



# Dinosaurs Alive in African Congo?

## Mokele Mbembe

Mokele Mbembe may be the most famous of the African dinosaurs, thanks to some recent attention from shows like *Destination Truth*. It lives in the Congo River basin, eats vegetation but is extremely dangerous because of its territorial tendencies. It will attack humans if they come too close, and is known to kill Hippos if they invade its territory.

Witnesses describe Mokele Mbembe as having a large, heavy body like an elephant, but with a very long neck and tail. To some researchers, this sounds an awful lot like a **sauropod** dinosaur.

Sauropods grew to massive sizes, some possibly 200 feet in length. But even a small sauropod would be relatively huge compared to modern animals

## Mbielu-mbielu-mbielu

This fearsome creature is found in the Republic of Congo in the Likouala Region. Witnesses say Mbielu-mbielu-mbielu is a herbivore with large, jagged planks on its back.

The jagged back makes it sound to some like an extremely huge crocodile, or even a new species of crocodile.

But crocodiles certainly aren't herbivores, which makes some researchers consider that Mbielu-mbielu-mbielu may be of a family of dinosaur called a stegosaur. **Stegosaurs** were large, plant-eating dinosaurs with small heads, bony plates on their backs and spiked tails.

Stegosaurus is the most well-known of these dinosaurs, but there were other species. Researchers think this one could have adapted to aquatic conditions and made its home in the rivers and lakes of the Congo.

## **Emela-ntouka**

Another legendary living dinosaur is Emela-ntouka, known to the Pygmy tribes in Central Africa. With a name that means “killer of elephants”, this is a formidable beast that the Pygmies give a wide berth. Like Mokele Mbembe and most of the others it is said to be an aquatic creature, comparable in size and stature to a rhinoceros. However, there are no known species of rhino in that part of Africa matching the one-horned description.

Some believe Emela-ntouka may be a type of ceratopsian dinosaur, related to the well-known **Triceratops**. The horn on the animal’s face, its squat body and long tail seem more indicative of such a dinosaur rather than a mammal, or even a new species of rhino.

## **Ngoubou**

One of the few non-aquatic living dinosaurs, Ngoubou is said to live in the savannah region of Cameroon. It’s described as a smaller version of a rhinoceros with multiple horns and a frill around its neck. It also has a violent temper and will charge anything that comes near, including African Elephants which are much larger animals.

To many cryptozoologists it sounds like another ceretopsian dinosaur, this one of a different species than Emela-ntouka. The **neck frill with the horns** on it makes this creature especially hard to identify as any known, living animal.