

# TWELVE IDEAS YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT STEPHEN JAY GOULD

Ingenio Magazine guest in this opportunity is an American paleontologist, evolutionary biologist, historian of science and an influential writer and reader of popular science: Stephen Jay Gould. Who devoted much of his life teaching Harvard University and working at the American Museum of Natural History in New York.



Adapted by Ingenio



- 1 He was born the 10 of September of 1941 in the light city: New York and grew in Bayside community, a Queens quiet neighborhood.
- 2 His mother Eleanor was an artist and his father Leonard a court stenographer and a keen of the knowledge of nature, so when Stephen was five years old he took him to the Hall of Dinosaurs at the American Museum of Natural History.
- 3 There he discovered his passion for science when saw for the first time the skeleton of the Tyrannosaurus Rex. He was so impressed. From that day on decided to devote his life to science and to study living beings from extinct fossils in order to rebuild their livelihoods.
- 4 As a kid he collected baseball comics and as a fan he followed the New York Yankees team throughout his life.
- 5 When he was attending Antioch College in 1960, he was preoccupied for the civil rights movement and for social justice, while studying geology and philosophy. And at the University of Leeds he organized meetings t in favor of the black community.

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**6** As an adult he enjoyed science fiction movies but complained about how science was presented. He was also a singer and had a taste for operettas, collected rare and antique books and admired Renaissance architecture. He frequently traveled to Europe and he also spoke French, German, Russian and Italian.

**7** Gould was married twice. His first marriage was with the artist Deborah Lee, with whom he had two sons, Jesse and Ethan. His second marriage was in 1995 with the artist and sculptor Rhonda Roland Shearer.

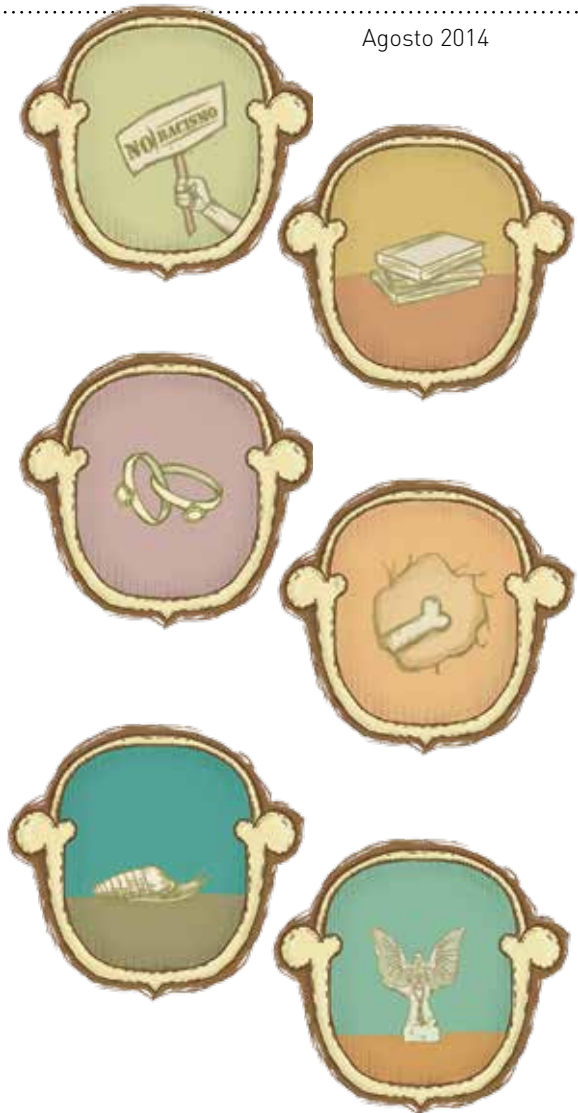
**8** He specialized in evolutionary biology and Paleontology and his research had great impact for the entire scientific community. He was fond of the history of science, and he was always looking for making the scientific knowledge more accessible to all.

**9** Creator of the “Intermittent Equilibrium Theory”, according to which there are brief periods in the evolution in them new species are created, they are the ones that have an evolutive success (rather than the individuals, as asserted by Darwin).

**10** The majority of their empirical research are concerning to land snails. His first works were centered in the kind Poecilozonites of Bermuda, and later concentrated on the Cerion from the West Indies, which is according to Gould the most diverse land snail in its shape around the world.

**11** En 1997 he lent his voice to a cartoon version of himself for The Simpsons television series. In the episode “Lisa the Skeptic”, Lisa finds a skeleton that many people believe it is an apocalyptic angel. She then contacts Gould and asks him to carry out the testing of DNA from the skeleton.

**12** Gould is one of the most mentioned scientists in the field of the theory of evolution; one of his papers has been cited more than 3,800 times. In the specialized magazine Paleobiology, only Charles Darwin and Simpson GG have been cited most frequently. A review of his publications from 1965 to 2000 includes 479 items reviewed by peers, 22 books, 300 essays and 101 reviews of books.



\*This twelve ideas about Stephen Jay Gould's life, were the result of an exhaustive seek from different references of public knowledge. The text was elaborated, proved and approved by the Editorial Committee of the **Ingenio** Magazine.