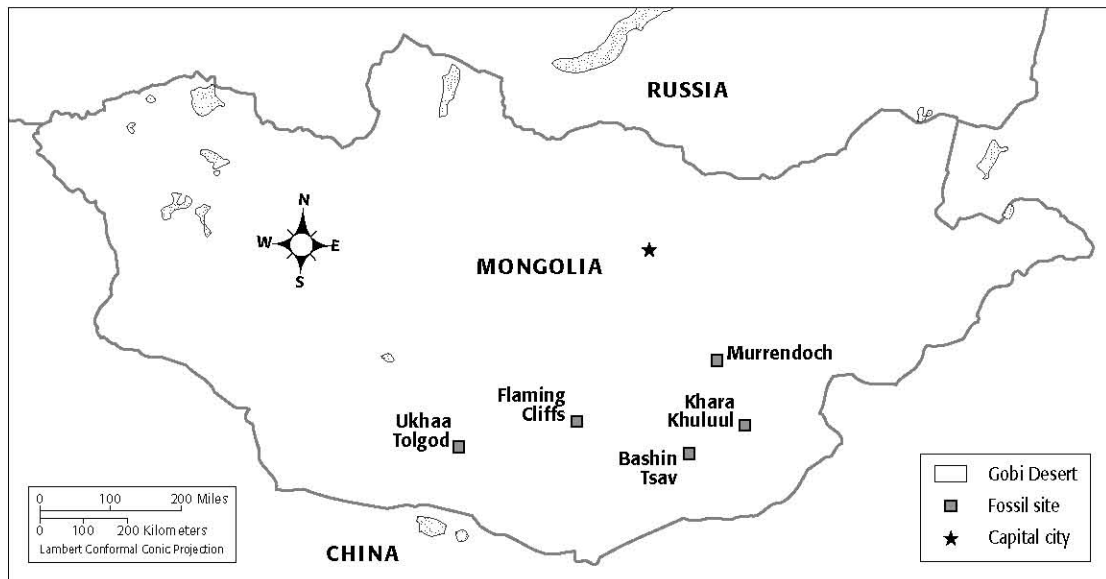


# Dinosaurs of the Gobi

In the 1920s, a group of American scientists traveled into the Gobi desert looking for signs of early human civilization. What the group found was one of the world's largest discoveries of dinosaur bones and fossils. Then, in the 1990s, scientists uncovered hundreds of well-preserved dinosaur skeletons in the area called Ukhaa Tolgod. Why were so many dinosaurs found in one place? The hilly region of Ukhaa Tolgod is thought to have been an oasis, or a fertile spot in the desert. Scientists believe that massive dust storms along with landslides of wet sand and mud buried the dinosaurs very quickly. The harsh climate and seclusion of the Gobi Desert helped preserve the dinosaur remains over millions of years.



## MAP ACTIVITY

1. Circle the fossil site where hundreds of dinosaur skeletons were found in 1993.  
Color inside the circle using green pencil to show the possible oasis.
2. Use a light brown pencil to shade the Gobi Desert.
3. Label the capital city of Mongolia next to the star that shows its location.
4. Use a red pencil to draw a line between Mongolia's capital and the Flaming Cliffs site.

**ANALYZING MAPS**

**1. Location** Which fossil site is located farthest north?

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**2. Movement** Why were so many dinosaurs found in the Ukhaa Tolgod region?

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**3. Human-Environment Interaction** Suppose you have been asked to lead an expedition to the Gobi Desert in search of dinosaur fossils and skeletons. Based on the map, where would you begin looking? Explain your answer.

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**4. Make an Inference** Of all the regions in the world, why do you think the American group of scientists traveled to the Gobi Desert in the 1920s to look for signs of early human life?

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**ACTIVITY**

Learn more about the amazing discoveries at Ukhaa Tolgod. Use encyclopedias and the Internet to gather ten interesting dinosaur facts based on discoveries at this unique fossil site. Create a poster recording your facts. If possible, include pictures on your poster. Display the finished poster in your classroom or in the hallway for other students to enjoy.