



# Discovery of the Largest Known Marine Reptile Uncovered Through Ancient Fossils

## Description

A father-daughter fossil-collecting duo made a remarkable discovery on a beach in Somerset, England, that has scientists buzzing with excitement. The massive jawbone they found belongs to a newfound species of ichthyosaur, a marine reptile that lived around 202 million years ago. This giant creature, named *Ichthyotitan severnensis*, measured more than 82 feet long, rivaling the size of a blue whale, the largest known animal on Earth.

The jawbone, which was over 6.5 feet long, was discovered by Justin and Ruby Reynolds in May 2020. Their find caught the attention of paleontologist Dr. Dean Lomax, who, along with fossil collector Paul de la Salle, studied a similar jawbone found in 2016. Together, they confirmed the existence of a new species of ichthyosaur and reassembled the jawbone by October 2022.

This discovery sheds light on the evolutionary history of these giant marine reptiles and the ancient ocean ecosystems they inhabited. The researchers hope to find more pieces of the puzzle, such as a complete skull or skeleton, to further understand the size and characteristics of *Ichthyotitan severnensis*.

The journey of uncovering the secrets of these prehistoric creatures continues, with the Reynolds family, Lomax, and de la Salle leading the way. Their findings will be displayed at the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, showcasing the significant contribution made by amateur fossil collectors to the field of paleontology. Through their discovery, we gain a deeper understanding of the ancient world and the remarkable creatures that once roamed the Earth's oceans.

## Vocabulary List:

1. **Ichthyosaur** // (noun): A marine reptile that lived in the Mesozoic era.
2. **Paleontologist** // (noun): A scientist who studies fossils.
3. **Ecosystem** // (noun): A community of living organisms and their environment.
4. **Evolutionary** // (adjective): Relating to the process of biological change over time.
5. **Reassembled** // (verb): Put back together after being taken apart.
6. **Amateur** // (noun): A person who engages in a pursuit especially a sport on an unpaid basis usually as a hobby.

## Vocabulary quizzes



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

1. What term is used to describe the act of stopping a product or service?  
Option: Enhanced  
Option: Discontinuing  
Option: Subscriber  
Option: Lossless
2. Who is considered as someone who pays for a service regularly?  
Option: Credibility  
Option: Subscriber  
Option: Decommissioning  
Option: Malicious
3. What term refers to a group of stars forming a recognizable pattern?  
Option: Spectacle  
Option: Subscription  
Option: Constellation  
Option: Ecosystem
4. What term relates to the features or abilities of a particular system or product?  
Option: Underused  
Option: Capabilities  
Option: Lossless  
Option: Retired
5. Which term can mean putting something back together after it was taken apart?  
Option: Reassembled  
Option: Indefinite  
Option: Lamenting  
Option: Platforming
6. What is the name of the marine reptile that lived during the Mesozoic era?  
Option: Amateur  
Option: Meteor  
Option: Ichthyosaur  
Option: Malicious
7. Which word describes something that has been improved or made better?  
Option: Enhanced  
Option: Stargazers  
Option: Shower



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Option: Curating

8. What celestial event typically results in a bright streak of light in the sky?

Option: Capabilities

Option: Lamenting

Option: Meteor

Option: Ecosystem

9. What term is used to describe items or signals that point to a particular situation or trend?

Option: Subscriber

Option: Package

Option: Indicators

Option: Decommissioning

10. Which term refers to the process of shutting down or retiring a system or service?

Option: Decommissioning

Option: Amateur

Option: Malicious

Option: Enhanced

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

11. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a person who receives or pays for a service regularly.

12. The \_\_\_\_\_ of a source is crucial when evaluating its reliability.

13. The fireworks display was a breathtaking \_\_\_\_\_ in the night sky.

14. The Amazon rainforest is a complex and diverse \_\_\_\_\_.

15. The new compression technology promises \_\_\_\_\_ audio quality.

16. The subscription includes a comprehensive software \_\_\_\_\_.

17. An \_\_\_\_\_ astronomer discovered a new comet in the night sky.

18. The timeline for the project is still \_\_\_\_\_ due to unforeseen delays.

19. The virus was identified as a \_\_\_\_\_ attempt to harm computer systems.

20. The company is actively \_\_\_\_\_ its products to reach a wider audience.



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

21. Astronomy enthusiasts who observe the night sky with telescopes and binoculars.
22. A celestial event where numerous meteors appear to originate from a single point in the sky.
23. Pieces of rock or metal that enter the Earth's atmosphere from space.
24. The quality of being trusted and believed in.
25. Someone who receives or pays for a service regularly.
26. Improved or increased in quality value or performance.
27. A collection of related items or services sold together.
28. Refers to data compression that allows the original data to be perfectly reconstructed from the compressed data.
29. The features or abilities of a particular system or product.
30. Items or signals that point to a particular situation or trend.

**Answer**

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Discontinuing 2. Subscriber 3. Constellation 4. Capabilities 5. Reassembled 6. Ichthyosaur  
7. Enhanced 8. Meteor 9. Indicators 10. Decommissioning

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Subscriber 12. Credibility 13. Spectacle 14. Ecosystem 15. Lossless 16. Package 17. Amateur  
18. Indefinite 19. Malicious 20. Platforming

**Matching sentence:** 1. Stargazers 2. Shower 3. Debris 4. Credibility 5. Subscriber 6. Enhanced 7. Package  
8. Lossless 9. Capabilities 10. Indicators

**CATEGORY**

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL6

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