



# MEET THE STEGOSAURUS!



("Roofed Lizard in Greek")

PRECAMBRIAN	HADEAN EON	4,600	
	ACHEAN EON		
	PROTEROZOIC EON		
PALEOZOIC	CAMBRIAN	570	
	ORDOVICIAN	500	
	SILURIAN		
	DEVONIAN	430	
	CARBONIFEROUS	395	
	PERMIAN	345	
		280	
MESOZOIC	TRIASSIC	225	
	JURASSIC	190	
	CRETACEOUS	135	
CENOZOIC	TERTIARY	PALEOCENE	65
		EOCENE	53
		OLIGOCENE	37
		MIOCENE	26
		PLIOCENE	12
		PLEISTOCENE	2
		HOLOCENE	0
		ERA	PERIOD



Decked with 17 broad bony plates called scutes (+/- 60cm (2ft) tall and 60cm (2ft) wide for the largest) from its neck to the tail which were part of its skin. They were mostly used for thermoregulation.

Huge ribcage hangs from spine. Herbivorous with diet of ferns, low shrubs, mosses, cycads, fruits and conifers. Ate rocks to grind its food like birds do.

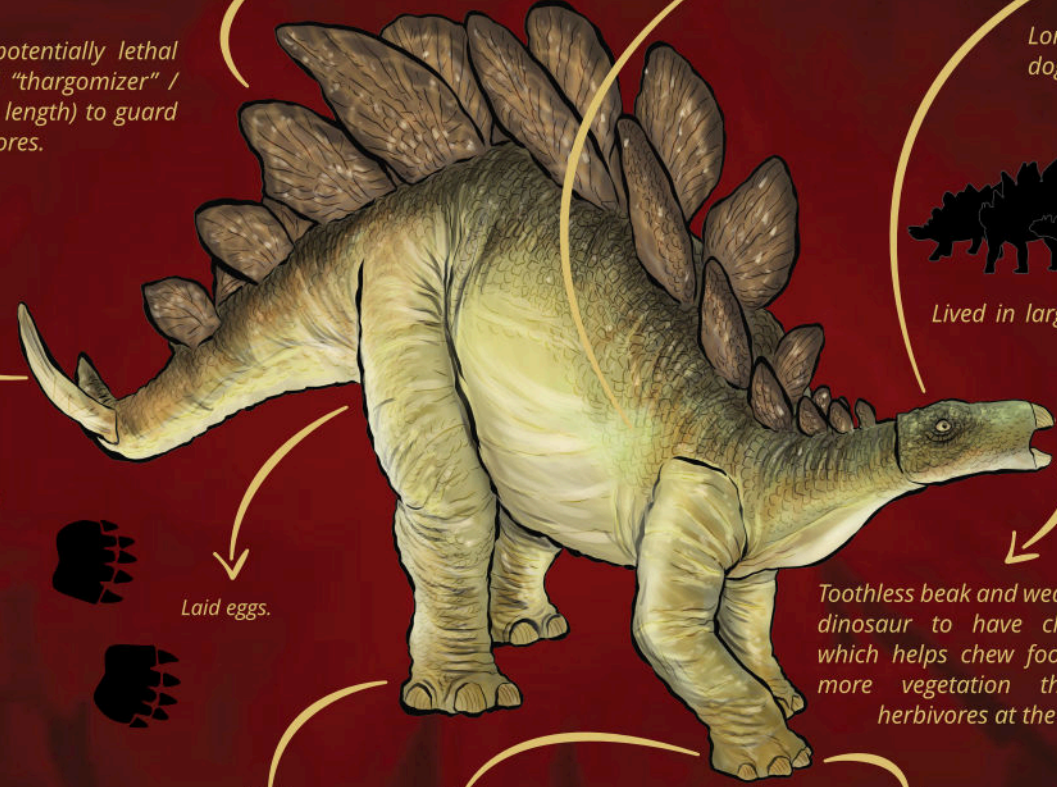


Long and narrow head with tiny brain the size of a dog but sufficiently clever to survive millions of years in such a tough environment.

Long stiff tail with four potentially lethal dermal spikes (nicknamed "thagomizer" / 60cm (2ft) to 90cm (3ft) in length) to guard against carnivores.



Lived in large herds for better protection with an unknown social system.



Roamed the plains and woodlands of North America, Europe, Africa and China during the late Jurassic period, 155-144 million years ago.

Laid eggs.

Hind legs longer than front legs to nibble the plants closest to the ground.

Toothless beak and weak jaw. First dinosaur to have cheek teeth which helps chew food and eat more vegetation than other herbivores at the time.

Hoof-like claws on toes.



Length: 9 meters (30ft)  
Height: 4 meters (14ft)  
Weight: 2 to 5 metric tons  
Speed: 7kph (5mph)

Discovered in 1877 in Colorado, USA, by Othniel Marsh who found 135 other dinosaurs including the Triceratops and the Diplodocus. Cousin of the Ankylosaurus, it lived during the same time period of Diplodocus and Brachiosaurus. It never met any Tyrannosaurus Rex, as they only appeared 80 million years later, but it had to defend itself from Allosaurus and Ceratosaurus. It is the official state dinosaur of the US state of Colorado