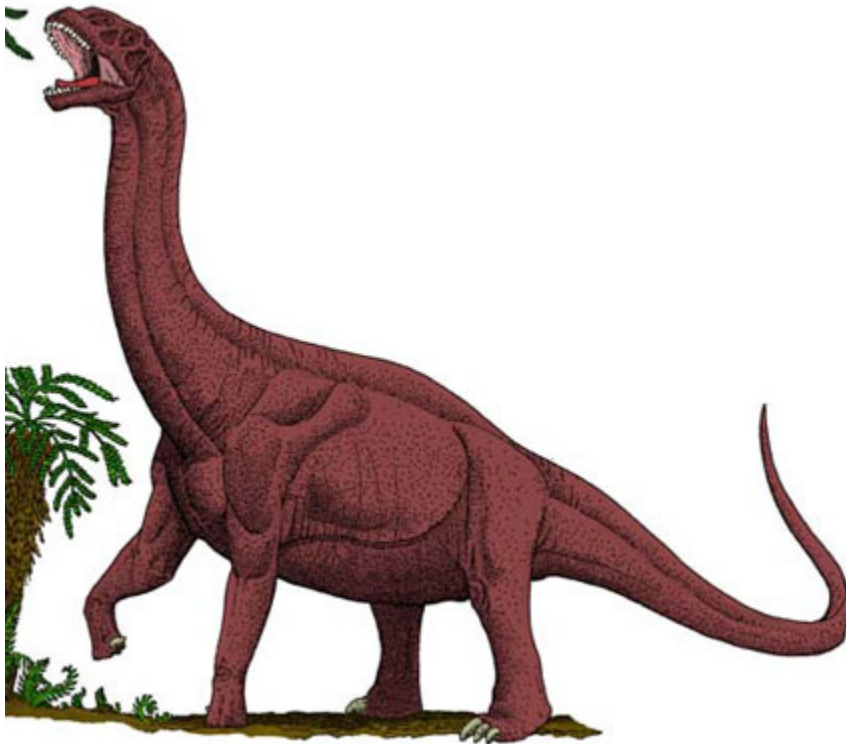
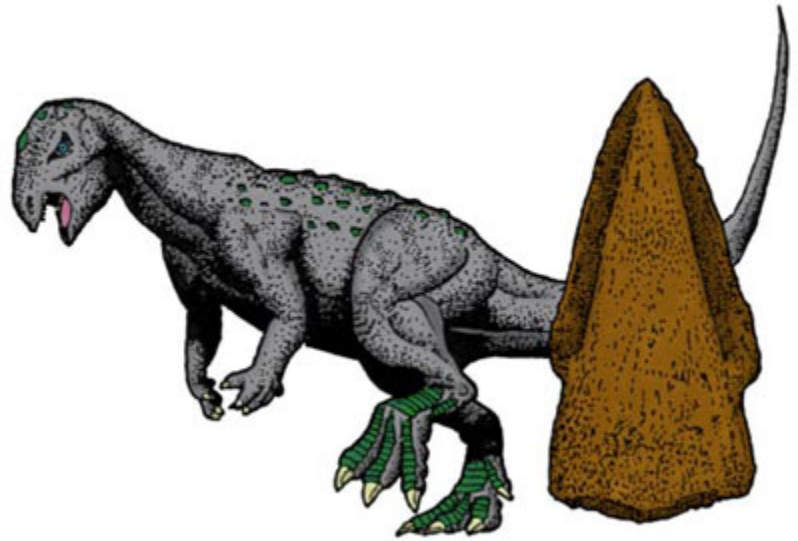


What color were dinosaurs?

Nobody knows. Dinosaur artists just have to guess. It seems likely that many species had camouflage patterns to help them hide, as many reptiles do today, but there's no way to tell for sure.

One dinosaur, *Edmontosaurus*, was found with fossilized impressions that revealed what the texture of the animal's skin was like. These showed that



Edmontosaurus was covered all over with a mosaic of flat, non-overlapping scales. Most of these were about the size of a human fingernail, but here and there were rosettes of larger scales, each one about the diameter of a nickel. Could these be indicative of a color pattern? Was *Edmontosaurus* covered with leopard spots? Possibly! It's a long shot, but it's the only lead we have.

