

JAMES RONAN

Palaeontology Consultant

Scientific accuracy for media, publishing, exhibitions and creative industries

Featured by national and international media

James Ronan
James-Ronan.co.uk

I Help Creative Teams Bring Prehistoric Worlds to Life With Scientific Accuracy and Compelling Storytelling



My mission is to spark curiosity, deepen understanding, and make palaeontology an unforgettable experience.

About Me

I am a palaeontologist and science communicator specialising in the life and ecosystems of the Mesozoic Era. My mission is to spark curiosity, deepen understanding, and make palaeontology an unforgettable experience for audiences of all ages.

I combine research, fieldwork experience, and established consultancy across TV, publishing, YouTube, branding, public engagement and museum-focused projects. With over **114,000 readers** engaging with my online work since 2018, I help creators bring prehistoric worlds to life with clarity, accuracy, and narrative flair.

What I Offer

As a palaeontologist and dinosaur consultant, I support projects that need expert guidance on prehistoric life, scientific accuracy, and compelling storytelling. My consultancy services include:

Book Consulting

Fossil expertise and palaeobiological insight for accurate, engaging science-themed fiction and nonfiction.

Video Game Fact-Checking

Scientific review of dinosaur designs, behaviour, and environments to enhance immersive world-building.

Documentary, TV & Film Research

Research-driven scientific input and clarity for natural-history documentaries, television productions, and film projects.

Articles & Magazine Features

Expert-led content and accuracy review for print and digital audiences, from explainers to Q&As.

Podcast Consulting

Scientific fact-checking and script support for science-focused podcast episodes.

YouTube Science Communication

Clear, accessible palaeontology guidance and fact-checking for educational and entertainment-focused videos.

Dinosaur Models, Exhibits & Animatronics

Scientific accuracy guidance for life-size dinosaur models and museum displays, focusing on anatomy, posture, and behaviour (no engineering services).

Theme Park & Attraction Development

Scientific consultancy for animatronics, creature motion, and prehistoric accuracy in themed attractions.

Dinosaur Accuracy Audit (Exhibits & Attractions)

A formalised scientific assessment combining species-level accuracy scoring, environmental and ecosystem review, posture and behaviour analysis, and guest-experience evaluation. Includes annotated visuals, structured scoring criteria, and a detailed Appendix A for species accuracy.

Summary: Why the Dinosaur Accuracy Audit™ Matters

As featured on ABC's The Science Show

The Dinosaur Accuracy Audit™ is the first structured scientific-accuracy framework designed specifically for dinosaur attractions and exhibitions.

The Dinosaur Accuracy Audit provides organisations with a clear research-driven standard for prehistoric reconstructions. For attractions, museums and animatronic manufacturers it reduces financial risk by ensuring models, environments and creature behaviours align with modern palaeontology, improving guest satisfaction, educational value and long-term credibility.

Accurate reconstructions consistently outperform outdated designs in public engagement, making scientific alignment a commercially strategic choice. As visitor expectations rise due to modern documentaries and recent palaeontological publications the Audit helps teams meet these standards with confidence. It strengthens brand trust, supports high-value installations and ensures prehistoric experiences evolve with current science rather than remain rooted in outdated interpretations.

Gold Certification represents the highest standard of scientific accuracy and prehistoric realism. Every attraction should aim to achieve Gold to ensure modern palaeontological alignment, exceptional guest trust and long-term credibility.

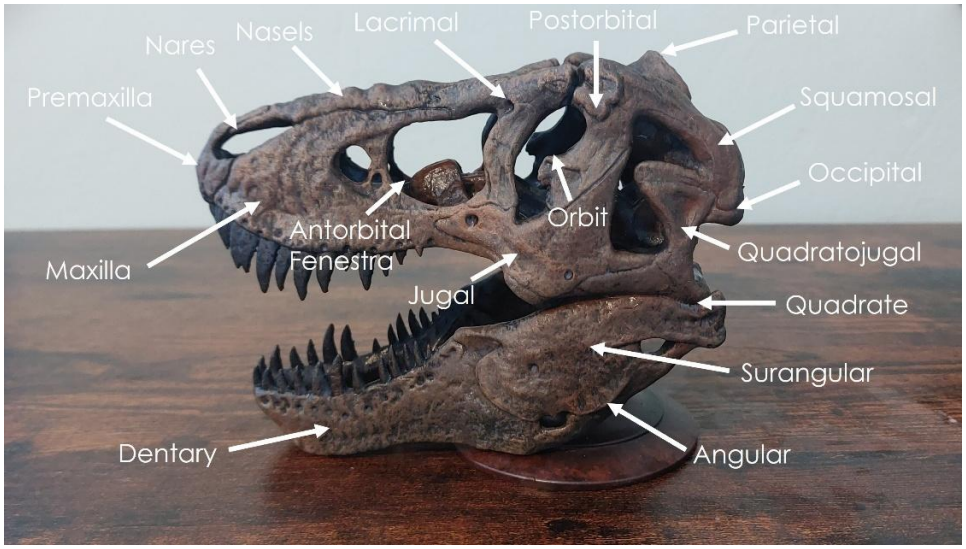


Dinosaur Accuracy Audit™ Certification

Palaeontological Diagramming & Anatomical Accuracy

Clear scientifically grounded anatomical diagrams are a core part of my consultancy work. These visuals support artists, model makers, writers, and production teams by providing accurate reference points for dinosaur anatomy, posture, and morphology.

Selected Example: Labelled *Tyrannosaurus rex* skull (cast)



An anatomical reference diagram used in consultancy for model makers, artists, and production teams.

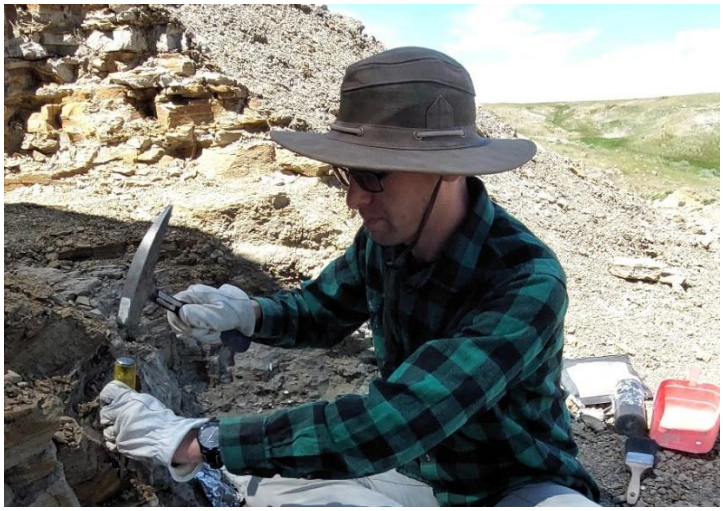
What You Get

Every project receives clear, actionable scientific guidance tailored to its needs.

I provide:

- Annotated notes
- Written palaeontological feedback
- Consultation calls
- Ongoing scientific support for longer or evolving productions

These deliverables ensure your project stays scientifically accurate, narratively strong, and production-ready.



My experience spans fossil excavation in Montana to shaping science communication. My consultancy bridges research and storytelling.

Why Clients Work With Me

Clients choose to work with me because I bring:

- **Research-driven insight** — Every project is grounded in up-to-date palaeontological evidence
- **Clear communication** — Complex science becomes accessible, engaging, and audience-appropriate
- **Creative collaboration** — I work seamlessly with producers, artists, writers, and educators, and provide scientific guidance for fabrication and SFX teams when needed
- **Versatility** — Experience across TV, YouTube, publishing, and science communication, with consultancy also available for exhibitions, animatronics, and themed attractions
- **Reliability** — Consistent delivery, professional communication, and attention to detail

Who I Work With

Media engagement includes ABC Radio National's *The Science Show*, *The Times*, BBC Radio Wiltshire, and *ConnectSci News*. I collaborate with researchers, content creators, educators, and production teams across leading science organisations and media platforms, including:

- TV and documentary producers

- Game studios
- Publishers and editors
- YouTube creators
- Heritage and science organisations
- Podcast teams
- Magazine editors
- Museums, exhibit designers, and model makers
- Theme-park attraction developers and fabrication/SFX teams

Select Past Projects

Recent collaborations include:

- ***Horrible Science* (Lion TV, CBBC)** — Fact-checking and evolutionary context for dinosaur-themed episodes
- **Jurassic Coast Trust** — Interview features and outreach on local palaeontology
- **Kennedy Publishing** — Guest interview for *Dinosaur Action Magazine*, inspiring families with accessible dinosaur science



Interview feature in Jurassic Coast Trust Time to Inspire Magazine.

Case Study Snapshot

Horrible Science – Lion TV (CBBC, 2025)

Role: Scientific Consultant

Provided palaeontological insight to support natural history storytelling. Helped shape accurate, engaging explanations for a young audience and ensured scientific clarity throughout production.

Example Scientific Explanation Provided

▌While non-avian dinosaurs went extinct sixty-six million years ago, their avian relatives survived and flourished. Today, more than 11,000 species of bird live across the globe, making them one of the most successful animal groups on the planet.

Outcome: Enabled producers to confidently present accurate prehistoric content in a major children's TV series.



YouTube Consulting – Klayton Fioriti

Role: Scientific Consultant

Delivered rapid, evidence-based insight on dinosaur anatomy, behaviour, and ecological context to support high-reach educational YouTube content. Advised on anatomical accuracy, display structures, and plausible behaviours to strengthen both visual and narrative clarity.

Example Scientific Clarification Provided

▌The Dominion *Parasaurolophus* is noticeably less shrink-wrapped than earlier film versions. The skin sits more naturally over the skull, with fuller musculature around the jugal and cheek region and a more clearly defined keratin beak. The neck is thicker, and the most significant change is the crest, which is shown

covered in soft tissue rather than exposed bone as in previous *Jurassic Park* interpretations.

Outcome: Enabled the creator to deliver scientifically grounded, engaging videos to a global audience, enhancing viewer trust and elevating the educational value of the channel's prehistoric storytelling.

Branding & Visual Accuracy – Shirin Sheppard (*The Palaeo Minute*)

Role: Palaeontological Advisor

Collaborated with a palaeoartist to develop a scientifically informed dinosaur logo. Provided guidance on anatomical features and design choices to ensure the final artwork reflected current palaeontological understanding and the intended creative vision.

Outcome: Produced a visually striking, scientifically credible logo that strengthened the brand identity of *The Palaeo Minute* and resonated with both general audiences and palaeontology enthusiasts.



Logo commissioned by Shirin Sheppard.

Online Science Communication – Viral Dinosaur Behaviour Analysis (2026)

Role: Science Communicator

Impact: 3.8M views, 300+ comments

Delivered an evidence-based critique of *Spinosaurus* behaviour in *Jurassic World: Rebirth*, sparking widespread public discussion and leading to a full published breakdown.

Outcome: Demonstrated high-reach public engagement, scientific clarity, and ability to translate palaeontology for mass audiences.



Testimonial

"It was really great for our organisation to have James. James was always willing and extremely capable of writing clear, insightful pieces for us, for our blog and magazine." — **Lauren Sewell, Jurassic Coast Trust**

Consultancy Fees

My consultancy rates reflect the specialist expertise required to ensure scientific accuracy, clear communication, and high-quality outputs tailored to each project.

Minimum project fee: £3,000

This applies to all consultancy work and covers project onboarding, preparation, and the initial scientific review, ensuring your project begins with a clear, accurate scientific foundation before full consultancy work begins.

Film and television projects requiring formal contracts begin at £6,000.

Major museum, theme park projects and exhibitions begin at £10,000.

This minimum fee covers contract review, onboarding, and early consultation specific to production and large-scale institutional workflows.

Dinosaur Accuracy Audits: separate fee

Dinosaur Accuracy Audits can be commissioned independently for museum exhibits, travelling exhibitions, theme park attractions, and animatronic projects, or as part of consultancy work. They carry a **separate fee** beyond the £10,000 minimum project fee. Because the audit requires an in-person visit, on-site days, travel, accommodation, and related expenses are charged in addition to the audit fee.

The Dinosaur Accuracy Audit fee is not publicly listed and it is quoted privately on a per-project basis following review of the scope you provide during onboarding and the initial scientific review. The fee is issued in writing and must be agreed before any on-site work is scheduled.

Dinosaur Accuracy Audits apply only to physical attractions and animatronic projects, not to video-game environments or assets.

Video Game Projects: typically £6,000+

Video-game projects vary widely in scope, but many require deeper scientific integration and therefore often fall into the £6,000+ range.

I work on an hourly basis after the minimum project fee, with rates depending on project type and complexity. Once I understand your project's aims and requirements, I provide a clear estimate of the time involved and transparent pricing. Full project onboarding, contract alignment, and the initial scientific review are all covered by the minimum project fee and completed before full consultancy work begins.

Next Steps

If your project needs clear research-driven palaeontological insight, I would be delighted to collaborate. Whether you are developing a documentary, crafting a game world, producing digital content, shaping a science-focused publication, or creating accurate dinosaur models, exhibits, or themed attractions, I can help ensure your prehistoric storytelling is scientifically grounded, engaging, and production-ready.

Contact

If you would like to discuss your project, I would be delighted to hear from you. I typically respond within **2–3 working days**.

Location: UK based, working with clients worldwide

Website: James-Ronan.co.uk

Instagram: @discoverlostworlds

General Project Enquiries: Via the contact form on my website

Dinosaur Accuracy Audit Enquiries: Via the dedicated Audit enquiry form

Email: James-Ronan@outlook.com



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