Age of mammals Present to 63 million years ago Modern birds Bambiraptor **Cretaceous** 63 million to 135 million years ago Raptors Archaeopteryx Allosaurs **Jurassic** 135 million to 180 million years ago Birds Dilophosaurs **Triassic**

Illustration by Robert T. Bakker and Pat Redman

Bambi's family tree

180 million to 230 million

years ago

This illustration shows how modern birds descended from dinosaurs. New discoveries suggest that bambiraptor's family, the dromaeosaurids, goes back to the late Jurassic when the first bird, archaeopteryx, appeared.

Crocodilians