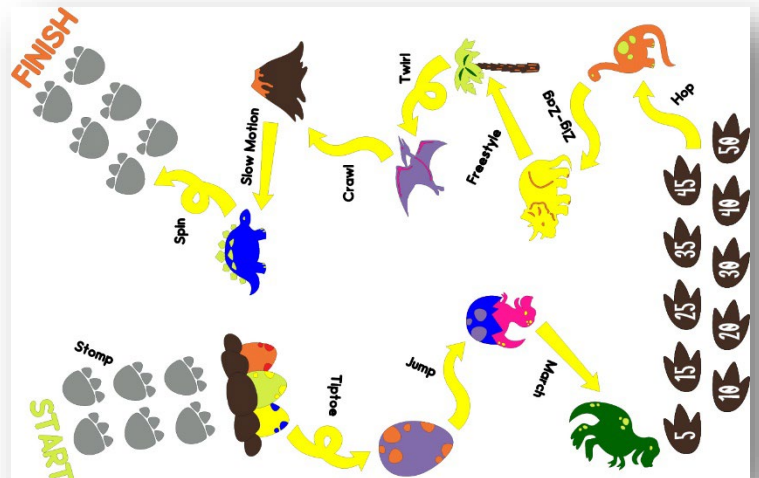


# Sensory Path Activity

## DINOSAUR DISCOVERY



## Introduction:

Create an interactive, dinosaur-themed sensory path for your school. This educational path will give students an engaging way to learn while moving.

There are multiple aspects to this path. You can choose to incorporate the parts that work for best for your students and school. While moving, students will have the opportunity to practice fluency and learn facts about dinosaurs.

**Activity Focus:** Interactive Dinosaur Discovery

**Age & Skill Range:** Grades K-3 and Special Education

## Materials/Lesson Preparation:

- Cut out shapes for the Dinosaur Sensory Path (made easy with the **VariQuest Cutout Maker 1800**, **Engage Every Learner® Content** and VariQuest Vinyl material)  
*\*Dinosaur shapes and words available to print and cut by hand in the printables section of this lesson*
- Print the Story Cards, page 3, to work on reading fluency (save precious time using the **VariQuest Motiva® 400 Specialty Printer** and an assortment of prehistoric-themed templates)
- Print a set of Direction Cards, page 4, for student movement along the path (consider the Motiva and a variety of colorful templates in the Engage Every Learner Content to make this task effortless)
- Create and print Dinosaur Facts, pages 5 & 6, for a Write the Room activity (made easy with the Motiva and an assortment of sticker and card templates)
- Print the *All About* graphic organizer, found in the printables section, to poster size for an extension to this lesson (save both time and resources with the **VariQuest Perfecta® STP Series Poster Design System** equipped with a built-in scanner giving the ability to copy and enlarge any document in minutes!)

**VARIQUEST® CUSTOMERS**  
download the entire *Dinosaur Sensory Path Collection* at the *VariQuest Resource Center* for **FREE!**



- Print copies of the *I Spy Game* (printables section) for a lesson modification

## Creating and Implementing Your Dinosaur Path:

Use the printed story cards to work on reading fluency while students wait for their turn through the Dinosaur Sensory Path.

### Story Cards Options-

**Card #1:** Do you want to be a paleontologist when you grow up? It sounds like an exciting job if you like to explore. Do you know what a paleontologist does? They study fossils to help them learn about the past. Some paleontologists study dinosaur bones. If you discovered a new dinosaur, what would you name it?

**Card #2:** Dinosaurs are an extinct group of reptiles that lived many millions of years ago. Did you know that birds living today are a type of dinosaur? They are descendants of carnivorous dinosaurs like the Tyrannosaurus Rex. Do you know how the dinosaurs we read about, and birds, are similar?

**Card #3:** Do you have a favorite type of dinosaur? There are so many to study and learn about! Some dinosaurs walked on two legs and others walked on four legs. There are even dinosaurs that could fly. Carnivorous dinosaurs ate meat, but most dinosaurs were herbivores or plant-eaters. Can you read about other ways dinosaurs were different from each other?



**VARIQUEST CUSTOMERS** *can find these colorful, pre-historic card templates on the VariQuest Resource Center for FREE – Ideal when printed from the Motiva!*

### Direction Card Options-

Have students read the cards and follow the directions to travel along the path. Of course, you can also give your students the option to make their own movements between each dinosaur object.

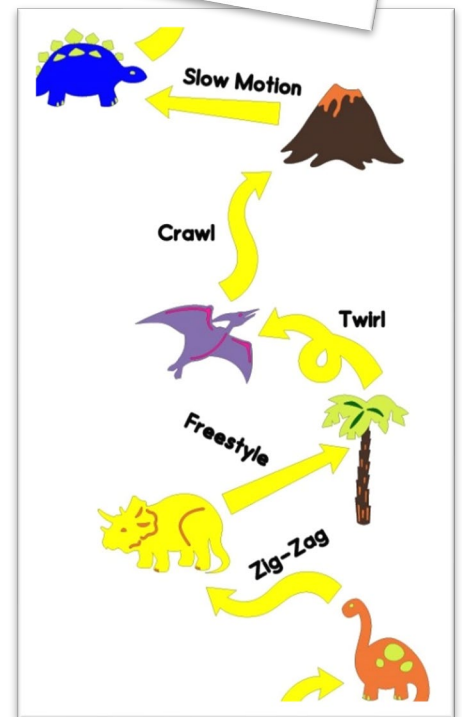
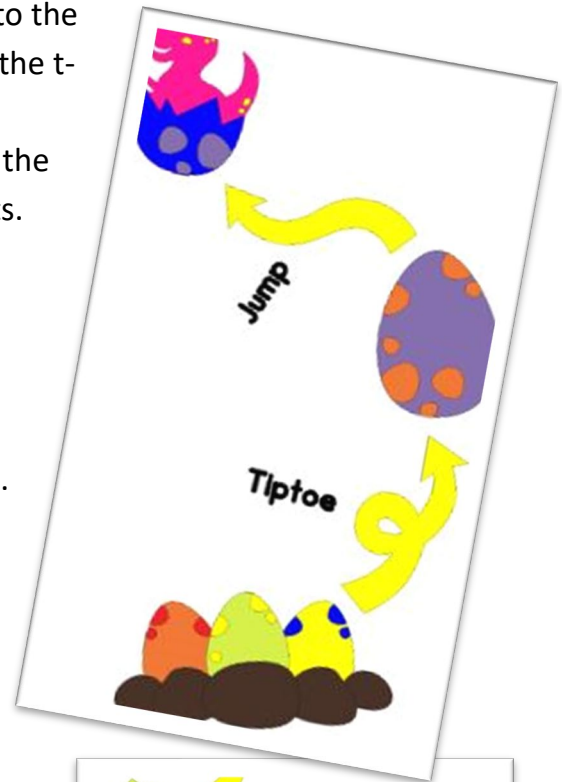
**Card #1:** Start at the beginning and stomp to the nest. Spin to the egg that fell out. Tiptoe to the hatching dinosaur. Zig zag to the t-rex. Count by 5s to get to the brontosaurus. Twirl to the triceratops. Hop to the tree. Crawl to pterodactyl. March to the volcano. Jump to the stegosaurus and climb to the footprints. High five to the finish.

**Card #2:** Start at the beginning and hop to the nest. Wobble to the egg. Balance to the dinosaur hatching. Swim to the t-rex. Count by 10s to get to the brontosaurus. Skip to the triceratops. High knees to the tree. Squat to the pterodactyl. Climb to the volcano. Tiptoe to the stegosaurus. Sidestep to the footprints. Stomp to the finish.

**Card #3:** Start at the beginning and crab crawl to the nest. March to the egg. Jump to the dinosaur hatching. Spin to the t-rex. Count by 2s to get to the brontosaurus. Tiptoe to the triceratops. Jump to the tree. Kick to the pterodactyl. Swim to the volcano. Spiral to the stegosaurus. Skip to the footprints. High-five hands to the finish.

**Card #4:** Start at the beginning and high knees to the nest. Toe touch to the egg. Spin to the dinosaur hatching. Climb to the t-rex. Count by 6s to get to the brontosaurus. Balance to the triceratops. Skip to the tree. Crab crawl to the pterodactyl. Hop to the volcano. March to the stegosaurus. Touch your head to the footprints. Stop to the finish.

\*Counting by 5s, 10s and 2s can be modified for any number – for third grade students, this might be part of multiplication fact practice. For example, have students count by 7s to practice their 7s multiplication facts.



### Sensory Path Instructions-

Begin by assembling the dinosaur shapes in an area of your school building with adequate space to bring your sensory path to life. *(Note: When using VariQuest vinyl material, it is recommended to wax the floor after the vinyl is in place to prevent slipping)*

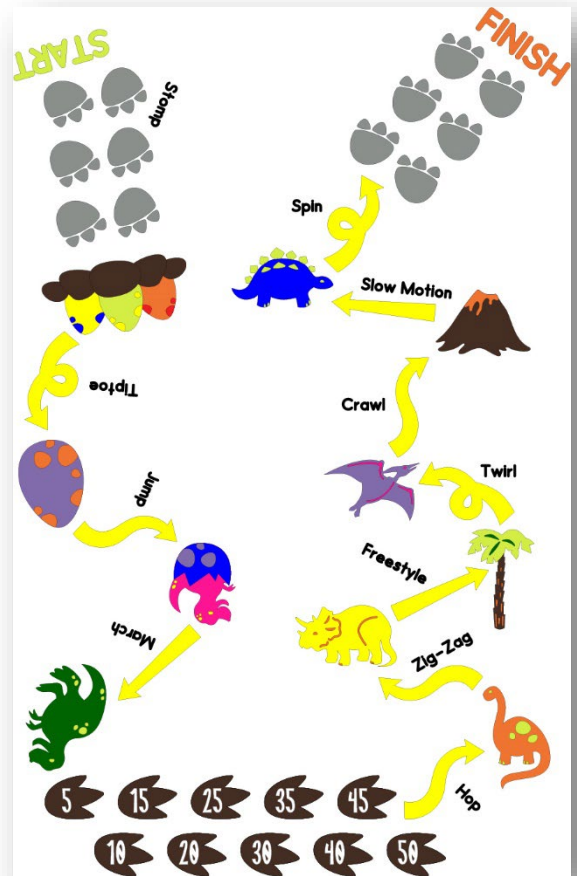
Be sure to assemble the path in a way that works best for your space and your students, or simply follow the diagram pictured here.

Once students complete their dinosaur discovery, have them work in pairs to complete the Write the Room activity to learn more about these prehistoric reptiles.

### Write the Room Activity:

### Dinosaur Facts-

- Dinosaurs lived on the earth for 160 million years. People have only been here for 2.5 million years.
- Dinosaurs once lived on every continent.
- Some dinosaurs had tails that were over 45 feet long! A long tail would help a dinosaur stay balanced while running.
- The largest dinosaur eggs were as big as basketballs!
- Most meat eaters walked on two feet. Walking on two feet meant they could walk faster and use their arms to grab their prey.
- Plant eaters often walked on all four feet. They had heavy bodies and needed all four feet to help them balance.
- All dinosaurs laid eggs. They would build nests and sometimes feed and protect their babies like birds do today.



- Mary Anning was a famous paleontologist who did not get the credit she earned while she was alive because she was a woman. Today she is recognized for all she accomplished.

### Write the Room Directions-

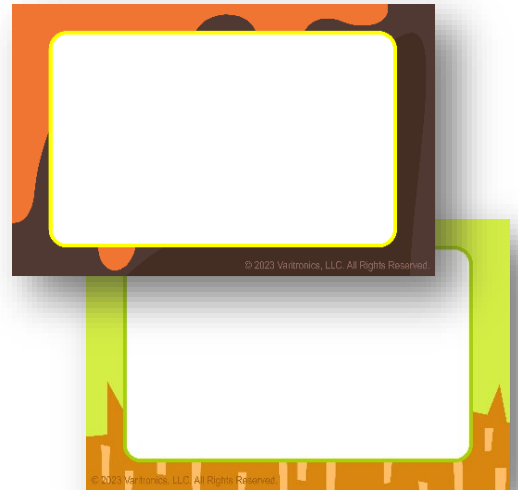
Set up a write the room activity in your classroom. This exercise is designed to help students learn more about dinosaurs while practicing their reading fluency.

Laminate your set of fact cards (made easy with the [VariQuest Cold Laminator](#)) and tape the cards around the room. Some teachers like to put the cards in obvious locations, while others like to add a 'hide and seek' element by tucking them away just a little.

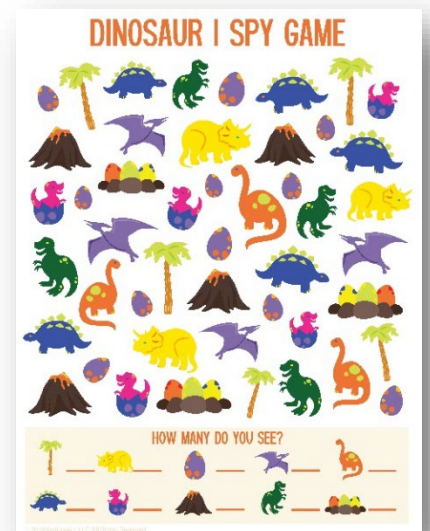
Provide students with *Write the Room* recording pages and hand them each a clipboard. Students will search the room to answer each fact on their worksheets.

### Modification for Special Ed Students:

- Help children activate schema. Look through books of dinosaurs. Have students list names of dinosaurs and share what they know.
- Review counting by 5s before students work on following the path. Count by 5s on the board from 5 through 50. You can then point to the numbers as students count aloud. Add actions to the counting. Students can hop, do jumping jacks and touch their toes while they count by 5.
- Play the *I Spy game* (great for any primary-aged student). Name an item on the sensory path. Have students go directly to that item. (i.e., I spy a blue dinosaur, can you find the blue dinosaur?)



**VARIQUEST CUSTOMERS**  
download the *Card templates* and  
*I Spy Game* from the *VariQuest*  
*Resource Center* and print using  
your *Motiva* and *Perfecta* printers!

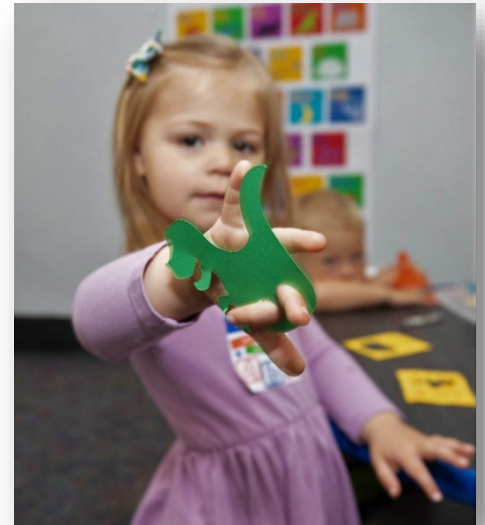




**Extension:**

- As an extension, students can read about a dinosaur of their choice. Have them complete the 'All About' graphic organizer. This might even become a planner for students to write their own dinosaur book during writing workshop.
- Bring your lesson to life by cutting out a variety of dinosaur-themed shapes and manipulatives for your students:
  - Hats & Headbands
  - Finger Puppets
  - Bookmarks
  - Bingo Cards
  - Nametags
  - Stencils (and more!)

Discover exciting possibilities with the [VariQuest Cutout Maker 1800](#), a digital die cut machine made exclusively for schools. Paired with the [Engage Every Learner® Content](#), there are thousands of shapes and manipulatives to choose from, including a variety of dinosaur cutouts – all of which can be safely laminated for added durability and cleanliness throughout the school year with the [VariQuest Cold Laminator 2510](#).



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# Dinosaur Discovery Printables

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Write the Room

Walk around the room to find the facts to answer the questions.

1. Most \_\_\_\_\_ dinosaurs walked on two feet.

Most \_\_\_\_\_ dinosaurs walked on four feet.

2. What did long tails on dinosaurs help them with?

3. What is the name of the famous paleontologist?

4. How big were dinosaur eggs?

5. How did dinosaurs protect their babies?

Name another animal that does this?

**6.** How long ago did dinosaurs live on this earth?

**7.** Who has been on this earth longer? Humans or dinosaurs?

**8.** Why did some dinosaurs walk on only two feet?

**9.** Why did some dinosaurs walk on all four feet?

**10.** Where did dinosaurs once live?

# ALL ABOUT DINOSAURS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dinosaur:

Looks like

Ate

Lived

Another interesting fact

# DINOSAUR I SPY GAME



HOW MANY DO YOU SEE?

	_____		_____		_____		_____		_____
	_____		_____		_____		_____		_____

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# Dinosaur Discovery Shapes and Words

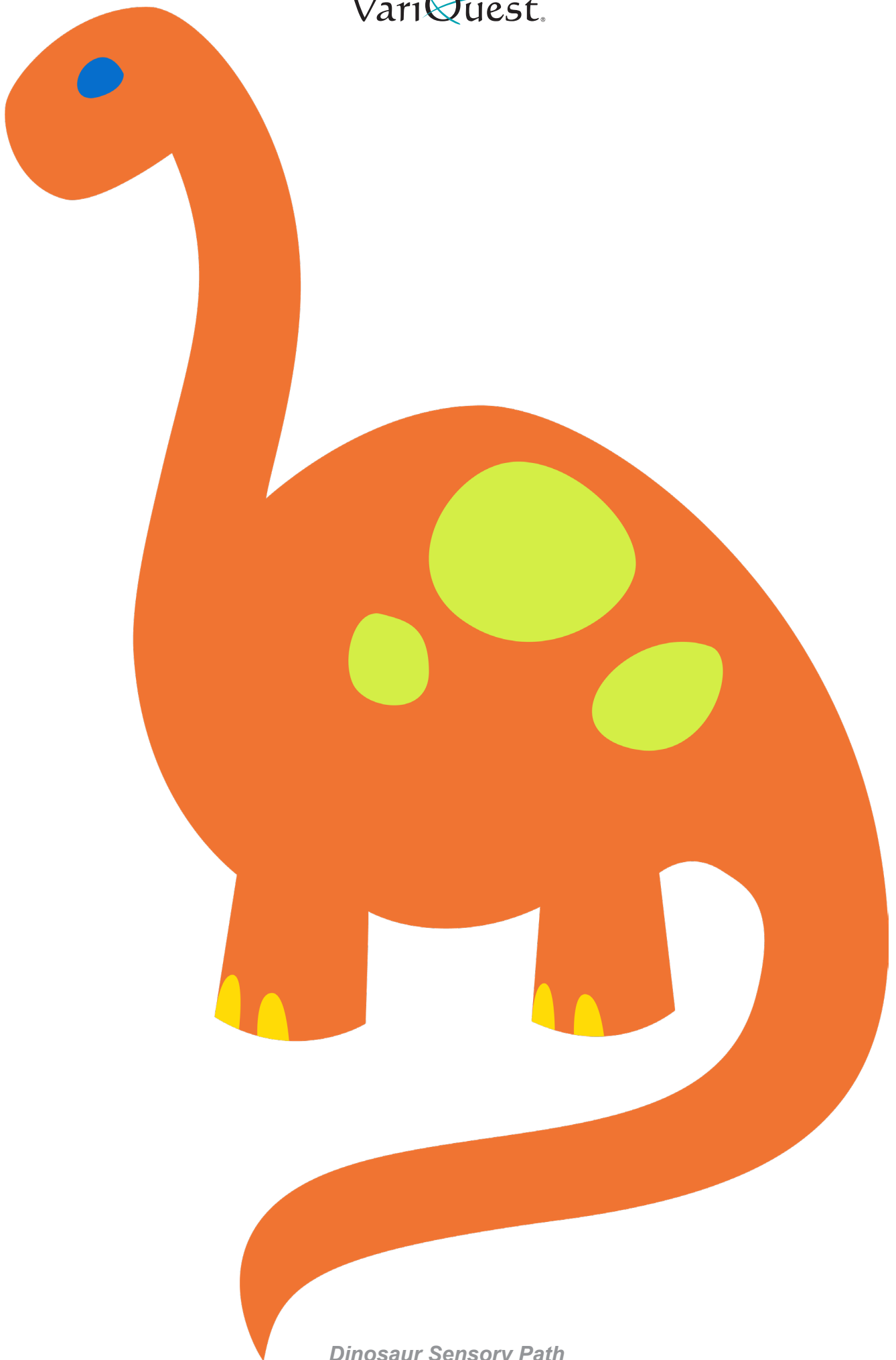
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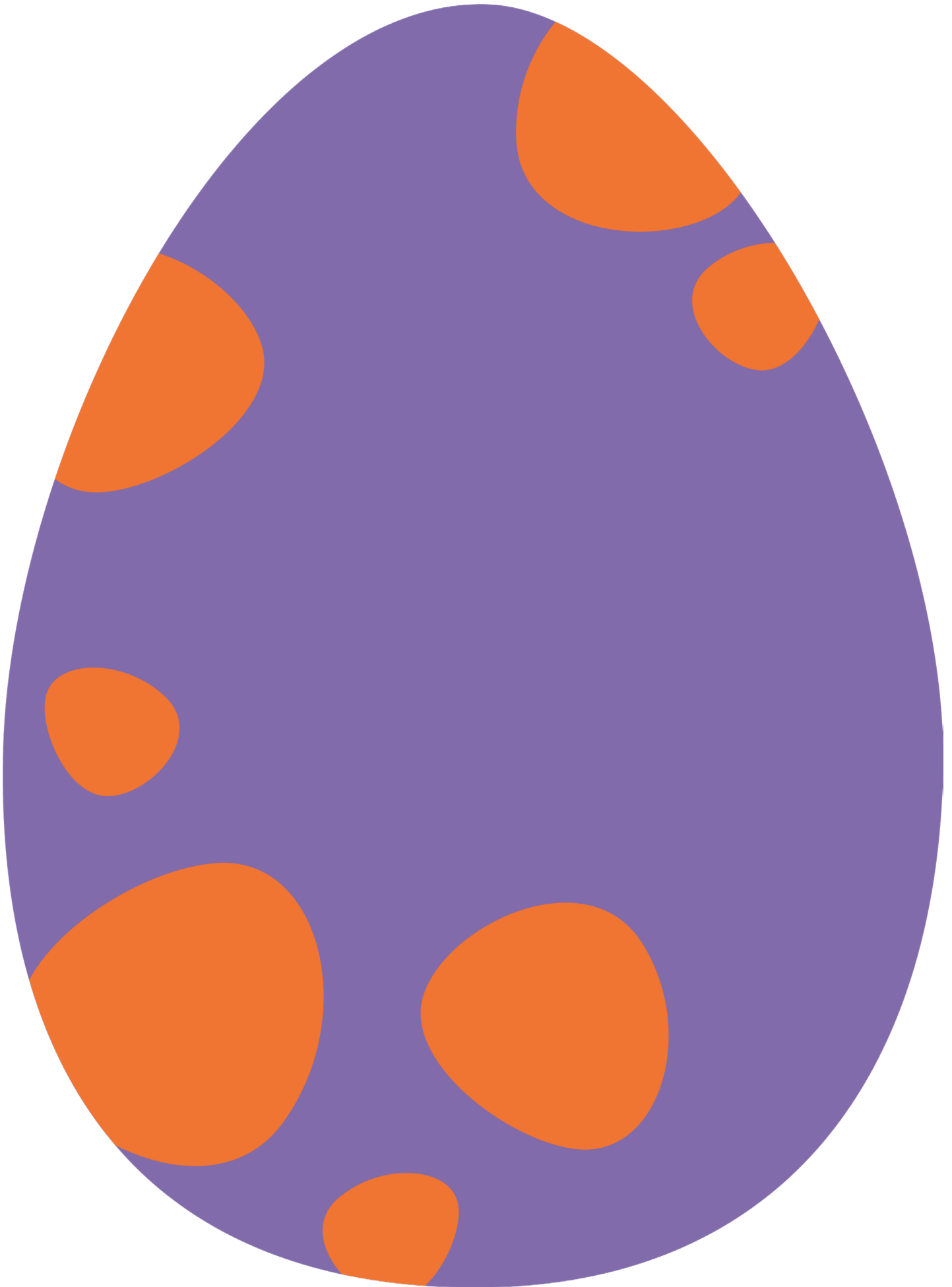
WASH

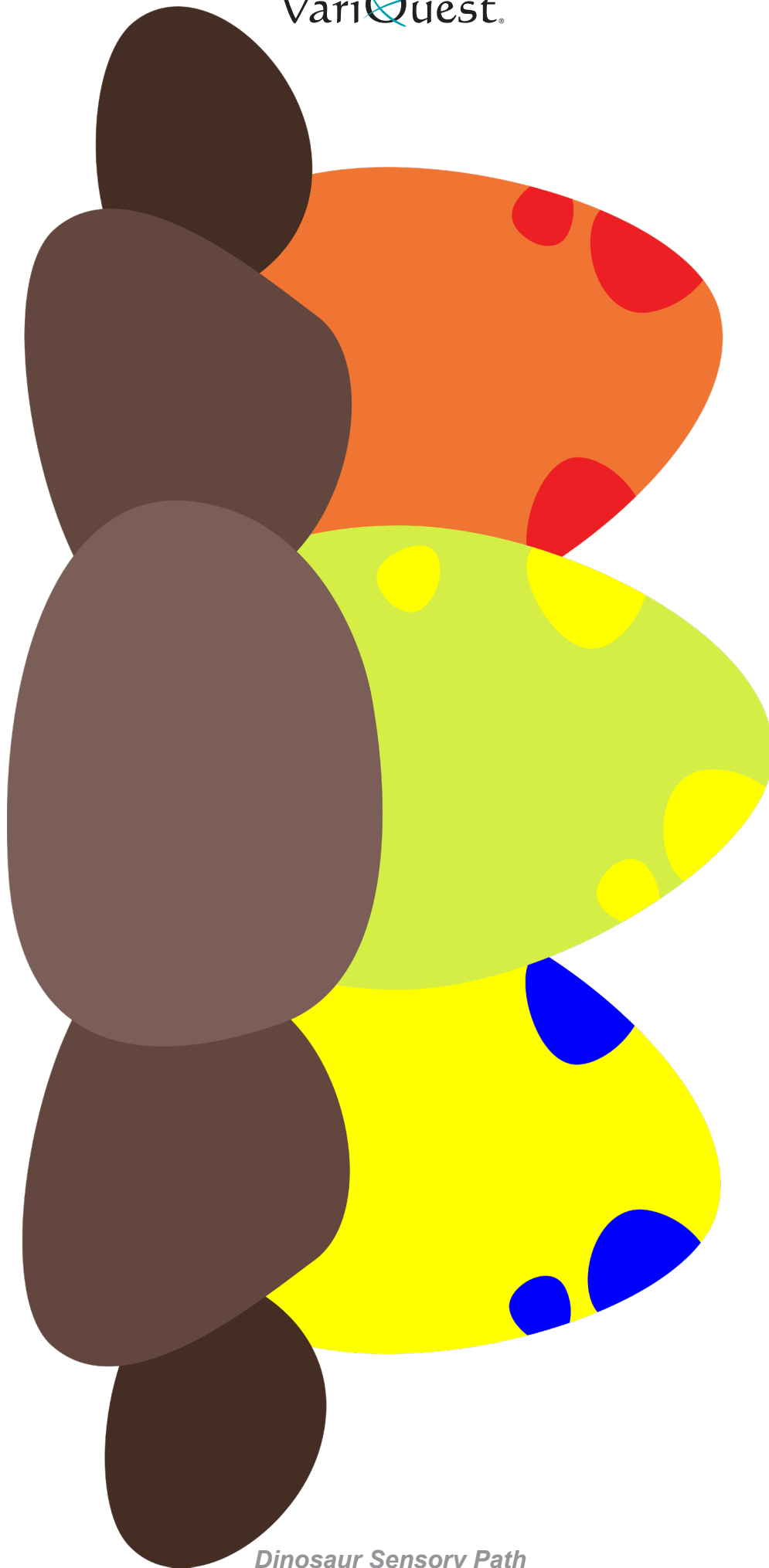
START



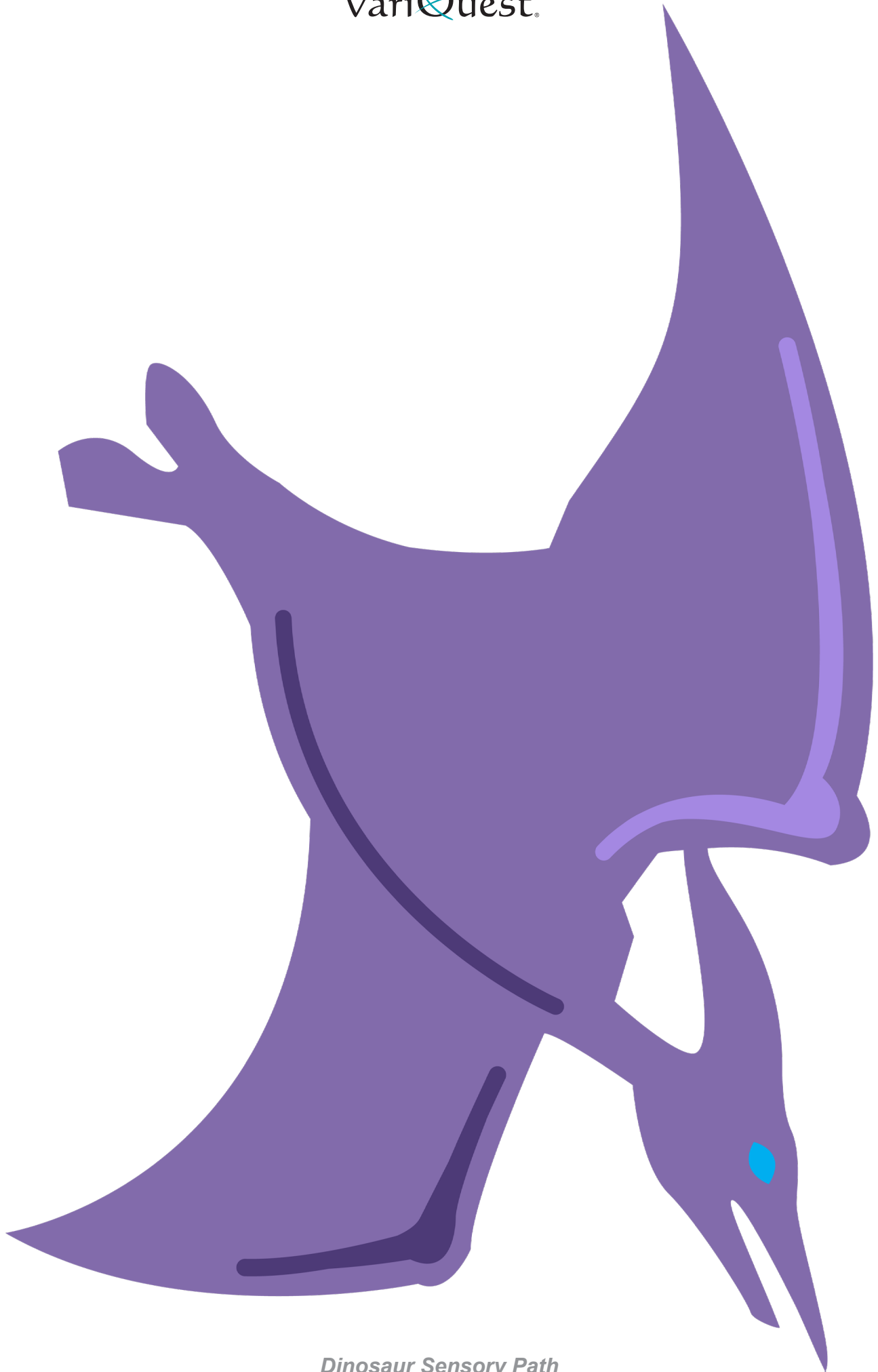




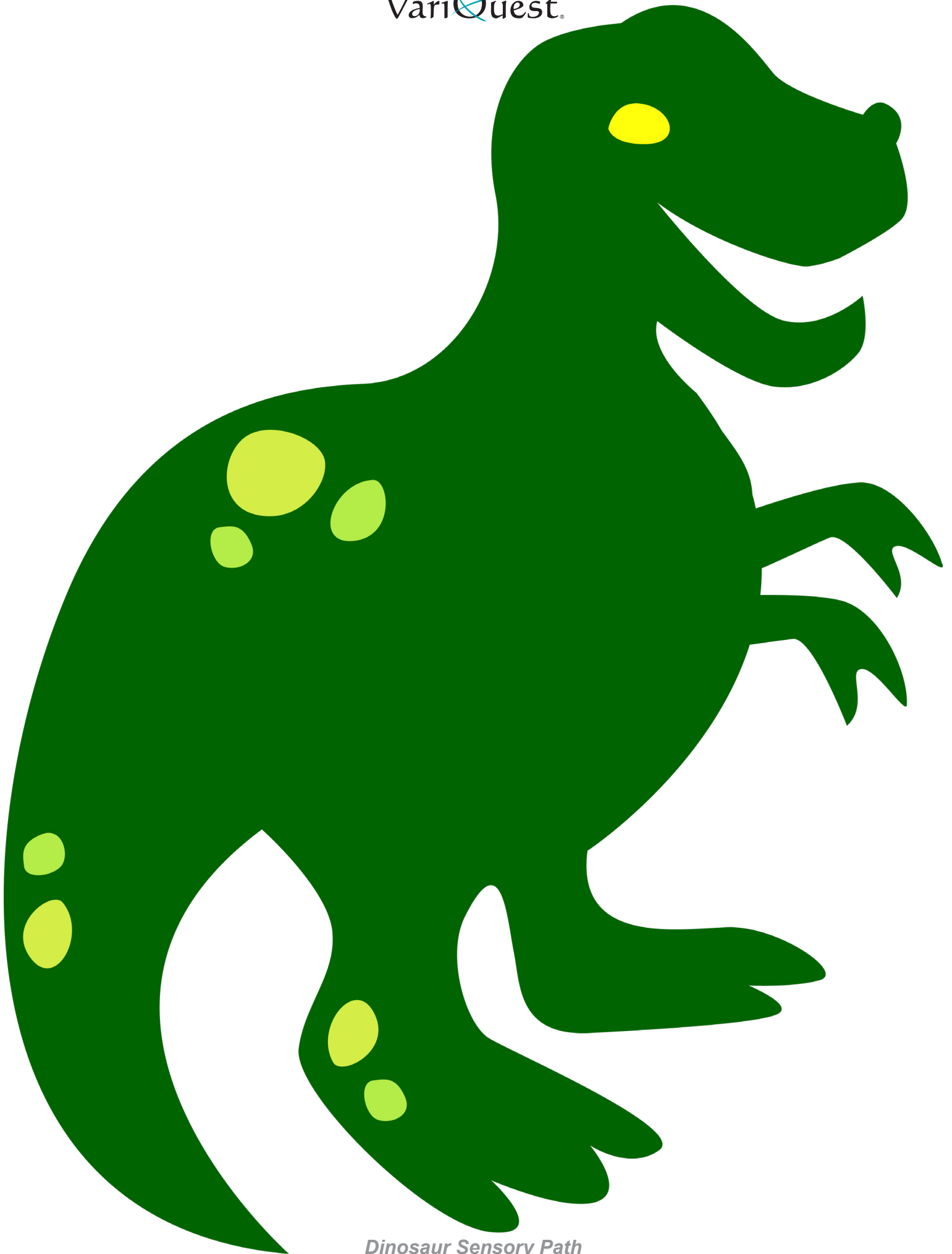


















**Stomp**  
**Tiptoe**  
**Jump**  
**Spin**  
**Crawl**

**March**

**Slow Motion**

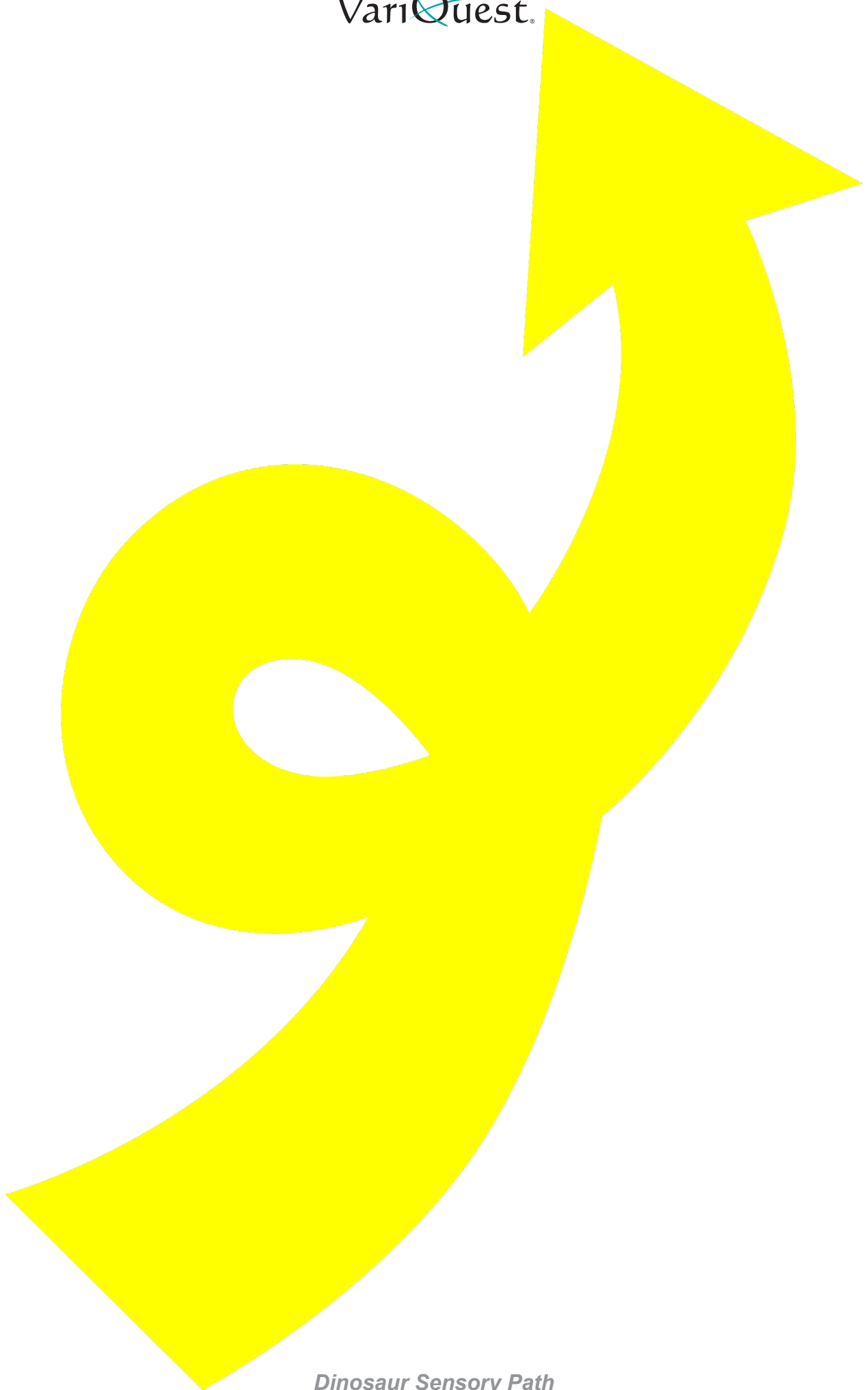
**Zig-Zag**

**Freestyle**

**Twirl**

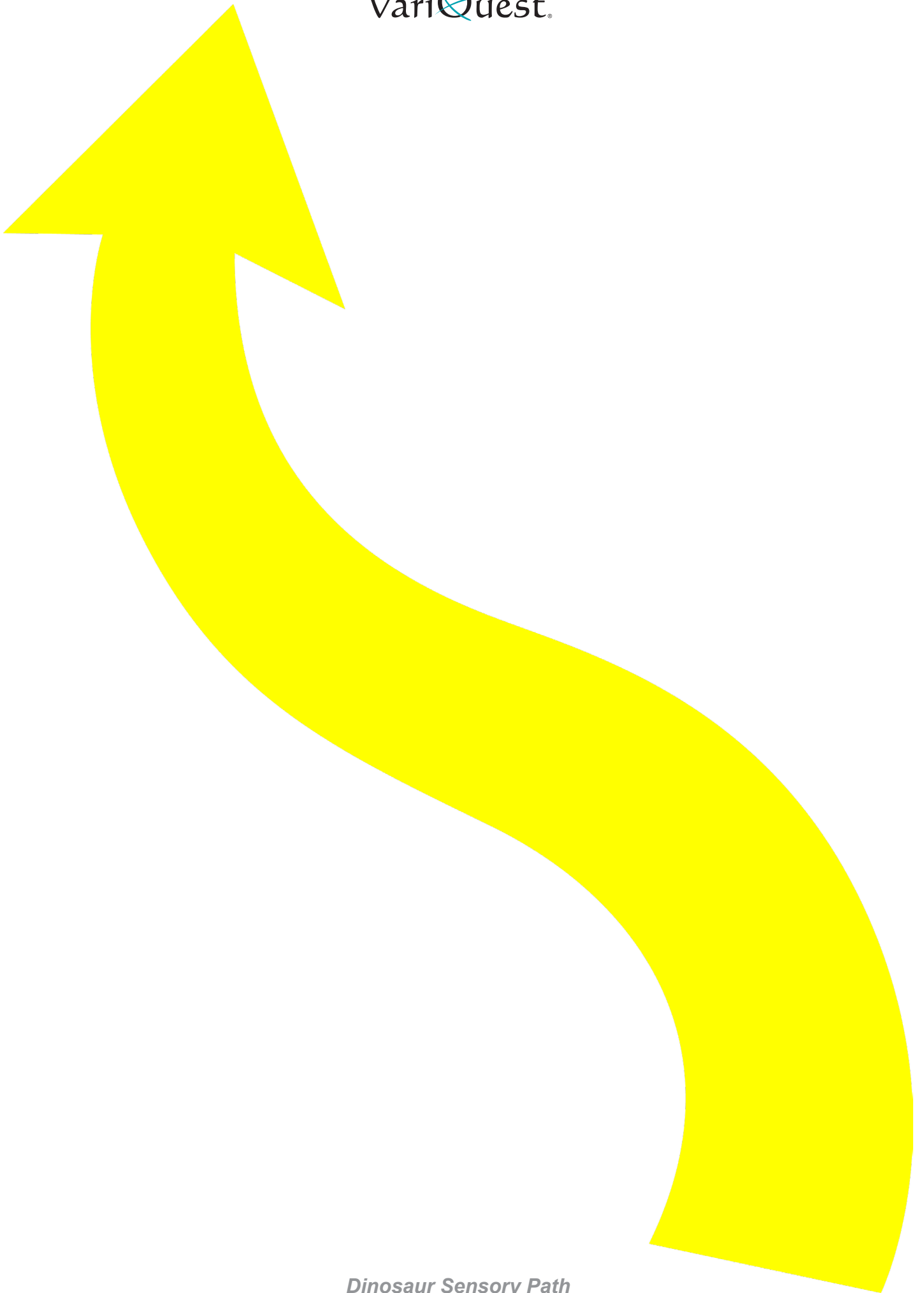
**Hop**

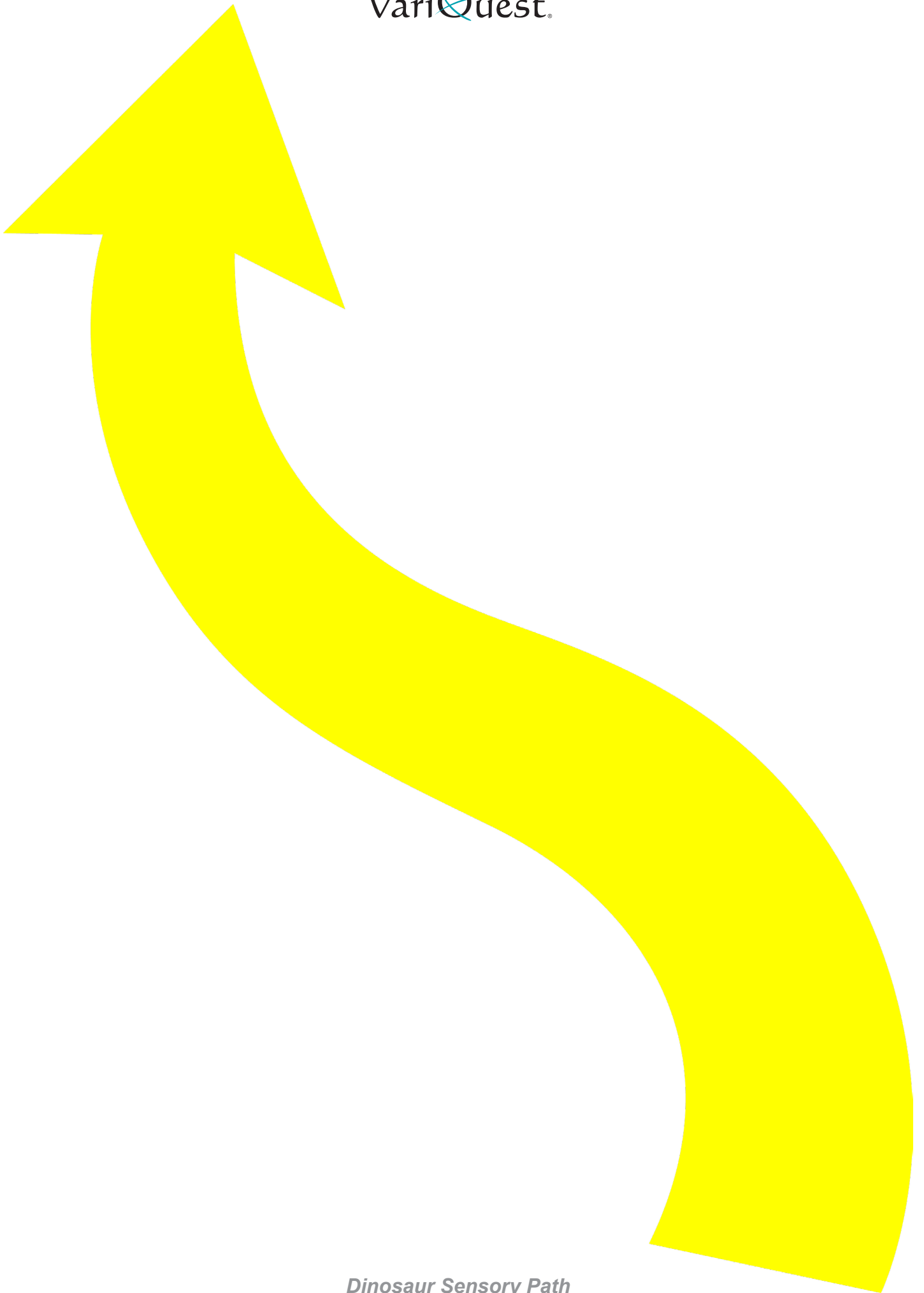


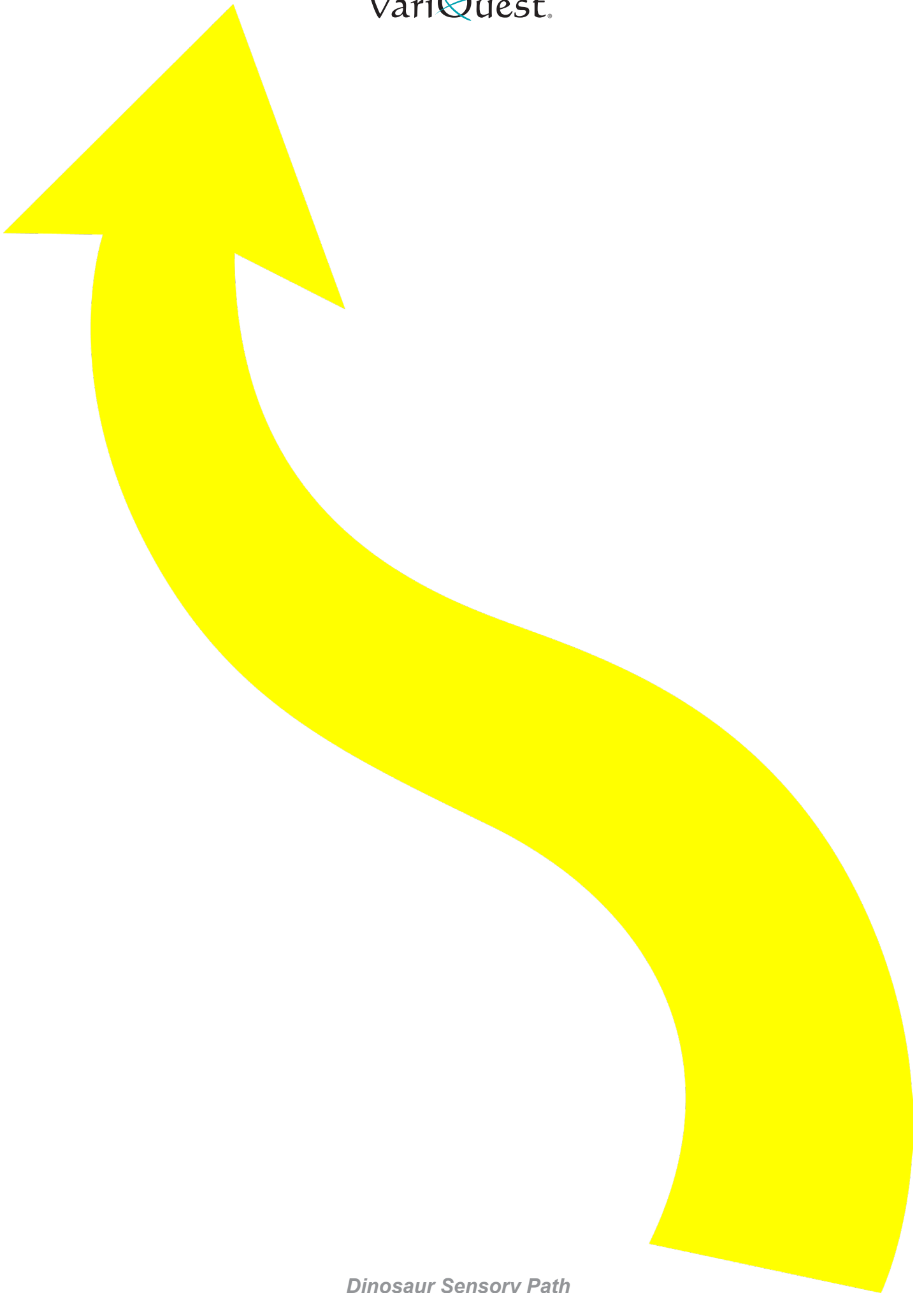


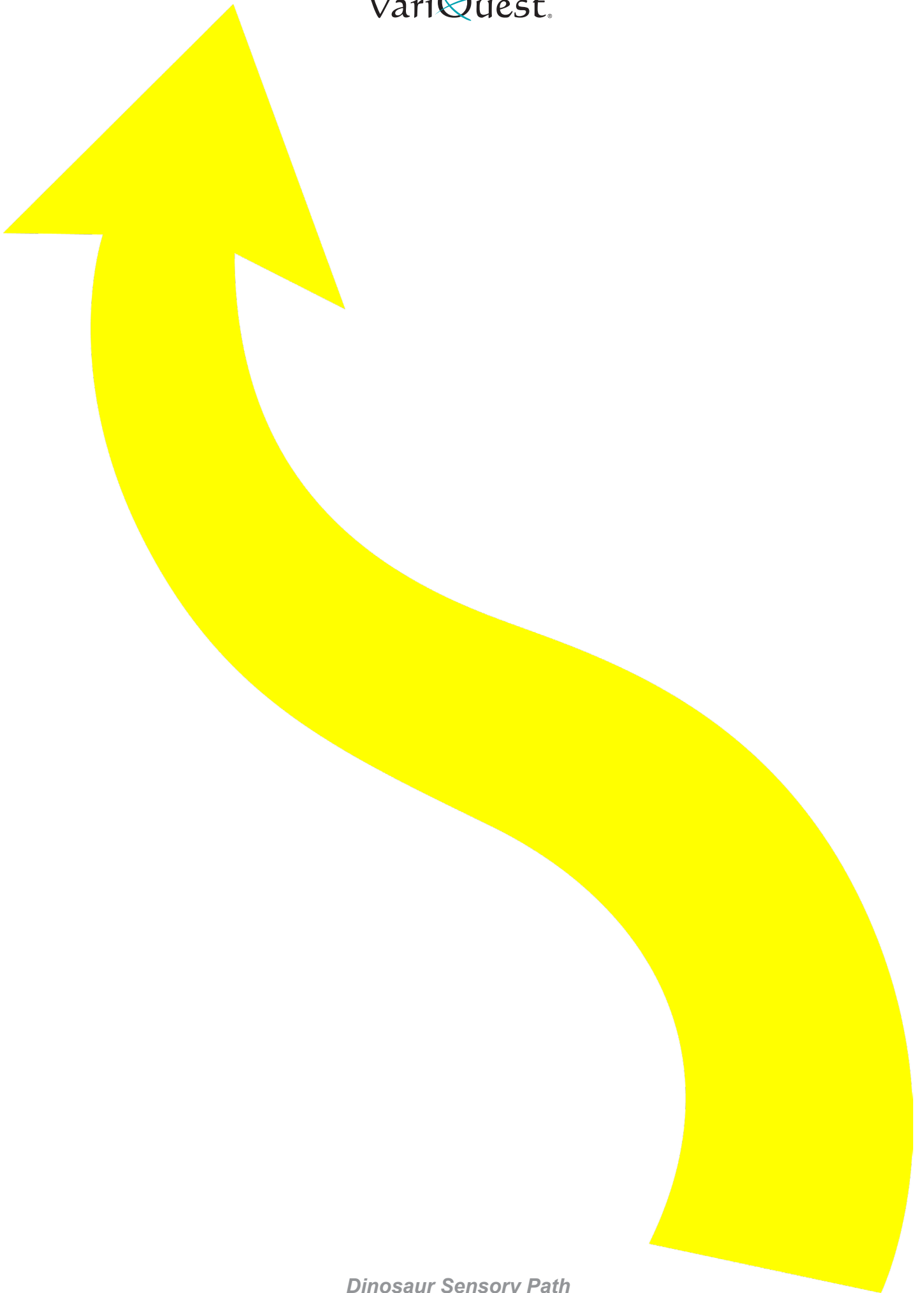


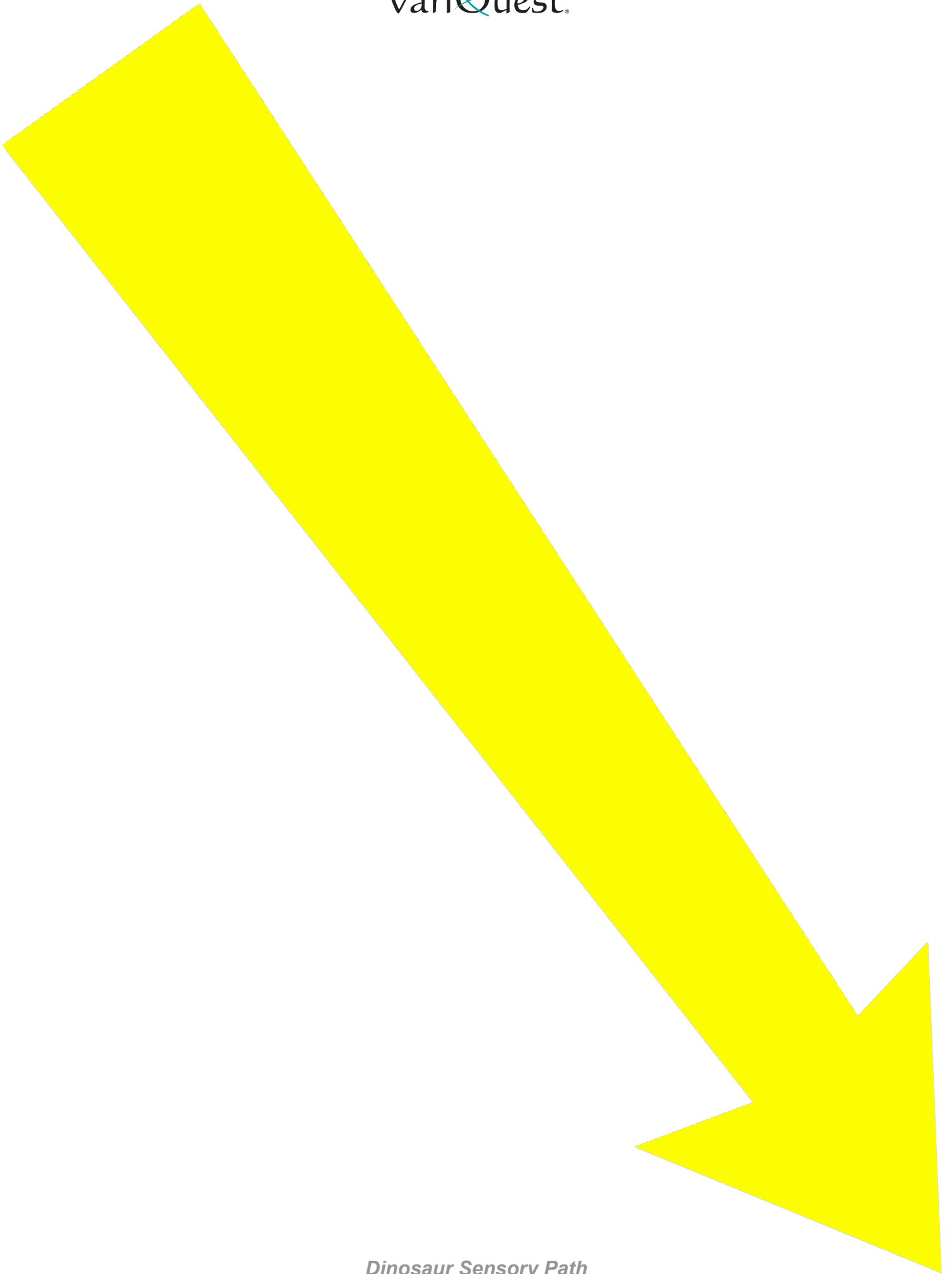


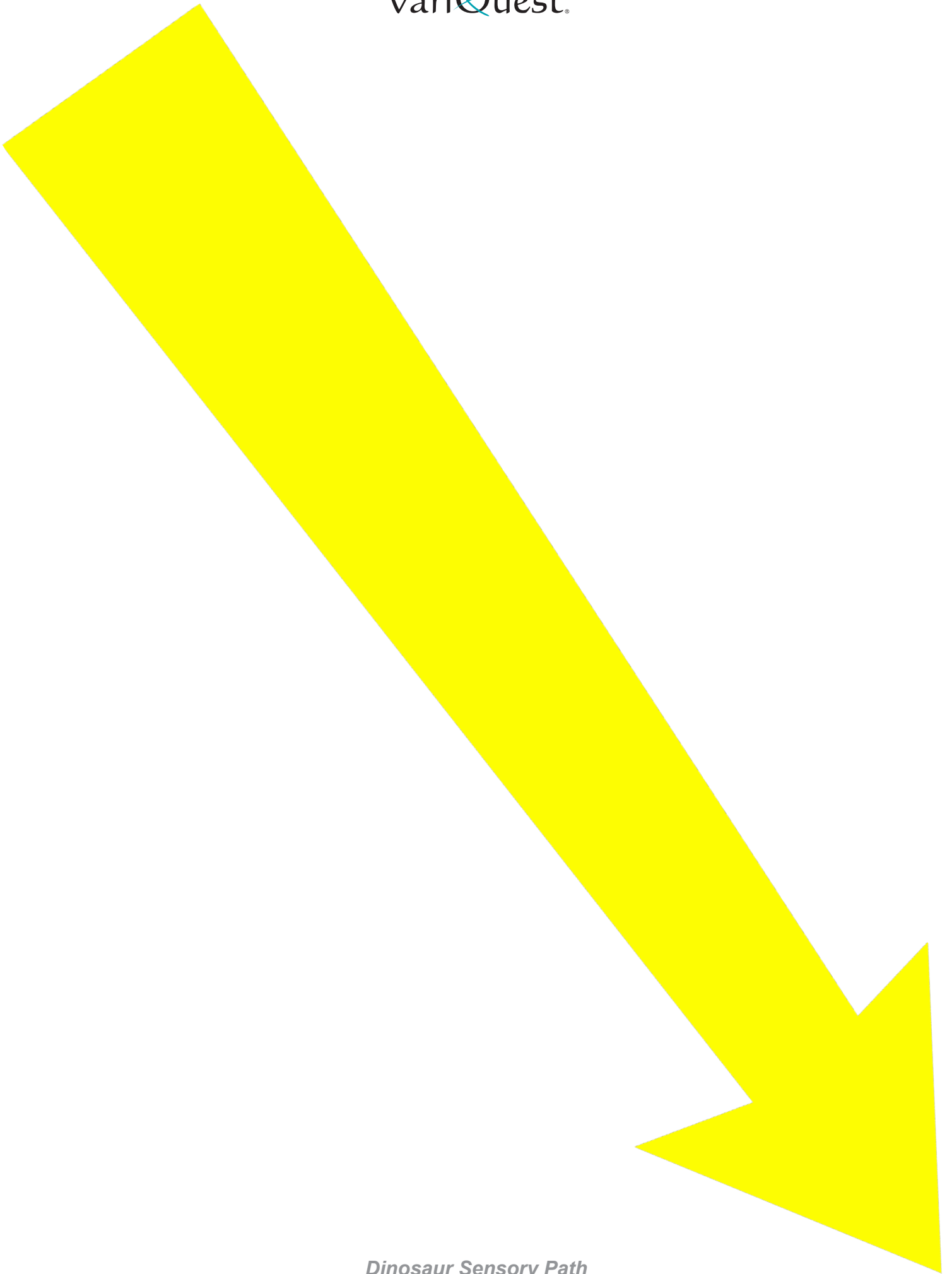


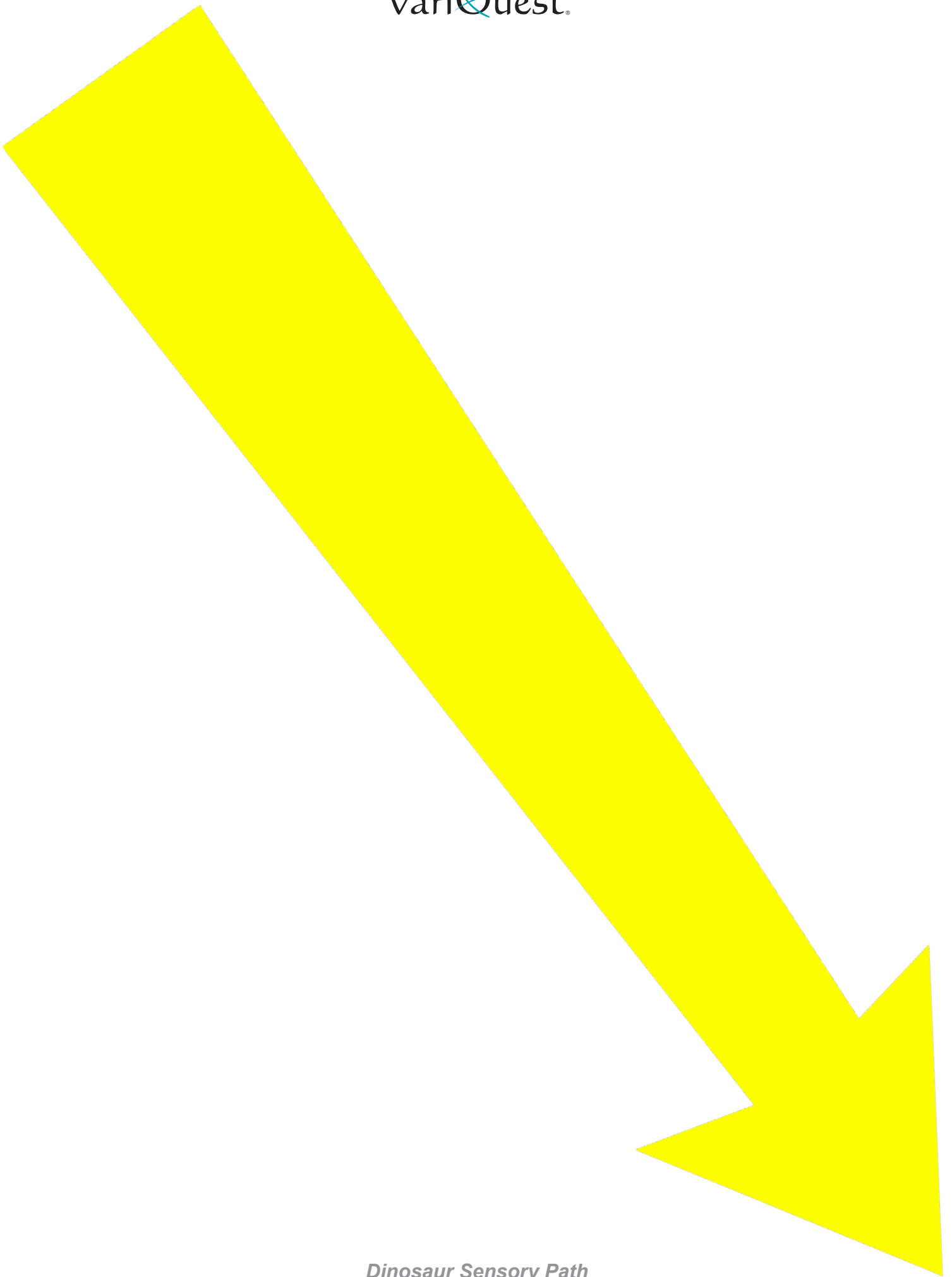




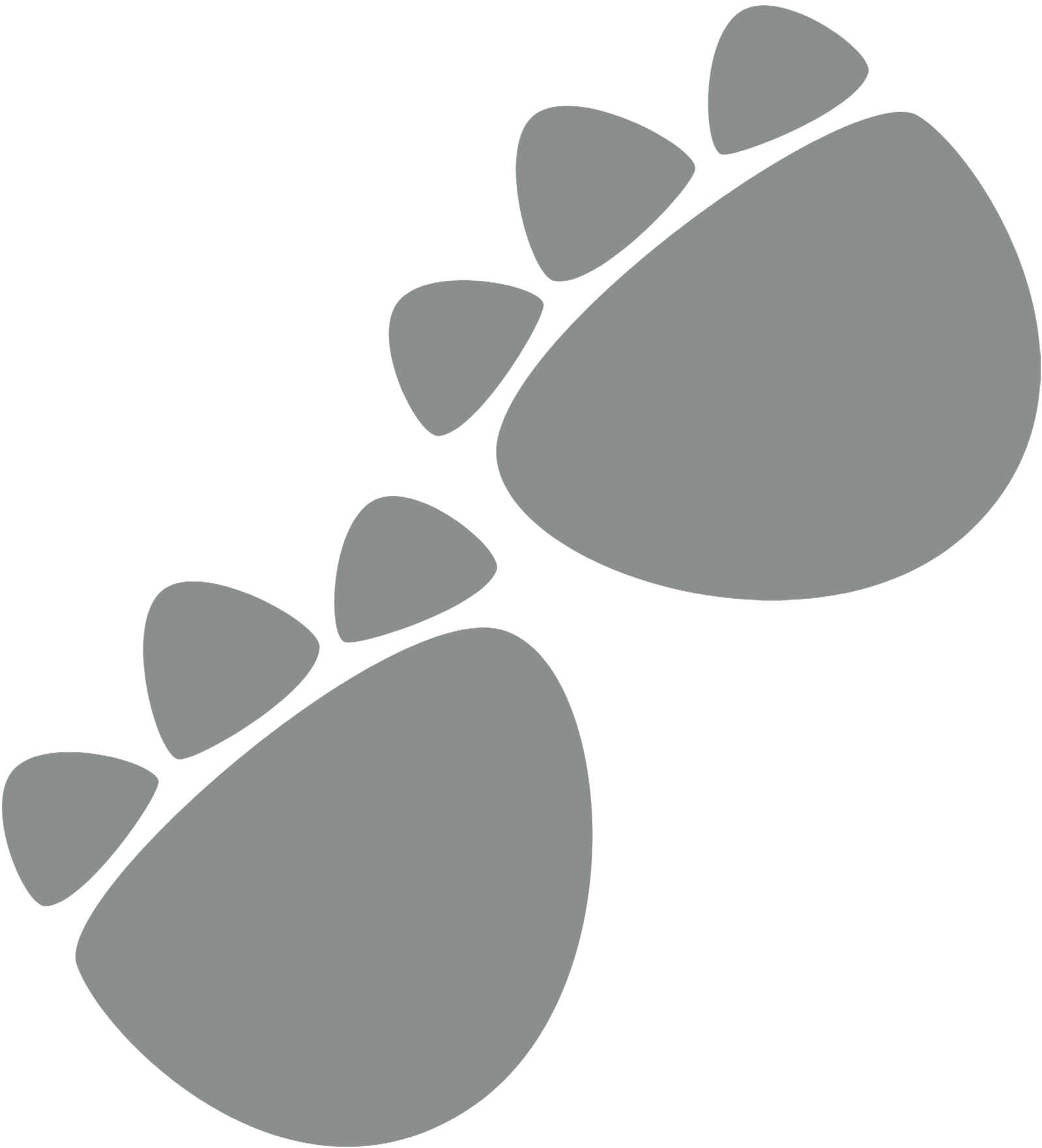




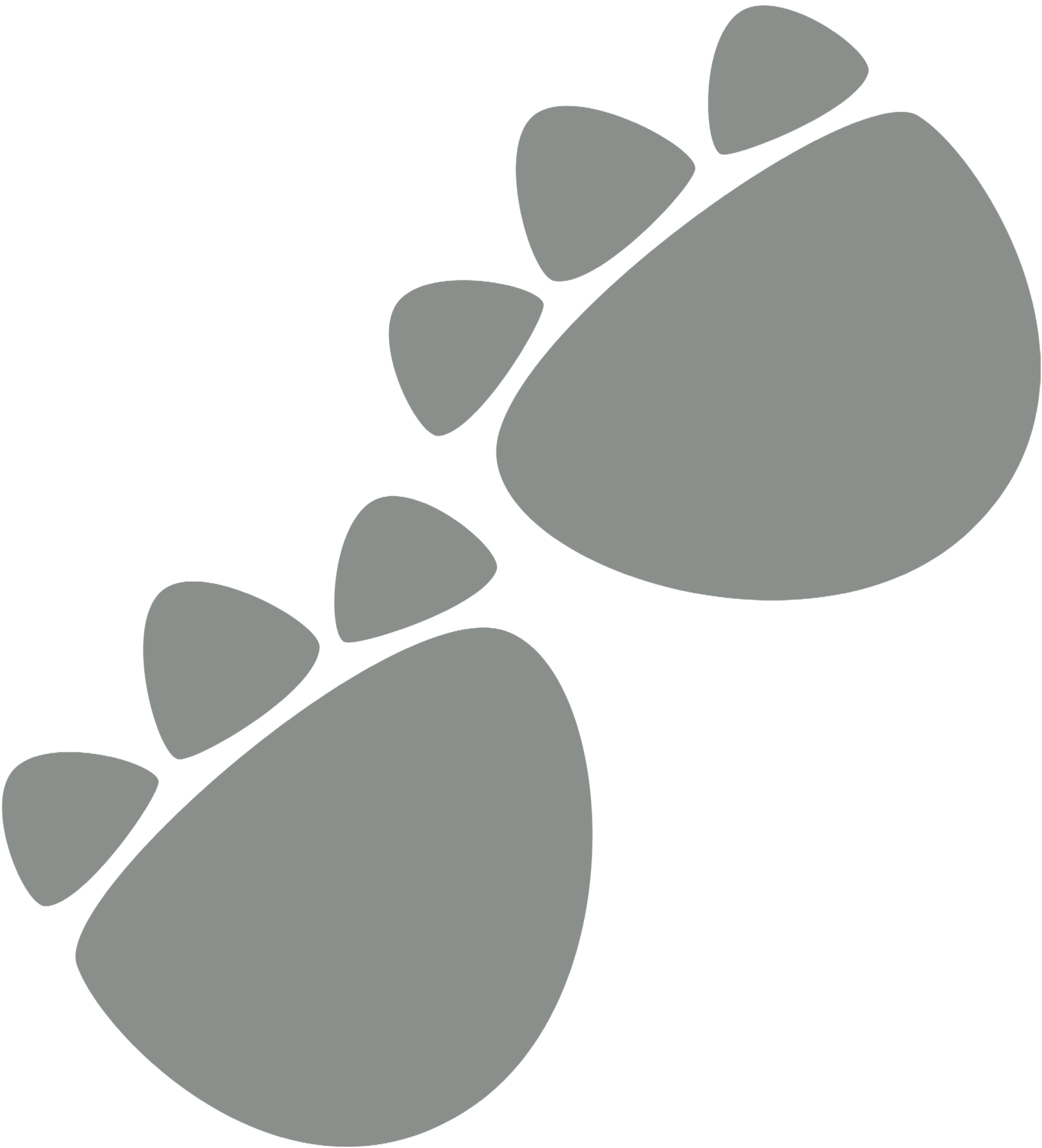


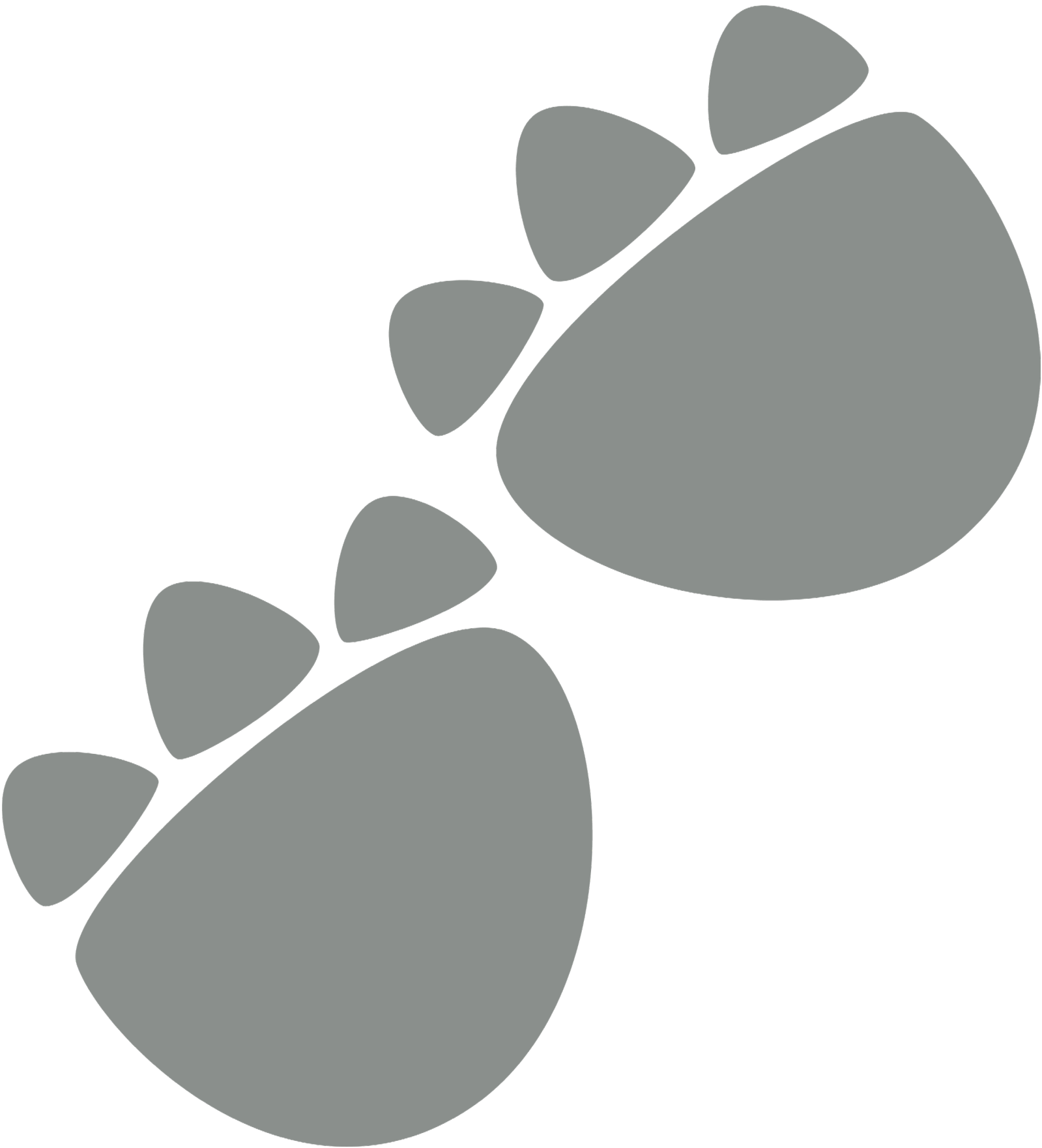


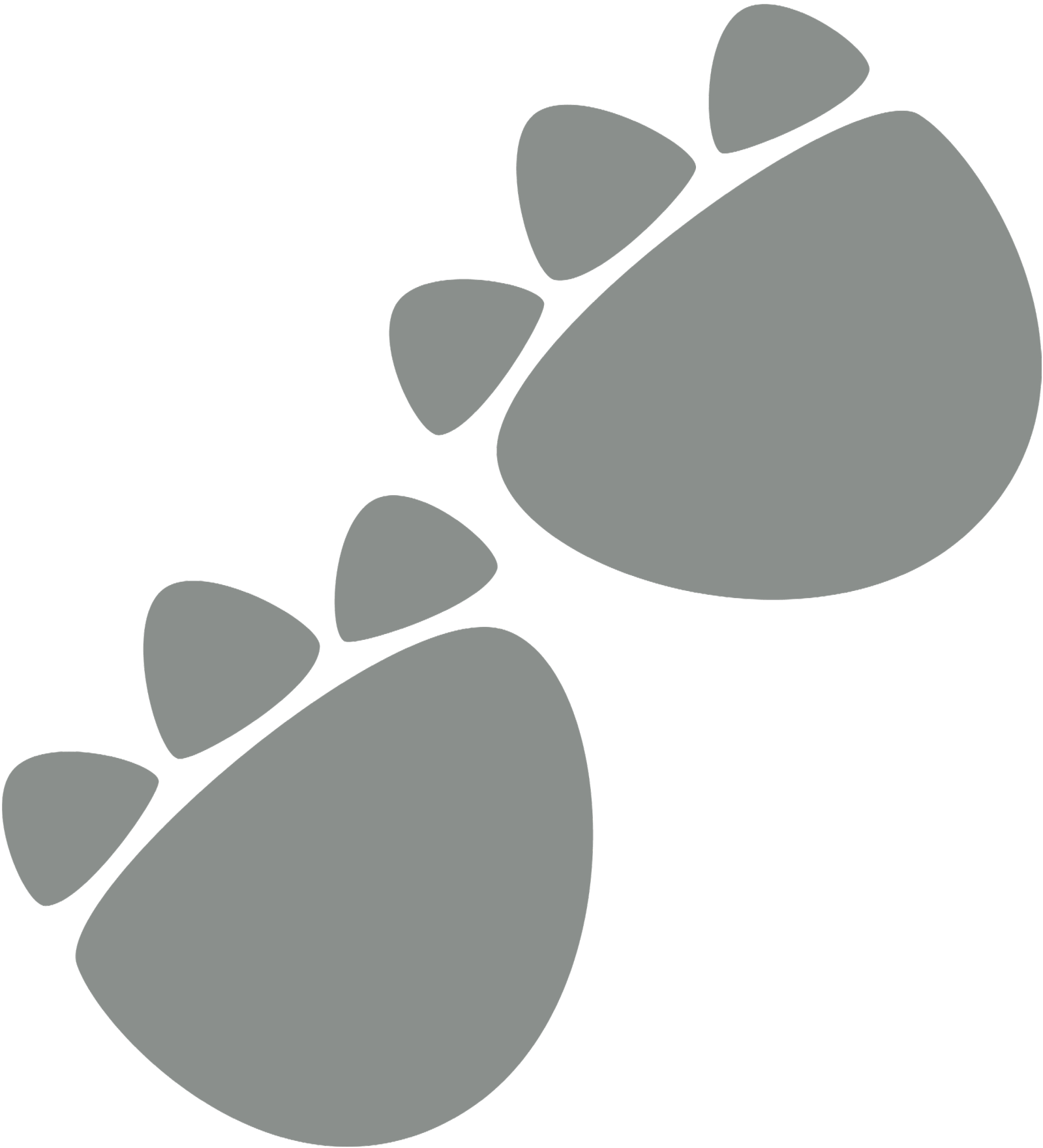


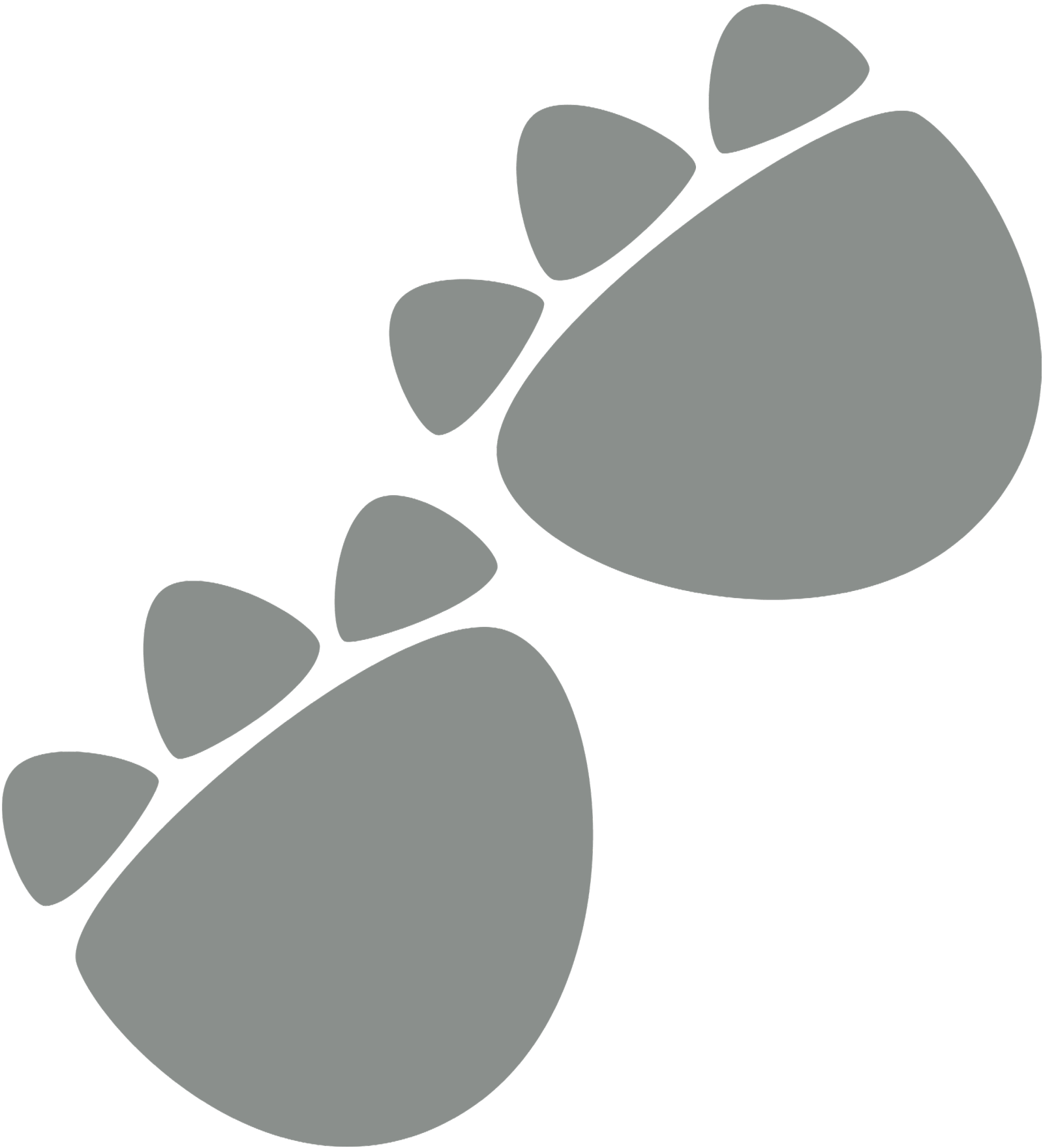


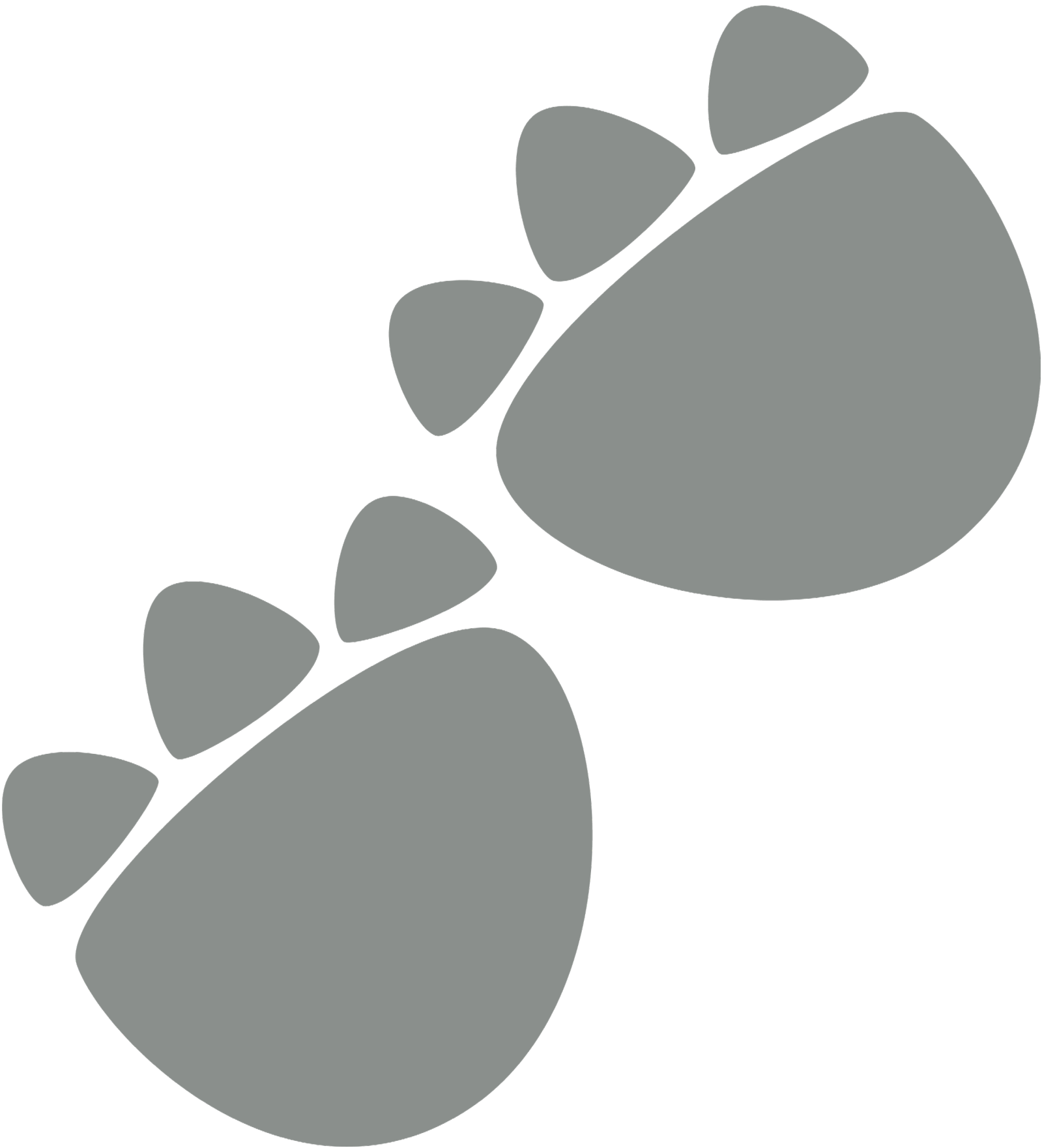






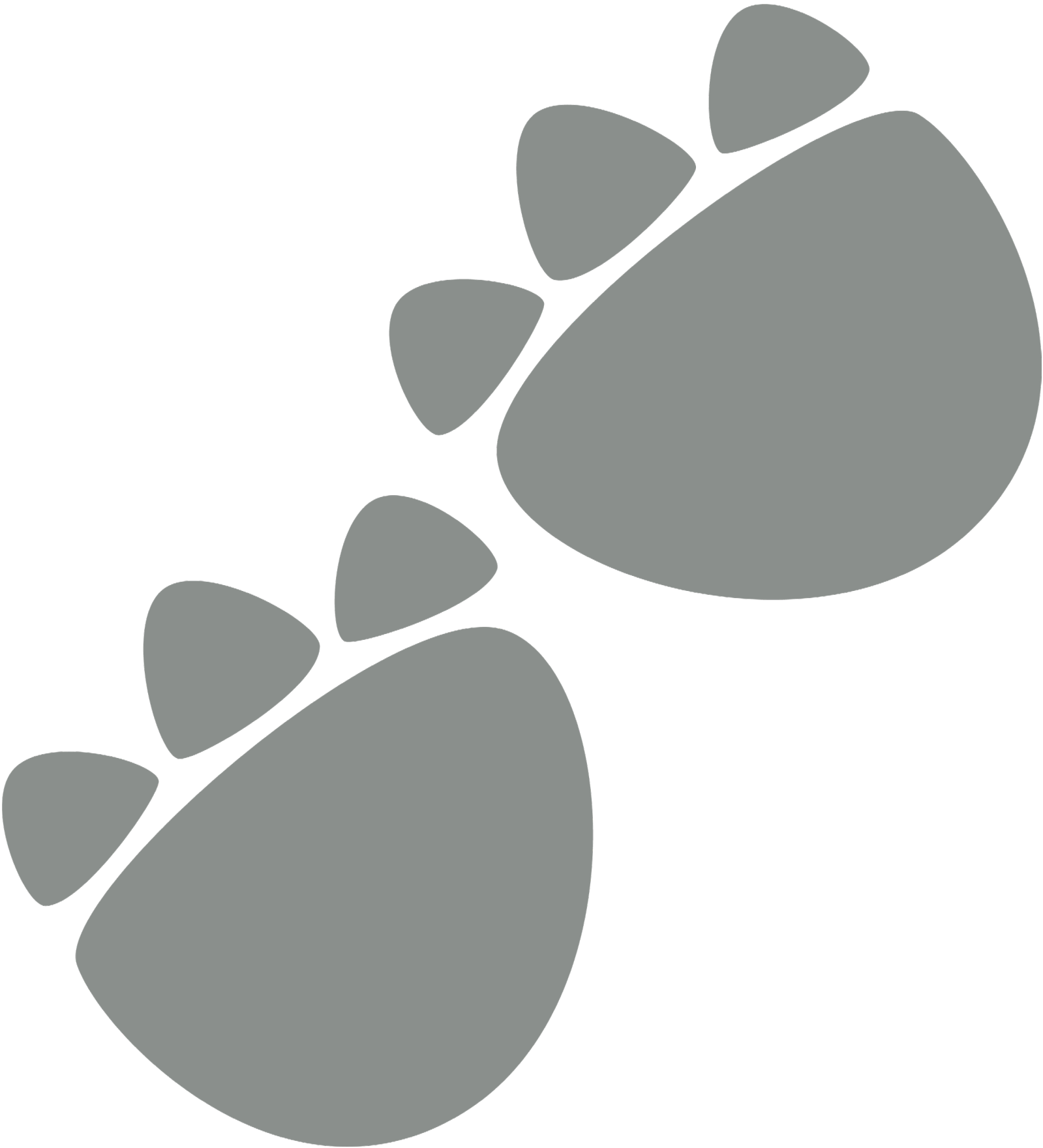


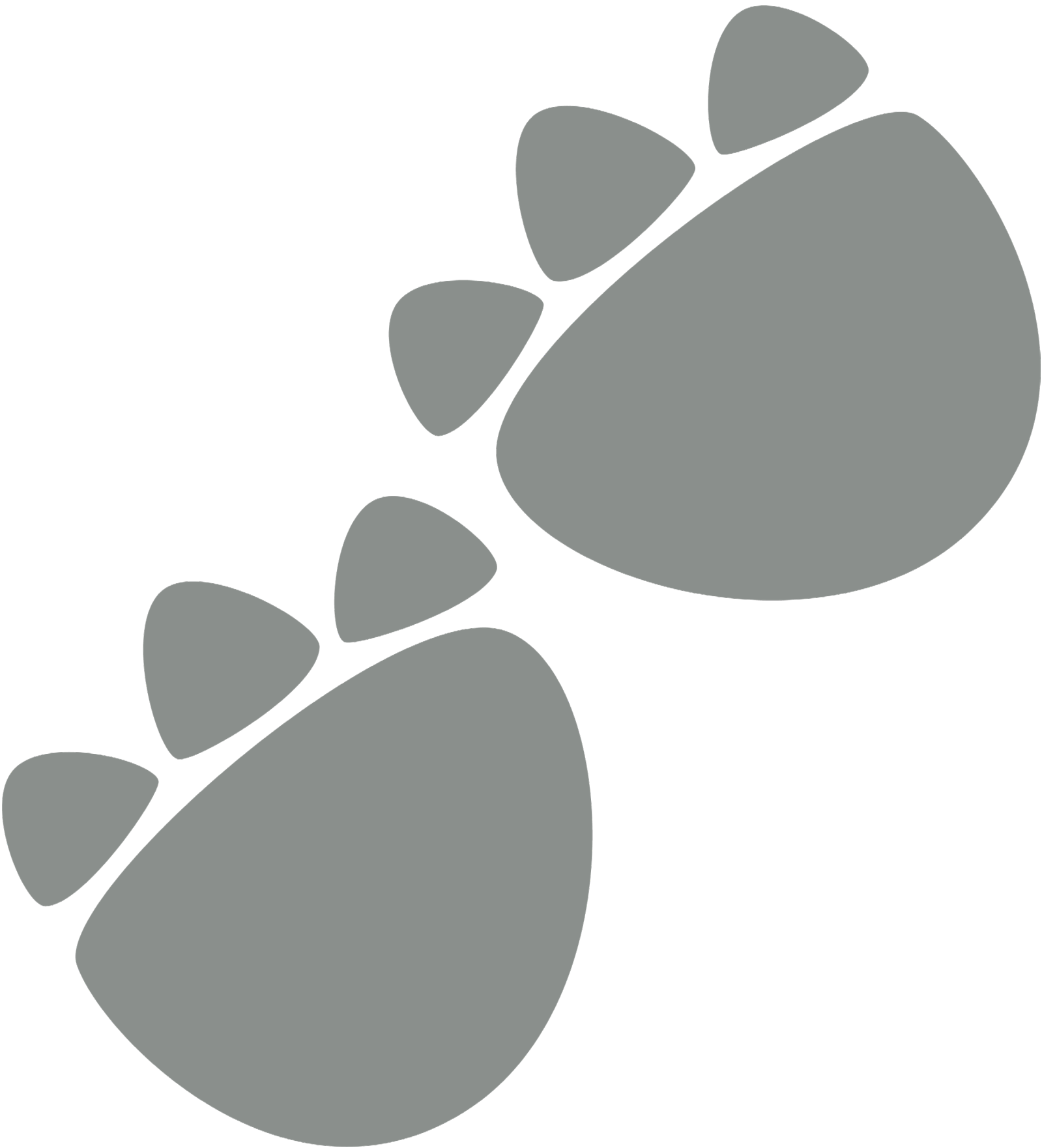


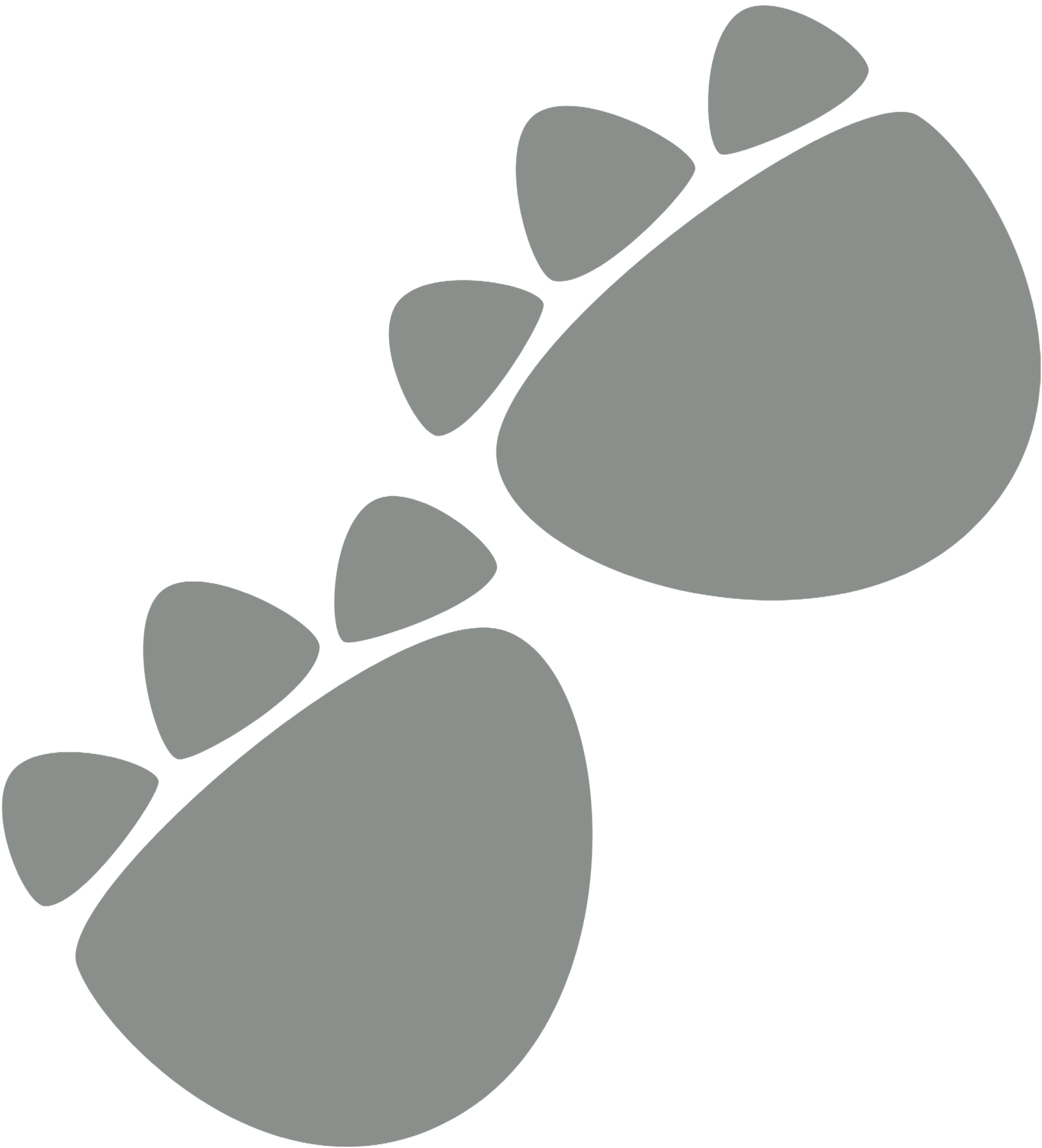




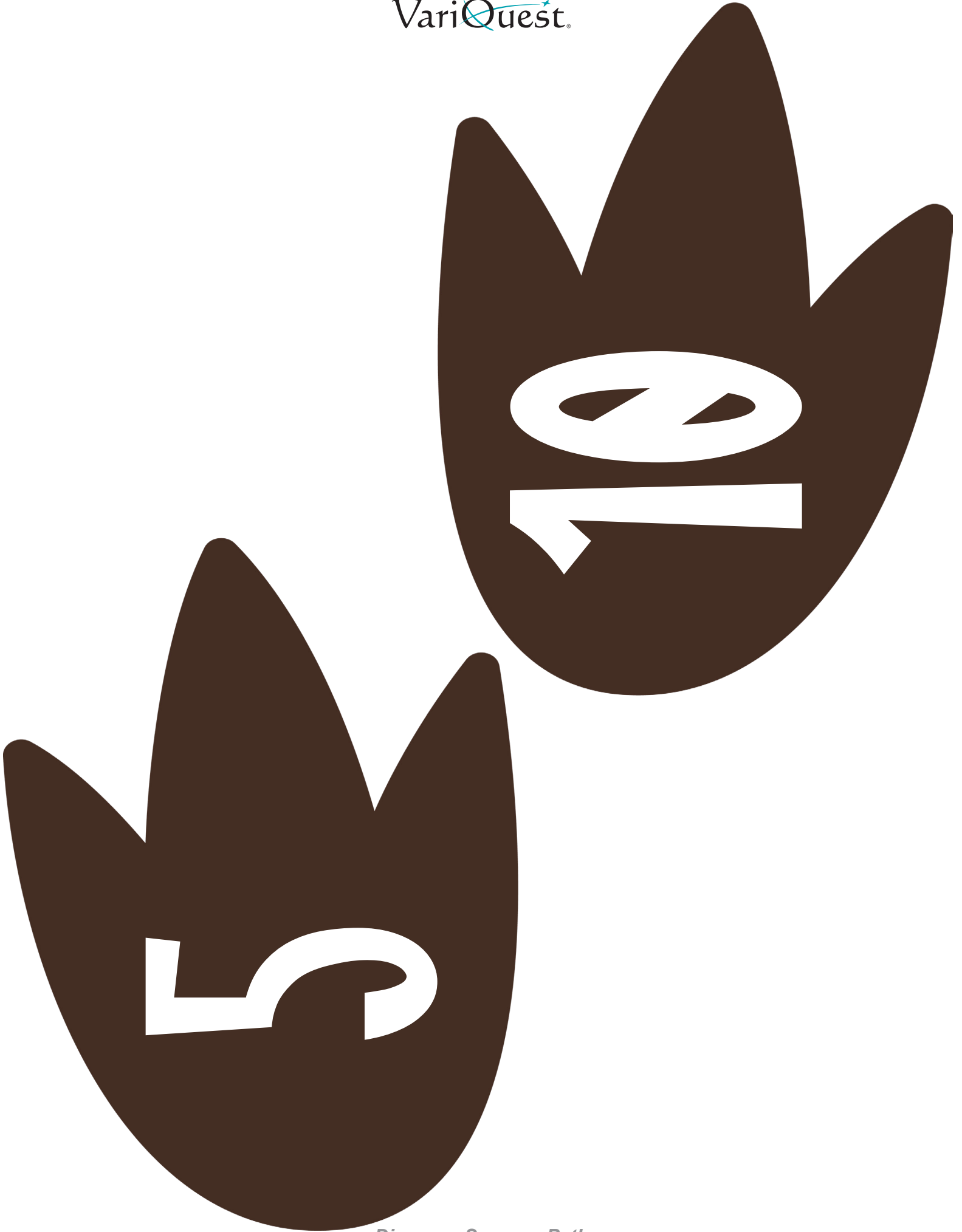






















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