

# A Mini Curriculum on The Marvelous Mastodon

- Materials tied to Indiana Standards for language arts in grades K-12 and for mathematics in grades K through 5
- Materials for grades 6 through 12 on concepts/ideas to enrich classroom experiences in a variety of subjects
- Appendix/Enrichment for additional learning activities in art, science, social studies, physical education, and music
- Teacher's Packet (*Mastodon Americanus, A scientific description of the American Mastodon* created for K-12 teachers by Dr. Jack A. Sunderman, Geologist Emeritus, IPFW) containing practical background information on the mastodon, Ice Age, and related topics for teacher preparation

#### **Mastodon Education Committee**

**Chair:** Dr. Patty Martone, retired school administrator

**Members:**

Valeri Hurst, teacher/Brentwood Elementary School

Amy Martone, teacher/Northrop High School

Todd Pelfrey, education director/History Center

Sara Quigley, teacher/Harris Elementary School

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## OK, Here They Are!

### Learning materials about mastodons

#### tied to Indiana Standards in Language Arts and Mathematics

Materials were created in conjunction with the Public Art Project “Mastodons on Parade.” This project is sponsored by IPFW with all funds raised going to the United Way. Materials are meant to supplement your classroom work. Please review them and use as many experiences as you can work into your school day throughout April and May.

### Why. . .Why. . .Why. . .I ask you. . .Why?

There are two goals for students:

- To learn more about the world (in this case, the last Ice Age when the marvelous old mastodon lived right here in Allen County)
- To realize that youth are a part of the community with responsibilities to support that community in ways appropriate to their ability and situation

### How do teachers use this all this information?

#### Elementary Teachers:

Individual materials are available for each grade (K through 5). Please glance through all K-5 materials, however, to see if any of the lessons in other grades would also work for your classroom. Since these materials are planned for use in April through May (2005), you will not be using material other teachers have used before (or may use in a future year).

An **Appendix/Enrichment** section immediately follows the K-12 curriculum materials. It contains maps, outline of mastodon and tooth, Internet sites, and extra experiences in science, art, music, and physical education for mastodon study.

#### Secondary Teachers:

Materials cover grades 6-12. Materials are less specific than those for the lower grades. Language Arts teachers will find many specific projects for a variety of writing experiences. For the other disciplines, teachers will find ideas/topics that may apply directly to classroom study or may provide opportunity for enrichment or student research. Middle School teachers (particularly Grade 6 teachers) are also encouraged to look over the elementary materials and adapt them to their lessons where appropriate.

### There's a Teacher's Packet too!

A **Teacher's Packet** prepared by Dr. Jack Sunderman, Geologist Emeritus, IPFW, is filled with background information for K-12 teachers (and selected student) use. It includes information related to the Ice Age, the mastodon, and the geologic time scale. Yes, it answers such questions as “Exactly how much did a mastodon eat in a day?” It's fantastic! Teachers are encouraged to read the **Teacher's Packet** and use materials from it that are appropriate to their program.

**That's it. Everything you need is here. Enjoy!**

## Navigating the System

Elementary level teachers will want to click on their particular grade level. It should come up quickly and will be easy to print off.

Middle and Secondary teachers should pull up the Grades 6-12 specialized materials. These are easily printed.

All teachers will want to spend time with both the Appendix/Enrichment section and the Teacher's Packet. It should be easy to pull up each section and print off the pages desired.

A complete packet (Kindergarten through Grade 12 with Appendix/Enrichment and Teacher's Packet sections) is also available. It is in PDF form and may take some time to pull up on your computer due to the number of graphics and photos. Be patient. It will be harder to print off the PDF file because the page numbers for the section are not the same as the numbers for the document as a whole. Note that the cover pages for some sections have materials that also relate to the mastodon and can be used in the classroom.

A number of materials will be available for Display Tables or cases at elementary schools. Among other items included are cobbles, photos of the Routsong Mastodon dig site, career information for geologists and dental lab technicians, and a casting of an actual mastodon tooth. In addition, the book *Crocodile Smile* (with the CD) is included. Display materials will be delivered to librarians at elementary schools for a period of 7 to 10 school days. To request, contact: University Relations at IPFW (481-6100).