

*Go-Along Page 3***Focus!**

Cross out any facts or details that do not clearly support this thesis statement:  
The discovery of the Titanosaur was a major dig with scientific significance to paleontologists.

1. The discovery took place in Patagonia, Argentina.
2. Patagonia, Argentina, is 6,068 miles from Denver, CO.
3. Paleontologists study plants and animals from the past.
4. Geologists study rocks. Zoologists study modern-day animals and habitats.
5. Dinosaur bones are fossils and heavy like rocks, but also very delicate.
6. There are three kinds of rocks: igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary.
7. I'm not sure what kind of rock went through my neighbor's window, but I got blamed.
8. Power tools and other more delicate tools, such as dental picks and brushes, helped chip away at the bones until they were free from the natural rock.
9. The femur is a good measure of how big the dinosaur once was, and this one was huge.
10. In humans, the femur also connects the pelvis to the knee.
11. Titanosaurs were large, plant-eating dinosaurs that walked on four legs and had long tails and necks and tiny heads.
12. There are three types of dinosaurs: carnivores (meat-eating), herbivores (plant-eating), and omnivores (meat- and plant-eating).
13. People are omnivores, except my sister Terri who is an herbivore.
14. Different types of dinosaurs lived at different times in history.
15. It took more than 20 people over a month to dig up the Titanosaur.
16. The massive vertebrae all fit together to reveal the size of the dinosaur.
17. It was 70 tons, or about the weight of 10 African elephants.
18. The team uncovered more than 100 bones from seven different dinosaurs in that one plot of land.
19. Covering the bones in plaster allowed them to be transported safely to the museum.
20. Once I broke my arm, so I know what plaster casts feel like.
21. The Titanosaur's long neck allowed it to sweep from side to side and eat from several trees at once. This dinosaur's neck may have been longer than a school bus.
22. Wouldn't it be funny to see a dinosaur on a school bus?
23. Dinosaur teeth are harder than skull bones, and the ones they found showed the Titanosaur had facets, or indentations to cut branches and leaves.
24. After many long weeks and much hard work, it was time to wrap up the dig.
25. A crane lifted the bones onto the truck, and the 100 million year-old bones were off to their new museum home.