

Mystery of Nano T. rex solved

The discovery of a small dinosaur has ended one of paleontology's longest-running debates, revealing that *Nanotyrannus* was not just a teenage T. rex – but a distinct species within the Tyrannosaur family



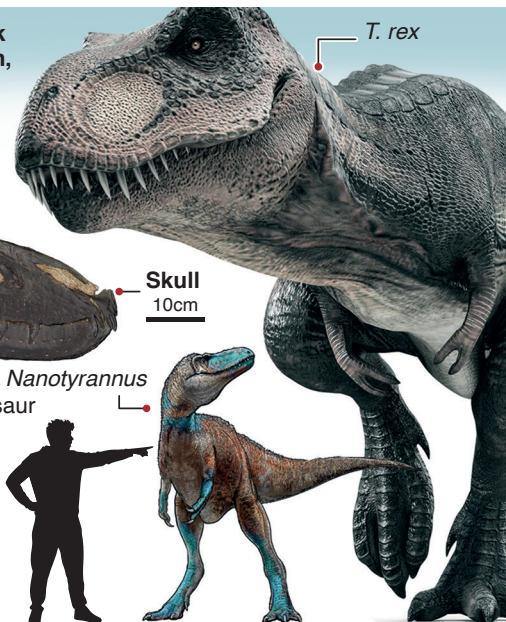
Hell Creek
Formation,
Montana



Skull
10cm

■ Newly discovered tyrannosaur skeleton (*above*), dating to around 67 million years ago, belonged to mature individual and shares key traits with previously known *Nanotyrannus lancensis*, confirming it was a distinct genus from T. rex

■ **Implications:** New evidence shows studies using *Nanotyrannus* fossils to model T. rex growth and behaviour were actually based on two different animals – meaning multiple tyrannosaurs lived side by side before the asteroid impact



NANO VERSUS T. REX (adults)

	Nanotyrannus	T. rex
Length:	5.5m	+12m
Weight:	~700 kg	6,700-8,200 kg
Number of tail vertebrae:	35	40-45