

SUE: The *T. rex* Experience



Exhibition Details

Size: 5,000 ft² (465 m²)

Ceiling Height: 15 ft (4.57 m)

Interactives: 15—touch, sound, smell, digital

Languages: English and Spanish

Included: curriculum guides, marketing assets

Add-on: wholesale merchandise, 3D movie

The exhibition features a fully articulated cast skeleton of SUE with added gastralium, full-scale replications including a fully fleshed out SUE, touchable models, mechanical and digital interactives, large media elements and videos—including a one-of-a-kind SUE light show—and a gallery-wide soundscape.

Content Specialists:

Thomas Cullen, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Researcher

Bill Simpson, Head of Geological Collections

Az Klymiuk, Ph.D., Collections Manager,
Paleobotany

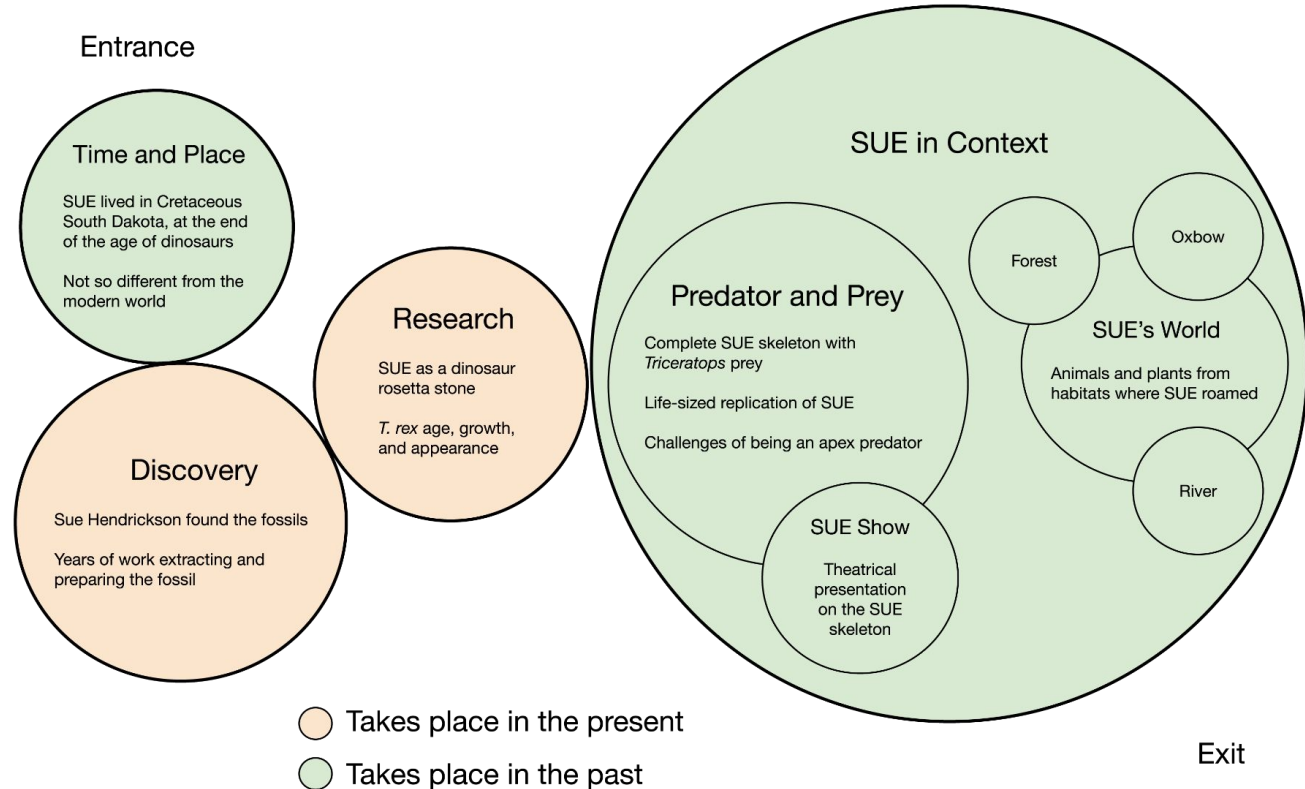
The Big Idea

An extraordinary encounter with SUE the *T. rex*, apex predator of the Cretaceous world.

Encounter SUE—the most complete, best preserved *Tyrannosaurus rex* ever found—and the world SUE lived in. *SUE: The T. rex Experience* is a journey through Hell Creek, SUE's home and one of the most well-documented communities from the age of dinosaurs. Visitors will get to know SUE as an individual that lived a challenging and dangerous life, but survived to old age against the odds.

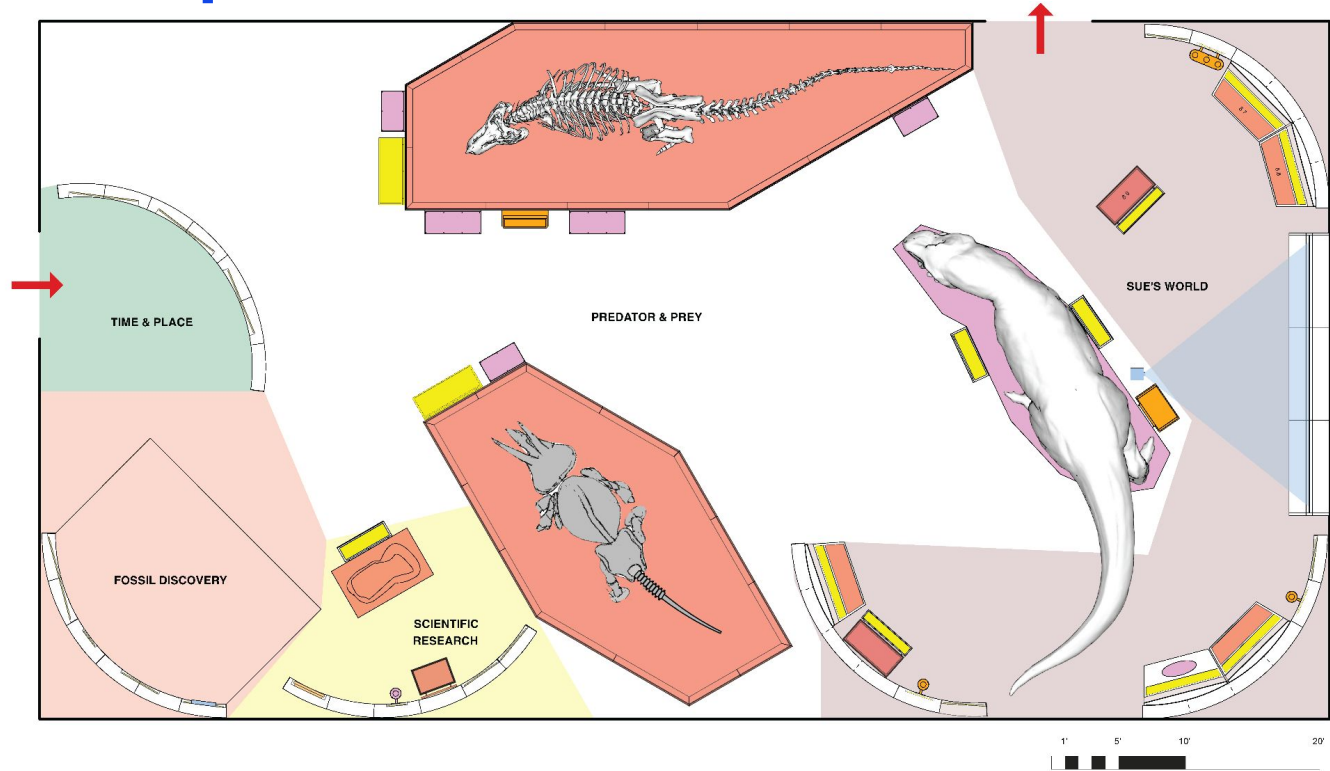
Exhibition Summary

The bubble sizes in this diagram represent the relative weight of sections in the experience.



Experience Map

- Cast Object
- Replication
- Interactive
- Media
- Reading Rail



Section 1: Time and Place



Welcome to the world of *Tyrannosaurus rex*

Bienvenido al mundo del *Tyrannosaurus rex*



**South Dakota,
67 MILLION
YEARS AGO**

During the Late Cretaceous Period, the climate was much warmer than it is today. The land was covered by dense forests and the land was hot and wet, just as it is today.



**Sulata del Sur,
HACE 67 MILLONES
DE AÑOS**

Durante el período cretácico tardío, el clima era mucho más cálido que el actual. El terreno estaba cubierto por densos bosques y la tierra estaba caliente y húmeda, tal como lo es hoy.

During the Late Cretaceous Period, the climate was much warmer than it is today. The land was covered by dense forests and the land was hot and wet, just as it is today.



The SUE site is located in the state of South Dakota, in the southwestern part of the state. It is a small area of land, but it is very important because it is the only place in the world where a complete T. rex skeleton has been found.

This is SUE's world

SUE is the only complete, well-preserved T. rex skeleton ever found. It is the only one of its kind in the world. It is the only one of its kind in the world. It is the only one of its kind in the world.



Esto es el mundo de SUE

SUE es el esqueleto de Tyrannosaurus rex más completo y mejor preservado que se haya encontrado. Es el único de su especie en el mundo. Es el único de su especie en el mundo.

Visitors entering the exhibition encounter a large, detailed mural of a landscape teeming with life. This is Hell Creek, South Dakota: one of the best-understood ecosystems from the Age of Dinosaurs. Reigning over this world was SUE the *Tyrannosaurus rex*, an apex predator that impacted the entire community. Maps and charts near the mural help establish where and when SUE lived.

Time and Place Highlights

- Mural of SUE's world by artist Beth Zeiken
- Graphic introduction to the Cretaceous Period
- Timeline and map



Section 2: Fossil Discovery

About 67 million
years ago, an
aging T. rex died
beside a river...



...but now only
fossils remain.

On August 7, 1989,
a T. rex skeleton was
found at the site.
67 million years old.

...and there are
other T. rex fossils.



Moving forward in the exhibition, visitors enter a paleontological excavation. Graphic panels tell the story of Susan Hendrickson's discovery of SUE in modern-day South Dakota, and a large photo mural shows the Hell Creek Formation today. Visitors can trek across a life-sized reproduction of the hand-drawn map created at the SUE quarry, and inspect casts and replicas of SUE's fossilized bones.

Fossil Discovery Highlights

- Life-sized quarry map on the floor
- *T. rex* discovery media piece
- Graphic timeline of SUE's journey



Section 3: Scientific Research

SUE: Scientific research

SUE is the most complete and best preserved *T. rex* ever found. Since the specimen arrived at the Field Museum in 1997, scientists from around the world have come to study it. Thanks to SUE, we now know more about *T. rex* than ever before.

SUE has been used to study how *T. rex*...



SUE: Investigación científica

SUE es el espécimen de *T. rex* más completo y mejor preservado que se haya descubierto. Desde su llegada al Museo Field en 1997, científicos de todo el mundo han venido a estudiarlo. Gracias a SUE sabemos mucho más sobre el *T. rex*.

Se ha usado a SUE para entender cómo el *T. rex*...

Studying SUE



Estudiando a SUE



Did SUE have scales or feathers?
¿SUE tenía escamas o plumas?

Scientists have been studying SUE for over 20 years. They have found that SUE has scales, not feathers. This is because SUE has a layer of scales called osteoderms. These scales are made of bone and are covered in a layer of scales. This is why SUE has scales, not feathers.

THOMAS WILSON
MAY 2018

In this section, visitors understand SUE's importance as a research specimen. As the most complete and best preserved *Tyrannosaurus rex* ever found, SUE is a rosetta stone for dinosaur biology. Visitors follow along with recent Field Museum research, including how fast *T. rex* grew up, how old SUE was at death, and why we currently think that *T. rex* had scales, not feathers. A touchable replica of SUE's skull as it was found lets visitors investigate the fossil in detail, including SUE's serrated teeth and holes in the jaw caused by a parasitic infection. Visitors can also test their knowledge with a digital quiz hosted by a quirky cartoon SUE.

Scientific Research Highlights

- Crushed skull cast, as found in the field
- Baby and juvenile *T. rex* jaw casts
- *T. rex* skin touchable
- Digital interactive quiz
- Graphical overview of research on SUE



The final sections of the exhibition occupy the majority of the floorplan, and visitors can circulate through them freely. A naturalistic soundscape and shifting hall-wide lighting contribute to the dynamic, immersive experience.

Section 4: Predator and Prey



Jeffrey Lapomorte
The world's largest dinosaur skeleton is on display here. It's a Tyrannosaurus Rex, and it's the largest one ever found. It's 12 meters long and 4 meters high. It's the largest one ever found. It's 12 meters long and 4 meters high.





The centerpiece of the exhibition is a 40-foot cast of SUE's skeleton facing off against *T. rex*'s nemesis, *Triceratops*. Pairing SUE with *Triceratops* reinforces SUE's heroic persona: this individual survived longer than any other known *T. rex*, and did so while tangling with huge, imposing prey on a regular basis. Visitors can walk around both dinosaurs, and touch casts of SUE's bones. A digital interactive lets visitors explore 3D models of SUE's injured bones and see how the mounted skeleton has been updated according to new research. A life-sized replication of SUE stands nearby, with a small *Edmontosaurus* dangling from its jaws.

Visitors who linger here will be treated to a narrated show. Illuminated bones on the skeleton and dramatic lighting tell SUE's story: this was a top predator that lived a challenging and dangerous life, but survived to old age against the odds.





A T. rex named SUE

Tyrannosaurus rex
Late Cretaceous 1100–66 million years ago
Dated to 60–66 million years ago
South Dakota

SUE was an apex predator, but life at the top of the food chain could be brutal. From broken ribs to arthritis, SUE's skeleton contains many examples of injury and disease. SUE lived a difficult and violent life, but survived to old age against the odds.

Look for these features on SUE's skeleton:

Cranium y mandíbula

Un T. rex llamado SUE

Tyrannosaurus rex
Cretácico Tardío 1100–66 millones de años
Data de 60–66 millones de años
Estado del Sur

SUE era un depredador supremo, pero la vida en la cima de la cadena alimenticia podía ser sangrienta. Desde costillas rotas hasta artritis, el esqueleto de SUE muestra muchos ejemplos de lesiones y enfermedad. SUE vivió una vida difícil y violenta, pero a pesar de todo, sobrevivió hasta una edad avanzada.

Busca estas características en el esqueleto de SUE:

Cráneo y mandíbula

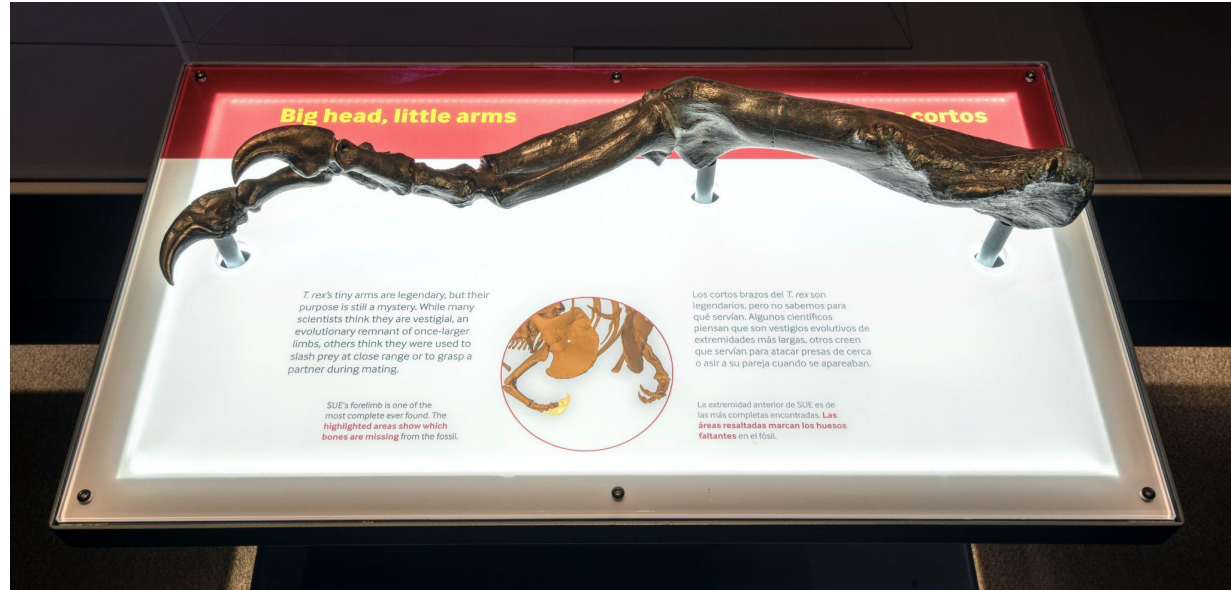
El cráneo de SUE es el más grande que se haya encontrado jamás. Al igual que el de un hipopótamo, el cráneo de SUE pesa más de 100 libras (45 kg).

Los huesos de SUE muestran signos de artritis y otros problemas de salud. SUE vivió una vida difícil y violenta, pero a pesar de todo, sobrevivió hasta una edad avanzada.

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Predator and Prey Highlights

- Cast of SUE skeleton
- Cast of *Triceratops* skeleton
- Narrated SUE light show
- SUE vs. *Edmontosaurus* fleshed-out replication
- Interactives: touchable models of SUE's bones
 - SUE miniature relief
 - SUE arm
 - SUE rib
 - SUE tail vertebra

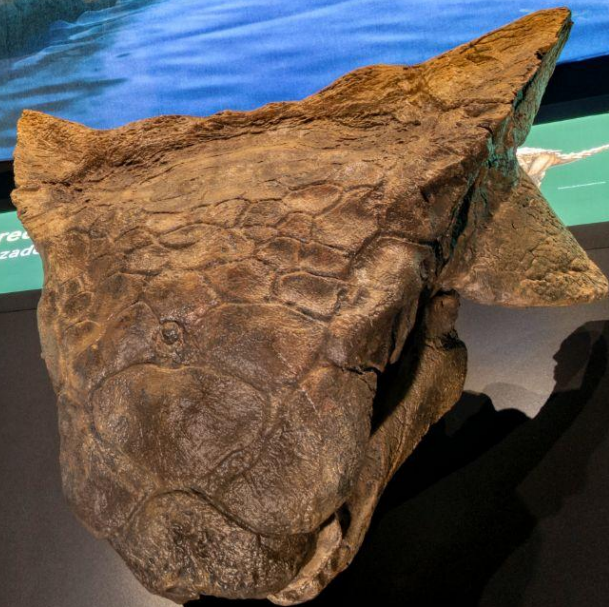


Section 5: SUE's World



What lived in rivers and ponds?
¿Qué vivía en los ríos y estanques?

Armored
Acorazado





Stegosaurus était un dinosaure à dos plat, doté de grandes plaques osseuses et de deux longues cornes.

Les ossements de Stegosaurus ont été découverts en 1868, dans le sud-ouest des États-Unis. Le dinosaure vivait il y a environ 150 millions d'années.

Le Stegosaurus était un herbivore, capable de brouter les plantes. Il mesurait environ 10 mètres de long et pesait jusqu'à 4 tonnes.

Les plaques osseuses sur son dos servaient à la régulation de la température et à la défense.

Le Triceratops était un dinosaure à corne, doté d'un grand casque osseux et de deux longues cornes.

Il vivait en Amérique du Nord, il y a environ 65 millions d'années. Le Triceratops mesurait environ 9 mètres de long et pesait jusqu'à 6 tonnes.

Il était un herbivore, capable de brouter les plantes. Les cornes et le casque servaient à la défense.



What's New in the World of Dinosaurs?

Les dernières découvertes et les nouvelles technologies de la paléontologie.



Le dinosaure était un animal à quatre pattes, doté d'un long cou et d'une queue longue et rigide.

Il vivait en Amérique du Nord, il y a environ 65 millions d'années. Le dinosaure mesurait environ 10 mètres de long et pesait jusqu'à 4 tonnes.

Il était un herbivore, capable de brouter les plantes. La queue servait à la défense.

Le dinosaure était un animal à sang chaud, capable de survivre dans des environnements froids.

Il était un animal social, capable de vivre en groupe.

Le dinosaure était un animal à longévité, capable de vivre jusqu'à 100 ans.

Le dinosaure était un animal à reproduction, capable de pondre des œufs.

Le dinosaure était un animal à migration, capable de parcourir de longues distances.

Le dinosaure était un animal à adaptation, capable de survivre dans des environnements variés.

Le dinosaure était un animal à évolution, capable de changer au fil du temps.

Le dinosaure était un animal à extinction, capable de disparaître à jamais.



Animated scenes of Cretaceous South Dakota play on a giant projection screen, imbuing the space with continuous life and movement. Extended periods of calm are punctuated by exciting moments of dinosaur action. Nearby, visitors can explore SUE's world in detail. Three displays representing the three locations depicted in the animations (forest, river, and oxbow) contain fossil casts and replicas from the animals and plants that lived there. In addition to dinosaurs large and small, visitors meet surprising oddities such as a paddlefish and the opossum-like *Didelphodon*. Visitors can investigate smell stations (a pleasant-smelling cedar forest contrasts with SUE's rancid breath), feel reproductions of dinosaur skin, and sense the infrasonic rumble of a vocalizing *T. rex* at a touch table.

SUE's World Highlights

- Scenes from the forest, river, and oxbow
- Cast skulls of *Acheroraptor*, *Ankylosaurus*, *Edmontosaurus*, *Pachycephalosaurus*, and more
- *Didelphodon* cast skeleton
- Paddlefish fossil cast
- Cretaceous plant fossil casts
- Four recreated smells from SUE's world
- Interactive rumble table



Media and Interactives

Media

Dynamic media includes:

- 20 minute looped program featuring a narrated SUE light show and animated scenes of Cretaceous South Dakota
- Naturalistic soundscapes throughout the exhibition



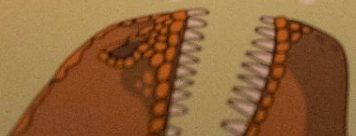
Interactives

15 interactives throughout the exhibition excite the senses:

- 5 bronze touchables including SUE's bones and skin
- 4 smells from SUE's world, including their putrid breath
- 3 digital stations including a quiz
- 1 fur touchable
- Rumble table to feel SUE's roar
- Walk-on quarry map



REST YOUR ELBOWS ON THE PLATFORM
AND CUP YOUR HANDS BEHIND YOUR EARS
APROXIMA TUS CODOES SOBRE LA PLATAFORMA. PON LAS
MANOS EN FORMA CÓNCAVA Y CÚPULAS DETRÁS
DE LAS OREJAS







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312.665.7119 | travelingexh@fieldmuseum.org

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