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## **Indigenous Americans' Contributions to Paleontology**

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This talk discusses Indigenous people's fossil discoveries and traditional interpretations, as well as their contributions to the field of paleontology from its earliest beginnings to the present. Long before Europeans began to understand extinction and evolution, Native Americans and First Nations groups observed and used fossils, and they created perceptive stories to account for the remains of long-extinct dinosaurs and mammals in their territories in Canada and America. Local indigenous scouts also served as guides for paleontologists, leading them to rich dinosaur bone beds where important specimens have been excavated for museums.