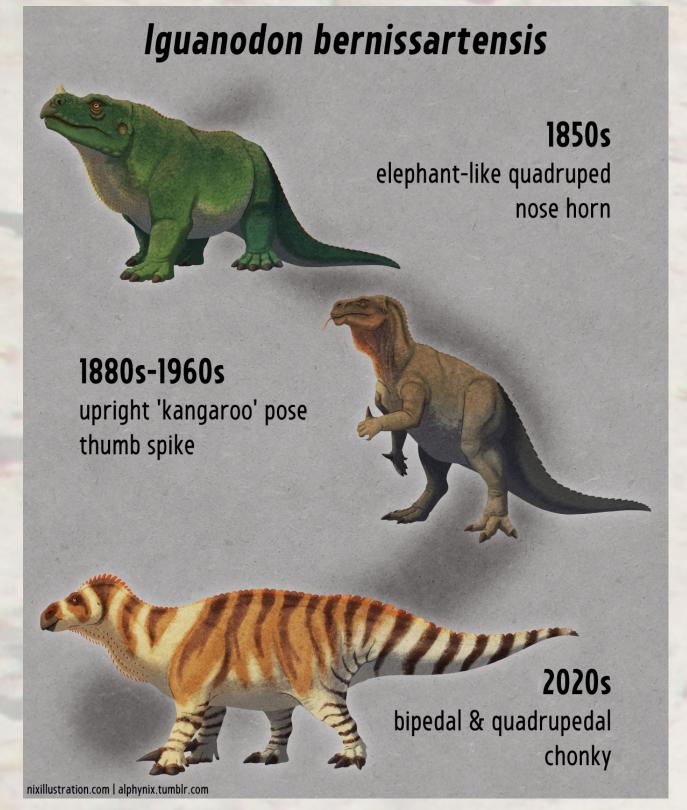
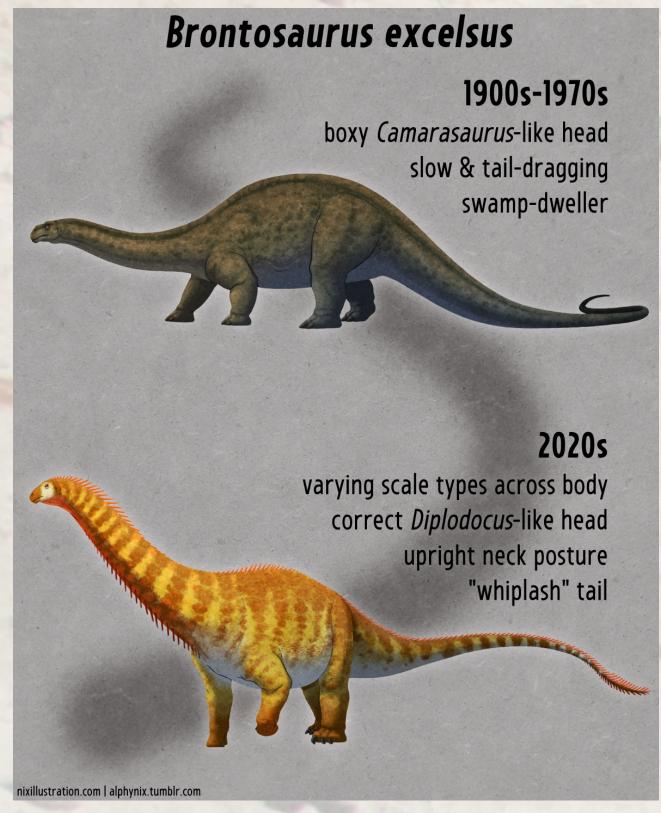
DINOSAURS: RETRO VS MODERN

Paleontological Society of Austin

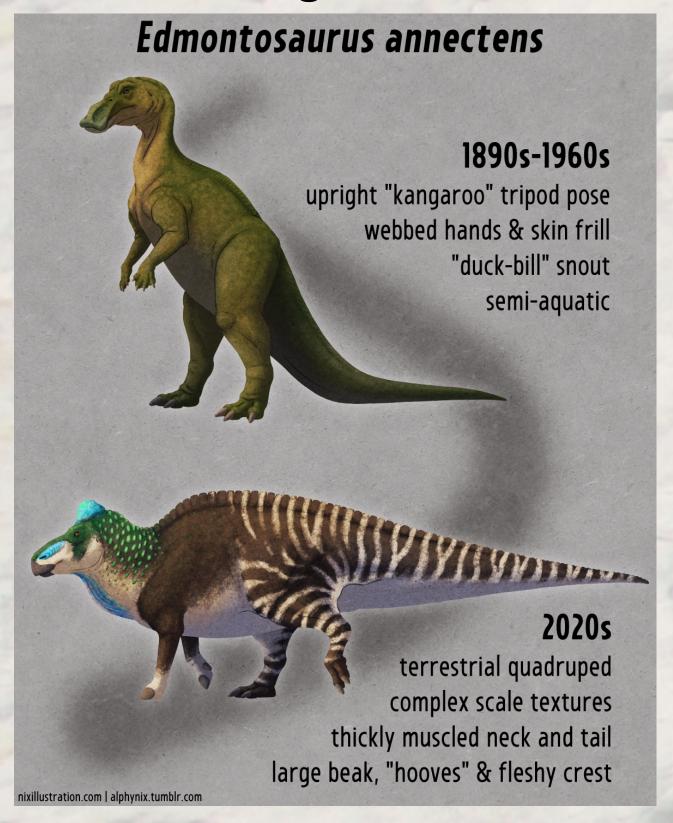
- 1820 1890 Fragmentary fossils recognized as belonging to an ancient "great lizard".
- A number of iconic dinosaurs were discovered.
- Teeth like modern reptiles & large size led to reconstructions as bulky, lizard-like creatures.
- Giant sauropods were depicted with thick elephant-like legs and a long dragging tails.
- The first Stegosaurus reconstructions were based on partial material.

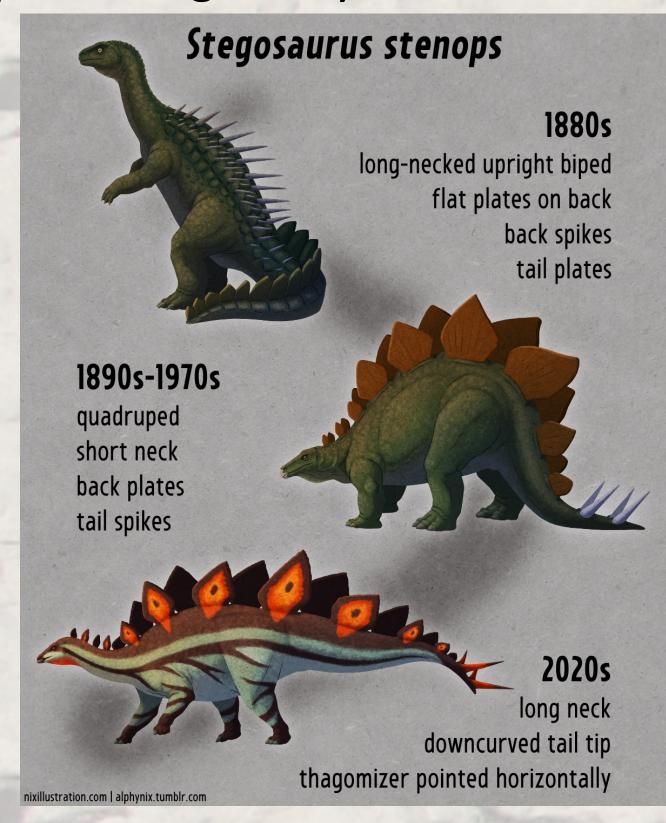


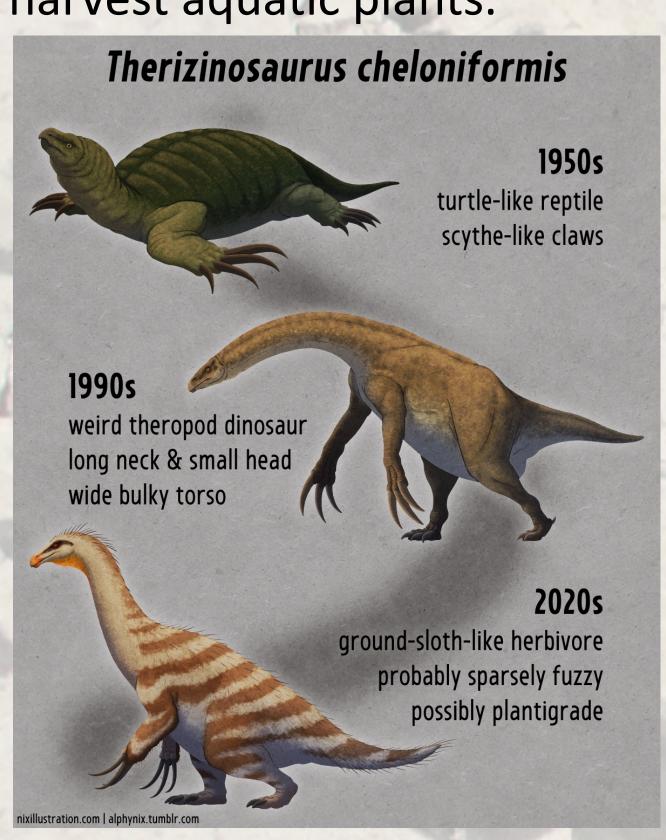




- **1860s 1970** *Archaeopteryx* first accepted as a link between dinosaurs and birds. This view didn't last. Early 20th century opinion shifted towards birds not being dinosaurs.
- Iguanodon was now seen as bipedal, upright, with tail behind acting like a tripod.
- Stegosaurus got the plates properly upright on the back and the spikes at the end of the tail.
- Therizinosaurus described based on fragments of unusually large and elongated claws. Seen as a giant turtle-like reptile using its scythe-like claws to harvest aquatic plants.







- 1970 2020: The discovery of bird-like *Deinonychus* kicked off a Dinosaur Renaissance.
- Dinosaur-bird link confirmed by spectacularly feathered fossils from China in mid-1990s
- Sauropods dragged out of the swamps and onto dry land, long tails held up off the ground.
- Iguanodon's body horizontal. New finds show their necks and tails thickly muscled & chunky.
 Instead of "duckbill" they actually had large hooked beaks covering their snouts.
- A near-complete *S. stenops* revealed that *Stegosaurus*' proportions had been wrong. Previous reconstructions had been put together from multiple different sized individuals.

URL: https://nixillustration.com/?s=retro