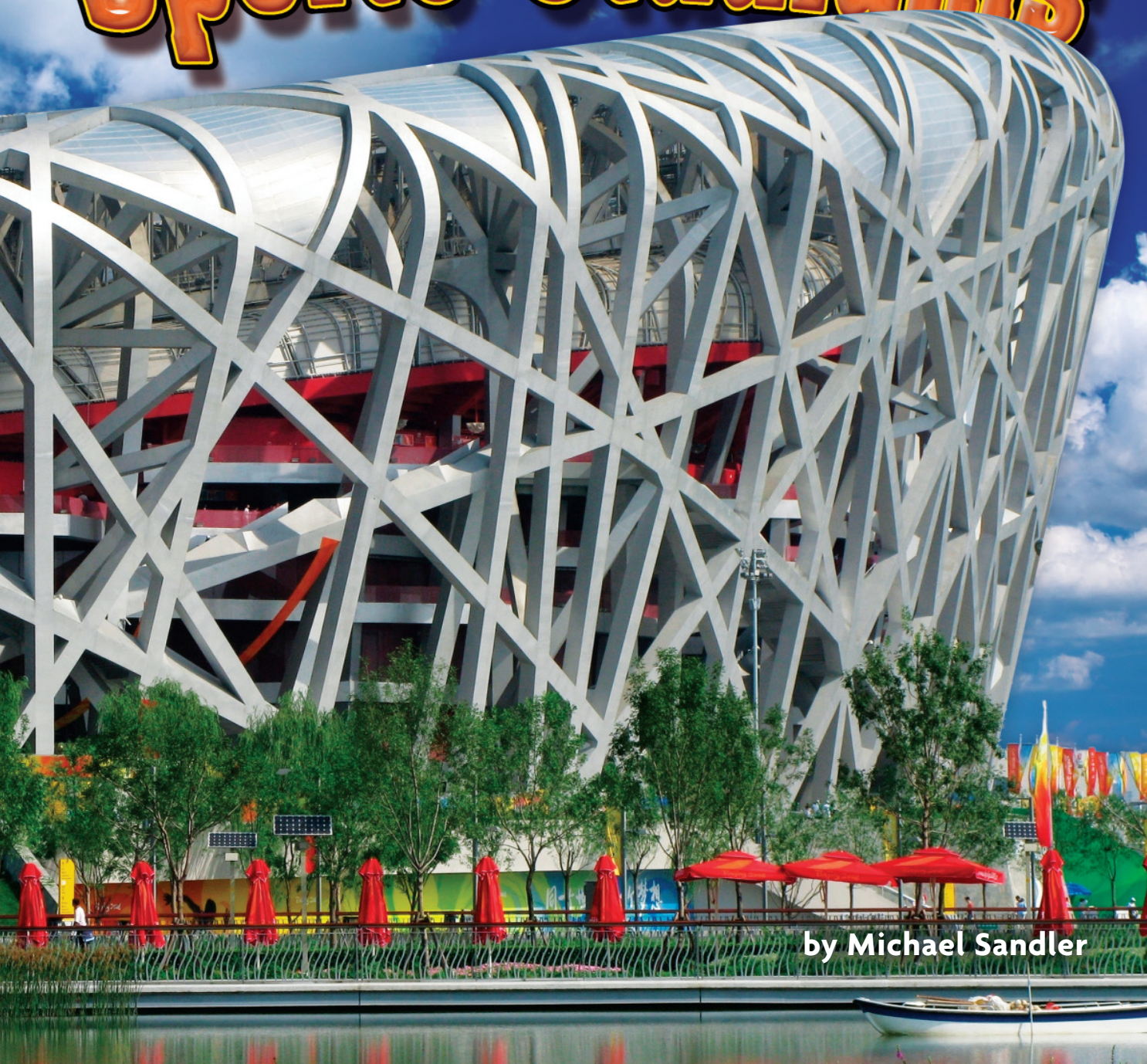


SO BIG
Compared to What?

STUPENDOUS

sports Stadiums



by Michael Sandler

[Intentionally Left Blank]



STUPENDOUS Sports Stadiums



by Michael Sandler

Consultant: Paul F. Johnston, Ph.D.
Washington, D.C.

BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

New York, New York

Credits

Cover and Title Page, © sunxuejun/Shutterstock; TOC, © iofoto/Shutterstock; 4, © Ambient Images Inc./SuperStock; 5, © Molly Riley/Reuters/Landov; 6, © Tom Fox/Dallas Morning News/Corbis; 7, © Scott Boehm/Getty Images; 8, © sunxuejun/Shutterstock; 9, © iPhotos/Shutterstock; 10, © Kai Pfaffenbach/Reuters/Landov; 11, © AP Photo/Ian Mainsbridge; 12, © Munshi Ahmed/Bloomberg/Getty Images; 13, © Susan Jefferies; 14, © Stuart Forster/Alamy; 15, © Westend61 GmbH/FotoFeeling/Alamy; 16, © Pichi Chuang/Reuters/Landov; 17, © AFP/Getty Images/World Games/Newscom; 18, © Christian Petersen/Getty Images; 19, © Global Spectrum/Gene Lower/AZ Cardinals; 20–21, © Stefan Sonntag; 21, © AP Photo/Korea Pool via Yonhap; 22A, © AP Photo/Carlo Wrede; 22B, © View Pictures Ltd/SuperStock; 22C, © VenuesWest/The Western Australian Sports Centre Trust/Government of Western Australia; 22D, © Florian Kopp/imagebroker/Alamy.

Publisher: Kenn Goin

Senior Editor: Lisa Wiseman

Creative Director: Spencer Brinker

Photo Researcher: James O'Connor

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Sandler, Michael, 1965–

Stupendous sports stadiums / by Michael Sandler.

p. cm.— (So big compared to what?)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN-13: 978-1-61772-302-5 (library binding)

ISBN-10: 1-61772-302-9 (library binding)

1. Stadiums—Juvenile literature. I. Title.

NA6860.S26 2012

725'.827—dc22

2011006637

Copyright © 2012 Bearport Publishing Company, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the publisher.

For more information, write to Bearport Publishing Company, Inc.,

45 West 21st Street, Suite 3B, New York, New York 10010.

Printed in the United States of America in North Mankato, Minnesota.

070111

042711CGA

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



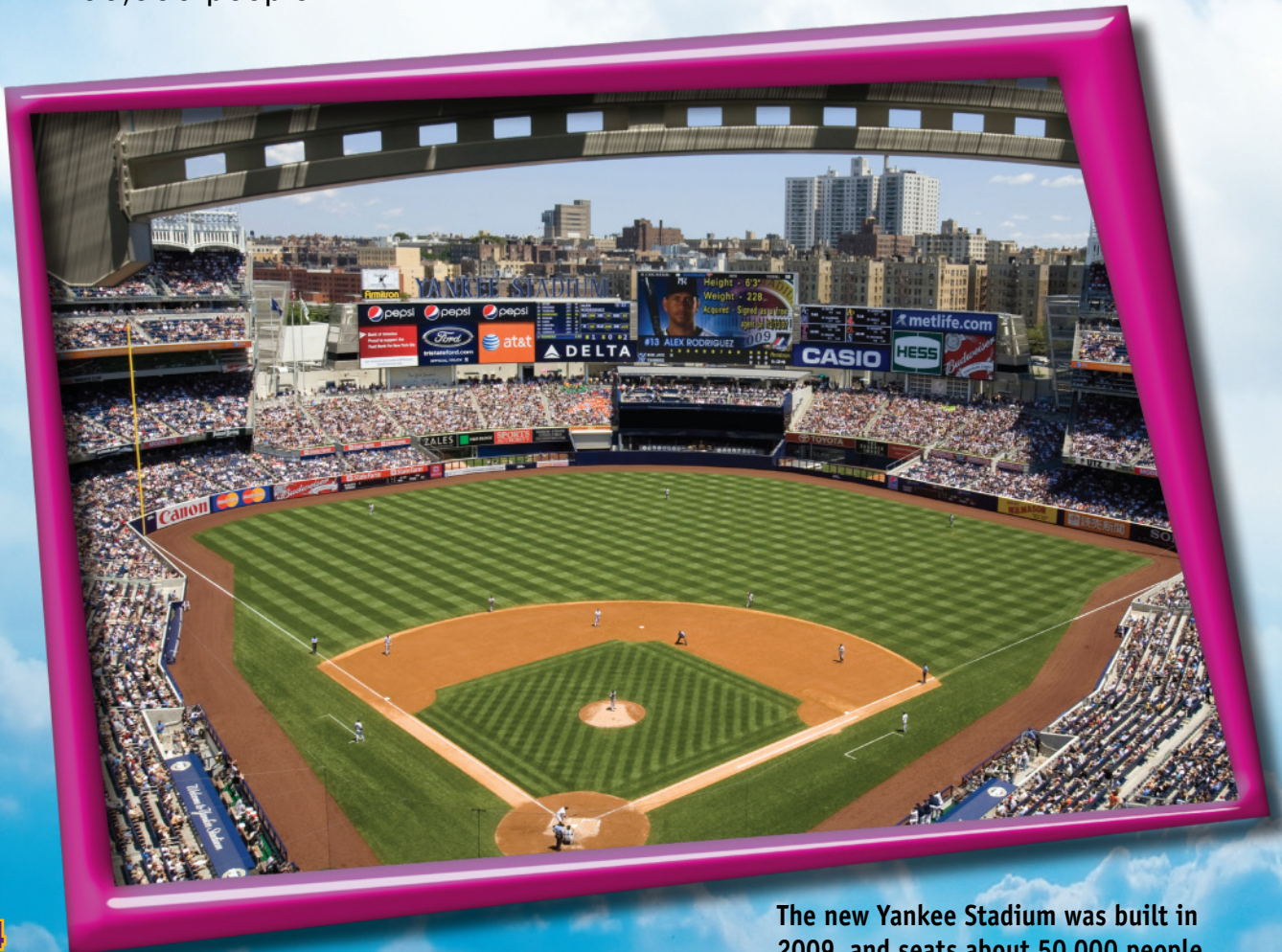


CONTENTS

Stupendous Sports Stadiums	4
Cowboys Stadium.....	6
Beijing National Stadium	8
ANZ Stadium.....	10
Marina Bay Floating Stadium	12
Allianz Arena.....	14
World Games Stadium	16
University of Phoenix Stadium.....	18
Rungrado May Day Stadium	20
 More Stupendous Sports Stadiums.....	 22
Glossary.....	23
Index	24
Bibliography	24
Read More.....	24
Learn More Online	24
About the Author.....	24

STUPENDOUS SPORTS STADIUMS

Each year in the United States about 75 million people head to sports stadiums to watch Major League Baseball games. Another 20 million go to stadiums to see professional football games. Together, that number of people equals almost one third of the U.S. population. Big, big buildings are needed to accommodate these large crowds, and stadiums are built to hold them. Some seat 50,000, 75,000, or even more than 100,000 people.



The new Yankee Stadium was built in 2009, and seats about 50,000 people.

The best sports stadiums are more than just oval-shaped buildings that have rows of seats surrounding a playing field. Many have unique features that make them stand out from the rest. In this book, you will discover some of today's most stupendous sports stadiums—in America and all around the world.

Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor, Michigan, is the largest football stadium in the United States. It holds nearly 110,000 people. A movie theater would need about 400 separate screening rooms to hold that many people.



COWBOYS STADIUM

Opened: 2009

Where: Arlington, Texas

Seats: 80,000–100,000 people

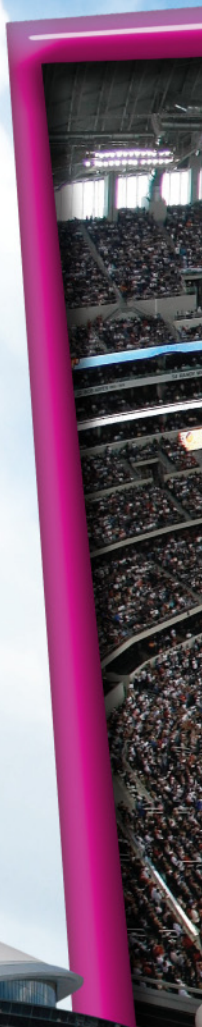
Stupendous Feature: Video display board

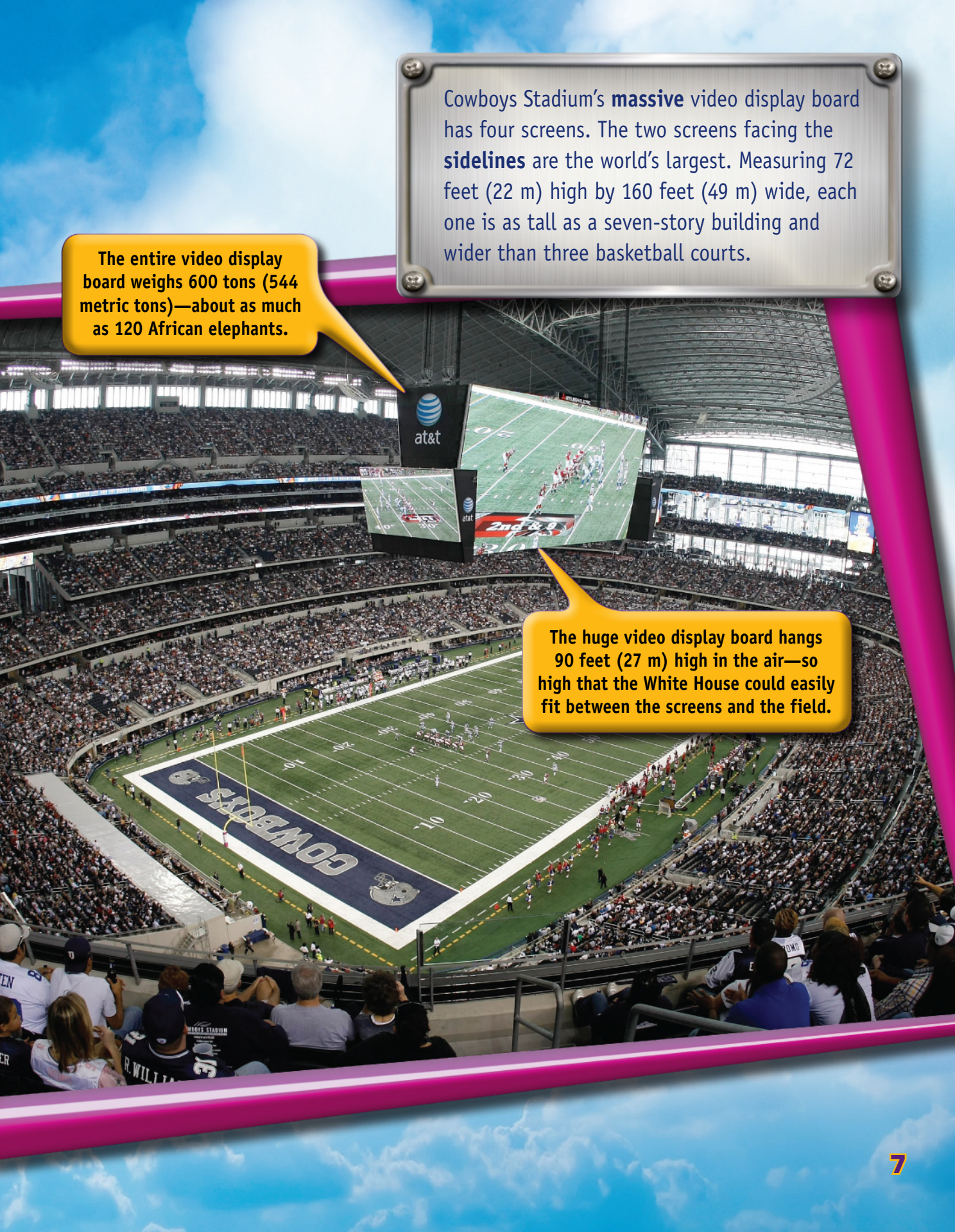
The Dallas Cowboys are the world's most famous pro football team. So it's only fitting that they play in the world's most famous football arena. Finished in 2009, the stadium cost about \$1.2 billion to build. For that price, you could build about 5,000 average-size homes in the United States.

High-tech gadgets and oversize features are what make Cowboys Stadium unique. A mighty dome-shaped roof soars nearly 30 stories above the playing field. The roof is **retractable** with two giant panels that slide open in good weather and slide closed in bad weather. Building the roof took 14,100 tons (12,791 metric tons) of steel—that's enough steel to build 92 Boeing 777 jets.



To enter and exit, visitors can pass through giant glass doors at each end of the stadium. These doors are huge at 120 feet (37 m) high by 180 feet (55 m) wide—big enough for more than 20 school buses to drive through them at the same time!





Cowboys Stadium's **massive** video display board has four screens. The two screens facing the **sidelines** are the world's largest. Measuring 72 feet (22 m) high by 160 feet (49 m) wide, each one is as tall as a seven-story building and wider than three basketball courts.

The entire video display board weighs 600 tons (544 metric tons)—about as much as 120 African elephants.

The huge video display board hangs 90 feet (27 m) high in the air—so high that the White House could easily fit between the screens and the field.

INDEX

Allianz Arena 14–15	Germany 14	Singapore 12
ANZ Stadium 10–11	Maracana Stadium 22	Soccer City Stadium 22
Arizona 18	Marina Bay Floating Stadium 12–13	South Africa 22
Australia 10, 22	Michigan Stadium 5	Taiwan 16
Beijing National Stadium 8–9	North Korea 20	Texas 6
Braga Municipal Stadium 22	Olympics 8, 10	University of Phoenix Stadium 18–19
Brazil 22	Portugal 22	World Games Stadium 16–17
Challenge Stadium 22	Rungrado May Day Stadium 20–21	Yankee Stadium 4, 20
China 8		
Cowboys Stadium 6–7		

BIBLIOGRAPHY

John, Geraint, Rod Sheard, and Ben Vickery. *Stadia: A Design and Development Guide*. Oxford: Elsevier (2007).

Architectural Record

Civil Engineering Magazine

www.stadia-magazine.com

READ MORE

Hurley, Michael. *The World's Most Amazing Stadiums*. Chicago: Raintree (2011).

Matthews, Sheelagh. *Beijing National Stadium*. New York: Weigl (2009).

Mitchell, Susan K. *The Largest Stadiums (Megastructures)*. Pleasantville, NY: Gareth Stevens (2007).

LEARN MORE ONLINE

To learn more about stupendous sports stadiums, visit
www.bearportpublishing.com/SoBigComparedtoWhat

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

[Intentionally Left Blank]



STUPENDOUS Sports Stadiums

Some sports stadiums are so amazing that it's hard to grasp the size of their incredible features—unless you have something to compare them to. For example, the video display board at Cowboys Stadium in Texas weighs 600 tons (544 metric tons). How heavy is that? It's almost as heavy as 120 African elephants! Look inside to discover more about the spectacular features of sports stadiums around the world. The amazing comparisons will help you see just how stupendous these stadiums truly are.

**Amazing Amusement
PARK RIDES**

**Spectacular
SKYSCRAPERS**

**Freaky-Strange
BUILDINGS**

**Stupendous
SPORTS STADIUMS**

BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

www.bearportpublishing.com

ISBN-13: 978-1-61772-302-5



9 781617 723025