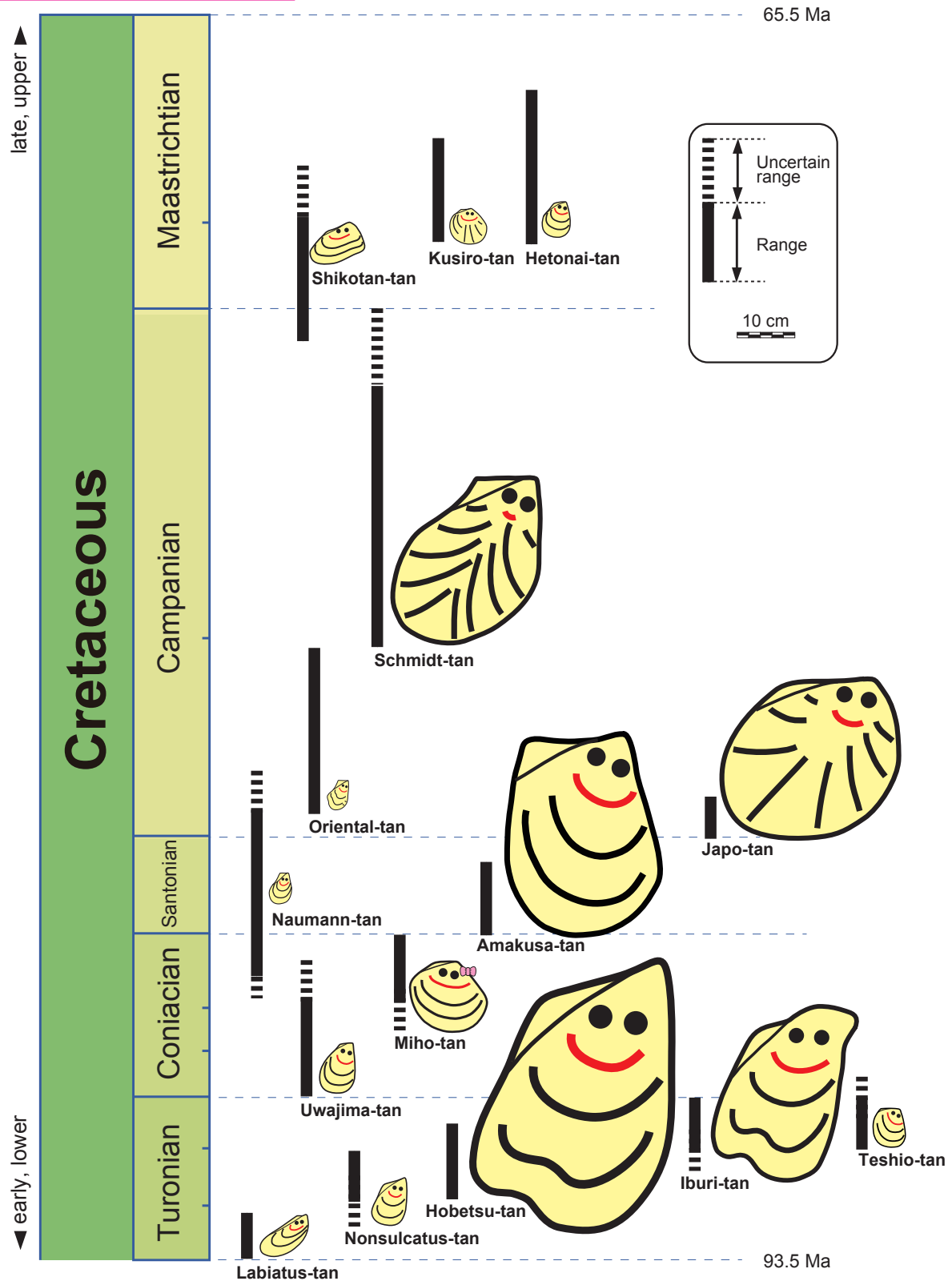


Biostratigraphy of Inocera-tan



Each of the ancient creatures, such as dinosaurs and ammonites, once had lived on the earth in different ages of the past. These ages are indexed by fossils of such ancient creatures themselves, and are called “Geological times” based mainly on the biostratigraphy.

Inoceramid bivalves are one of the most important index fossils of Cretaceous marine environments where elasmosaurs, mosasaurs, etc. had flourished. The inoceramid biostratigraphy plays a role to learn the geological time of strata in which these marine

reptiles are discovered. [The numerical age (Ma: million years ago) of strata is decided mainly by the radiometric dating.]

For the purpose of introduction and popularization of inoceramid bivalves and their biostratigraphic significance, a series of “Inocera-tan” is designed and introduced here by the Hobetsu Museum. For your information, in Japan, the suffix “-tan” is added affectionately to the name of something adorable.