



# Stegosaurus fetches nearly \$45 million at Sotheby's auction, setting a new record for dinosaur fossils sold

## Description

Sotheby's recently auctioned off the skeleton of a stegosaurus named Apex for a staggering \$45 million, setting a new record for dinosaur fossils. The sale price far exceeded the estimated \$4-6 million, and the exact sale price was \$44.6 million. The auction closed on Wednesday morning, but the buyer's identity was not immediately disclosed.

Described as the finest Stegosaurus to ever come to market, Apex lived up to its name as the most valuable fossil ever sold at auction. The skeleton is approximately 161 million years old, 11 feet tall, and nearly 27 feet long from nose to tail. It was excavated in Colorado between 2022 and 2023 and is mounted in an aggressive attack pose on a custom steel armature.

The fossil also shows signs of arthritis, suggesting that Apex lived a long life. This sale surpasses previous dinosaur fossil records, with a Tyrannosaurus rex selling for \$8.4 million in 1997 and a T. rex skeleton fetching \$32 million in 2020. Sotheby's also sold a Gorgosaurus skeleton for over \$6 million in 2022.

## Vocabulary List:

1. **Auctioned** /'ɔ:kʃən/ (verb): The act of selling goods or property to the highest bidder.
2. **Staggering** /'stægəɪŋ/ (adjective): Deeply shocking or astonishing.
3. **Exceeded** /ɪk'si:dɪd/ (verb): Went beyond the limits or expectations.
4. **Excavated** /'ɛkskə'veɪtɪd/ (verb): Dug out from the ground.
5. **Armature** /'ɑ:rmətʃər/ (noun): A supportive structure or framework.
6. **Significant** /sɪg'nɪfɪkənt/ (adjective): Sufficiently great or important to be worthy of attention; noteworthy.

## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. What was the staggering sale price of the stegosaurus skeleton named Apex at Sotheby's auction?  
Option: \$4 million  
Option: \$44.6 million



Option: \$11 million

Option: \$32 million

2. In what state was the Apex stegosaurus skeleton excavated?

Option: Texas

Option: Colorado

Option: California

Option: Montana

3. Approximately how old is the Apex stegosaurus skeleton?

Option: 100 million years old

Option: 200 million years old

Option: 161 million years old

Option: 50 million years old

4. What was the length of the Apex stegosaurus skeleton from nose to tail?

Option: 10 feet

Option: 15 feet

Option: 27 feet

Option: 20 feet

5. In what year did Sotheby's auction off a Gorgosaurus skeleton for over \$6 million?

Option: 2020

Option: 2021

Option: 2022

Option: 2023

6. Which other dinosaur fossil sale did the stegosaurus skeleton sale price surpass?

Option: Triceratops for \$10 million in 1995

Option: Tyrannosaurus rex for \$8.4 million in 1997

Option: Brachiosaurus for \$20 million in 2005

Option: Velociraptor for \$5.5 million in 2010

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. \$44.6 million 2. Colorado 3. 161 million years old 4. 27 feet 5. 2022 6. Tyrannosaurus rex for \$8.4 million in 1997

## Vocabulary quizzes



**Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )**

1. What is the process of building something called?  
Option: Demolition  
Option: Construction  
Option: Reconstruction  
Option: Destruction
2. What do you call a specific task or goal that a person or group is set to accomplish?  
Option: Goal  
Option: Mission  
Option: Dream  
Option: Aspiration
3. What is a small body of matter from outer space that enters the Earth's atmosphere and becomes incandescent?  
Option: Meteorite  
Option: Comet  
Option: Meteoroid  
Option: Meteor
4. Which term refers to the state of being able to see or be seen?  
Option: Clarity  
Option: Visibility  
Option: Obscurity  
Option: Invisibility
5. What term describes the action of searching or investigating something?  
Option: Explaining  
Option: Investigating  
Option: Exploring  
Option: Analyzing
6. What do you call groups of similar things that are close together?  
Option: Bundles  
Option: Clusters  
Option: Collections  
Option: Clusters
7. What is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another?  
Option: Sympathy  
Option: Empathy



- Option: Compassion  
Option: Understanding

8. Which term describes something that is liable to change rapidly and unpredictably especially for the worse?

- Option: Static  
Option: Volatile  
Option: Stable  
Option: Predictable

9. What term describes something that is important or meaningful?

- Option: Insignificant  
Option: Meaningless  
Option: Significant  
Option: Trivial

10. Which term refers to the state of being stable or not easily changed?

- Option: Consistency  
Option: Stability  
Option: Fluctuation  
Option: Instability

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. \_\_\_\_\_ is the act of making ready or being made ready for use or consideration.

12. The act of using something effectively or making use of something is known as \_\_\_\_\_

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13. The process of making changes to the organization or structure of something for better efficiency is called \_\_\_\_\_ .

14. When archaeological sites or materials are dug up methodically it is known as \_\_\_\_\_ .

15. To designate or treat something as more important than other things is to \_\_\_\_\_ .

16. When something is stressed or given special importance it is \_\_\_\_\_ .



17. A framework or structure around which something is built or constructed is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
18. The act of selling goods or property to the highest bidder is known as \_\_\_\_\_.
19. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to going beyond a limit or doing more than expected or allowed.
20. The act of moving forward or making progress in development is called \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. The company is planning the _____ of its new product next month.
22. The mountain climbers finally reached the _____ after a grueling journey.
23. The beach looked enchanting under the silver glow of the _____.
24. The students were asked to write _____ of the assigned chapters for their homework.
25. The _____ streaked across the night sky leaving a trail of dust and gas.
26. The enthusiasts gathered to watch the annual _____ hoping to catch a glimpse of shooting stars.
27. Modern computers come with high-speed _____ that enhance their performance.
28. The space agency successfully completed an _____ mission to Mars.
29. Technology is constantly bringing new innovations and developments.
30. The grapes grew in _____ rich on the vines ready for harvest.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Construction 2. Mission 3. Meteor 4. Visibility 5. Exploring 6. Clusters 7. Empathy 8. Volatile 9. Significant 10. Stability

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Preparation 12. Utilizing 13. Restructuring 14. Excavated 15. Prioritize 16. Emphasized 17. Armature 18. Auctioned 19. Exceeded 20. Advancing

**Matching sentence:** 1. Launch 2. Peak 3. Moonlight 4. Summaries 5. Comet 6. Meteor Shower 7. Processors 8. Uncrewed 9. Advancing 10. Clusters



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## CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL2

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