

thought to have been the ancestors of the mammals.

About 200 million years ago, the Age of the Dinosaurs began. They established a dynasty that ruled the land, the sea, and the air for the next 140 million years. They are present in the fossil record in virtually all shapes and sizes. Some ate vegetation exclusively (*herbivorous*), others were *carnivorous* and preyed on their *herbivorous*

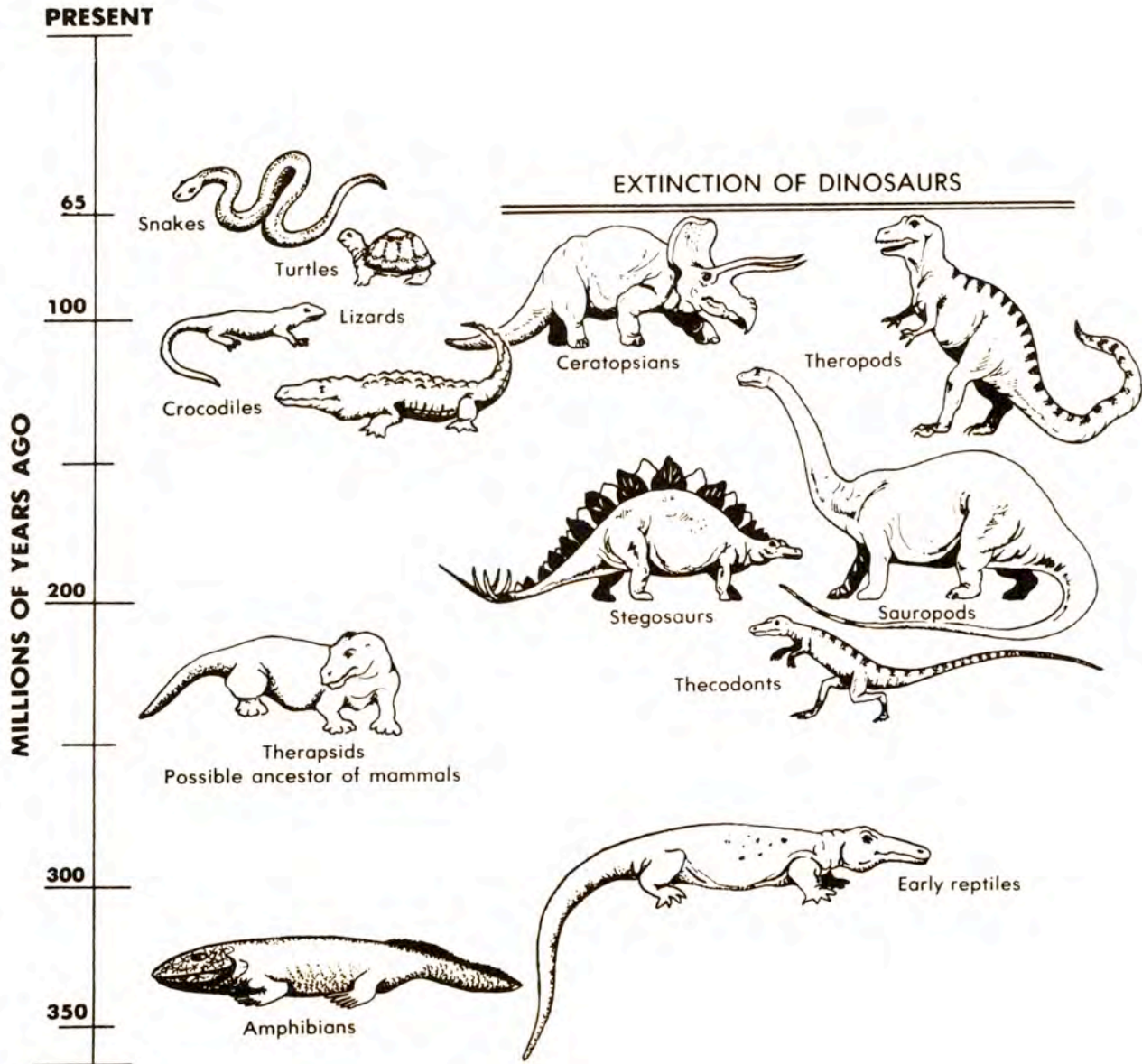


Figure 9.9 Reptiles on the Land