

Name _____ Date _____

Dinosaur Mystery

The team of fourteen paleontologists met in Buenos Aires, Argentina.	10
They drove fourteen hours to the dig site in the rugged land of Patagonia.	24
A dig site is a place where scientists dig for “treasure.”	35
After they set up camp, the scientists quickly began to look for fossils.	48
They hoped to find evidence that dinosaurs had lived in the area but, on the first day, they found nothing. Day 2 was a day that paleontologists dream of but rarely experience. A team member spotted something lying on the ground. Could it be a dinosaur egg? The scientists were absolutely thrilled!	63 76 88 100
They actually found hundreds of grapefruit-size dinosaur eggs that had turned to stone. Now the scientists had two mysteries to solve. Why were so many eggs in one place and what kind of dinosaurs had laid them?	110 124 137
The first mystery was fairly easy to solve. Gathering in big groups to lay eggs and protect their babies helped the dinosaurs survive. The scientists knew they had found the nesting site of hundreds of dinosaurs, which covered acres of land. Why had the eggs not hatched?	151 162 174 184
Perhaps the river nearby flooded and buried the eggs in mud. The eggs stayed under the mud for millions of years. If a skeleton of a baby dinosaur had been preserved in an egg, the scientists could solve the second big mystery.	197 212 225 226
A scientist called a <i>preparator</i> spent weeks chipping away the rock around each tiny bone in each tiny egg. She found a tiny skull and some teeny tiny teeth, which she compared to the skull and teeth of adult dinosaurs. The dinosaur’s parents were huge, plant-eating titanosaurs!	237 252 265 273

