- 1 Simply attach the flying line to the loop on the end of the bridle at the front of the kite.
- 2 As it is much easier to fly a kite on a fairly long line rather than a short line - let out roughly 40 metres (the handle supplied contains 50 metres) before attempting to fly.
- 3 With the wind coming from behind the flyer have someone launch the kite into the air.

## General Kite Flying Tips

- Pick a suitable location to fly your kite. A flat, even and uninterrupted landscape is ideal.
- A kite is always easier to fly if you let out about two thirds of the flying line and have someone launch it for you.
- When the kite is airborne, let out some line until the kite drops to nearly ground level. At this point pull the line taut until the kite is well into the sky again. Keep doing this until the kite has reached the end of its line.

## ! CAUTION:

Do not fly your kite near overhead cables of any kind, near an aerodrome or during a thunderstorm.

Always use a winder of some kind with your flying line and hold the winder not the line. Never let the line run through your bare hands and never twist or knot it round your fingers.

If a large kite gets out of control in a high wind, cut the line and let it go. Better to lose the kite than cause any damage.

## BEAUFORT SCALE

FORCE	M.P.H.		
0	0-1	CALM	Smoke rises vertically
1	1-3	LIGHT AIR	Direction of wind shown by smoke
2	4-7	LIGHT BREEZE	Wind felt on face, leaves rustle
3	8-12	GENTLE BREEZE	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion
4	13-18	MODERATE BREEZE	Raises dust, small branches move
5	19-24	FRESH BREEZE	Small trees in leaf sway
6	25-31	STRONG BREEZE	Large branches sway