

Orthoceras fossil



Orthoceras are an extinct Nautiloid cephalopod, an ancestor of the modern squid and octopuses who had shells composed of multiple chambers. These chambers were used for buoyancy control as the animal grew, that lived from the Ordovician Period to the Triassic Period between 500– 200 million years ago.

While many specimens range in size up to 30cm, some could grow as long as 5 metres.

Part of what made Orthoceras so successful was its flexible diet. consuming anything from tiny plankton to crawling trilobites.

This specimen was found in the Atlas Mountains of Morocco.

