



# Rare Find: Fossilized Embryos Unveil Ancient Life Secrets

## Description

Scientists found tiny mineral balls that are 535 million years old. They are the fossilized embryos of animals from the Cambrian period. These embryos are from a group called Ecdysozoa, which includes insects, spiders, and worms.

Even though we can't identify the adult forms of these embryos, they might be related to a creature called Saccorhytus. Fossilized embryos are rare but valuable because they give us clues about ancient animals.

The embryos were discovered in China and have been well preserved. Researchers named them Saccus xixiangensis and Saccus necopinus based on their exoskeleton plates. These embryos don't have mouths or anuses, suggesting they were close to hatching before they died.

By studying similar ancient organisms, researchers hope to learn more about these embryos' development. The findings were published in Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology.

## Vocabulary List:

1. **Fossilized** /'fɔː.sə.laɪzd/ (adjective): Preserved remains or impressions of ancient organisms in rock.
2. **Embryos** /'em.bri.ɒz/ (noun): Early developmental stage of a multicellular organism.
3. **Preserved** /prɪ'zɜːrvd/ (verb): Maintained in its original state; protected from decay.
4. **Exoskeleton** /,ɛk.səʊ'skel.ɪ.tən/ (noun): A rigid external covering for the body in some invertebrate animals.
5. **Clues** /kluːz/ (noun): Hints or pieces of evidence that help to solve a problem.
6. **Ancient** /'eɪn.fənt/ (adjective): Belonging to the very distant past and no longer in existence.

## Vocabulary quizzes

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

1. Which disease is caused by the bacterium Treponema pallidum?

Option: Syphilis

Option: Norovirus

Option: Diabetes

Option: Dementia

2. Which term refers to something from a long time ago?



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- Option: Ancient  
Option: Radiation  
Option: Resilience  
Option: Diabetes
3. Which process turns organic remains into minerals?  
Option: Fossilized  
Option: Exoskeleton  
Option: Assess  
Option: Contaminated
4. What is the term for being well-watered or retaining water?  
Option: Hydrated  
Option: Diabetes  
Option: Inflammation  
Option: Dementia
5. What are single-celled microorganisms called?  
Option: Bacteria  
Option: Preserved  
Option: Diverse  
Option: Survive
6. Which virus is known for causing stomach and intestinal inflammation?  
Option: Norovirus  
Option: Exoskeleton  
Option: Ancient  
Option: Syphilis
7. What energy is emitted by particles?  
Option: Radiation  
Option: Germ-free  
Option: Urging  
Option: Lifestyle
8. Which health condition is characterized by high blood sugar levels?  
Option: Diabetes  
Option: Dementia  
Option: Embryos  
Option: Disinfect
9. Which condition leads to a decline in cognitive function?  
Option: Dementia



- Option: Researcher
- Option: Germ-free
- Option: Survive

10. Which term refers to the ability to recover from difficulties?

- Option: Resilience
- Option: Bacteria
- Option: Contaminated
- Option: Syphilis

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

11. A sudden \_\_\_\_\_ of a disease in a specific population can lead to widespread concern.
12. The \_\_\_\_\_ collected data to analyze the results of the study.
13. Common \_\_\_\_\_ of the flu include fever cough and fatigue.
14. Chronic \_\_\_\_\_ can lead to serious health conditions if left untreated.
15. Health experts are \_\_\_\_\_ the public to get vaccinated against the flu.
16. Adopting a healthy \_\_\_\_\_ can reduce the risk of many chronic diseases.
17. Certain bacteria can \_\_\_\_\_ in extreme environments due to their adaptive abilities.
18. Avoid consuming \_\_\_\_\_ food or water to prevent foodborne illnesses.
19. The ancient artifacts were well \_\_\_\_\_ in specially designed containers.
20. Health professionals regularly \_\_\_\_\_ the risk factors associated with certain diseases.

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

21. Digital technologies have revolutionized the way people are globally .
22. Laboratory mice raised in a environment help scientists study the role of microbes in health.
23. Insects have an external skeletal structure called an for support and protection.
24. The detective carefully examined the crime scene for any that could lead to solving the case.



25. The researchers studied the development of frog to understand genetic processes.
26. It is important to surfaces regularly to prevent the spread of germs and viruses.
27. Colds are a illness especially during the winter months.
28. The Amazon rainforest is home to a range of plant and animal species.
29. The archaeologists unearthed an burial site dating back thousands of years.
30. The community showed great in rebuilding after the natural disaster.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Syphilis 2. Ancient 3. Fossilized 4. Hydrated 5. Bacteria 6. Norovirus 7. Radiation 8. Diabetes 9. Dementia 10. Resilience

**Gap-Fill:** 11. outbreak 12. researcher 13. symptoms 14. inflammation 15. urging 16. lifestyle 17. survive 18. contaminated 19. preserved 20. assess

**Matching sentence:** 1. connected 2. germ-free 3. exoskeleton 4. clues 5. embryos 6. disinfect 7. common 8. diverse 9. ancient 10. resilience

## CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL2

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