

This

# PASSPORT

belongs to:





# Archives and Mystery Boxes



Welcome to  
your Virtual Get  
Schooled Field Trip  
with:



**SCIENCE MUSEUM**  
of WESTERN VIRGINIA

# Welcome to The Science Museum of Western Virginia's Discovery Boxes!

**FUN WITH FOSSILS**

Did You Know...

... There are several fossil types.  
As you enjoy this video, think about  
what some of those types may be.

(Hint: are all fossils from the bodies of  
the organisms themselves?)



# MYSTERY BOX # 1

Look through the box below (don't flip the page yet!)  
to peek at this item.  
What do you think it is?

---



# It's a

---

How can we tell what it used to eat from this fossil?

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What else did you learn about this fossil?

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# MYSTERY BOX #2

Look through the box below (don't flip the page yet!)  
to peek at this item.  
What do you think it is?

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# It's a

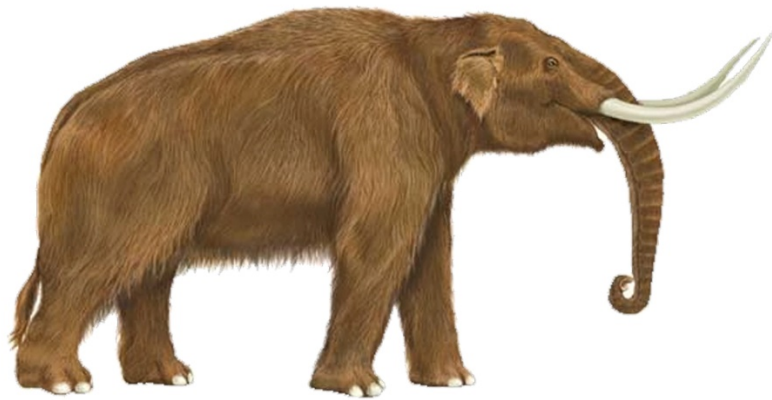
---

How can we tell what it used to eat from this fossil?

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---

---



Did You Hear it?

Health experts recommend that humans drink a half gallon of water each day.

Mastodons would drink \_\_\_\_\_ gallons of water each day!



# MYSTERY BOX #3

Look through the box below (don't flip the page yet!)  
to peek at this item.

What do you think it is?

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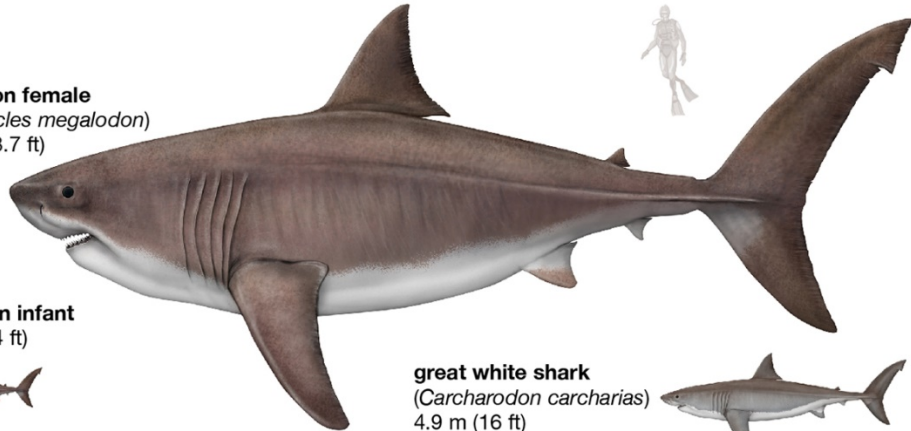


# It's a

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## Size comparison of the megalodon and the great white shark

**megalodon female**  
(*Carcharocles megalodon*)  
17.9 m (58.7 ft)



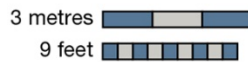
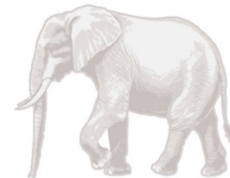
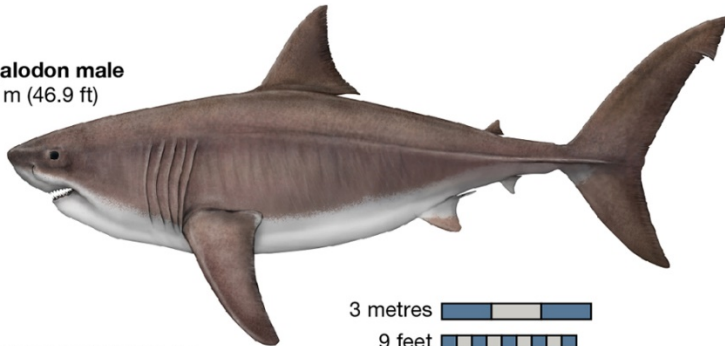
**megalodon infant**  
2.25 m (7.4 ft)



**great white shark**  
(*Carcharodon carcharias*)  
4.9 m (16 ft)



**megalodon male**  
14.3 m (46.9 ft)



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Did You Hear it?  
How did megalodon teeth change over time?

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Why do you think they went extinct?

# MYSTERY BOX #4

Look through the box below (don't flip the page yet!)  
to peek at this item.  
What do you think it is?

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# This is a

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Where was the one in this video found?

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Did You Hear it?  
What are these called?

Fill in the blanks with the information that you learned from the video to figure out what words you need to “dig up” in the word search below!

A \_\_\_\_\_ is any preserved remains, impression, or trace of any once-living thing from a past geological age.  
(from Wikipedia)

The T-Rex tooth was found in what state? \_\_\_\_\_

Mastodons ate vegetation, this means they are called:  
\_\_\_\_\_

A megalodon is a prehistoric \_\_\_\_\_.

Cow nose rays enjoy eating \_\_\_\_\_ and oysters.

c	l	u	o	f	e	u	h	t	n	a
s	u	n	s	o	a	k	e	c	y	f
h	e	v	o	s	h	a	r	k	r	o
e	l	a	n	s	f	t	b	r	a	u
f	v	i	b	i	o	i	i	s	a	t
s	h	c	a	l	s	m	v	h	c	a
c	a	p	l	a	y	e	o	r	a	h
t	l	u	t	h	a	t	r	i	p	a
f	s	a	f	s	s	i	e	k	v	o
s	o	u	m	h	a	r	s	r	l	k
f	u	n	a	s	c	i	e	n	c	e

## True Form

These types of fossils come from what their name suggests, the actual form of the creature. Parts of the body become replaced by minerals, and we call this petrification.

## Trace

Have you ever heard an adult use this word in a sentence? Maybe they said something like, "Don't leave any trace of crumbs on the table." In this case it means that you shouldn't leave evidence that you had eaten something by leaving crumbs on the table, or traces of the food. It has to do with something you left, not from your actual body.

This is similar to a trace fossil example except that their traces are from a long time ago. Examples are tracks, nests, dung and teethmarks.

## Mold

No, not the icky stuff on old bread, but a mold of an organism. This is a hollow imprint left in rock or sediment. So it actually looks like a negative of the original item. Examples can be from leaves, teeth and embryos.

## Cast

This is similar to a mold but with an extra step. A mold is hollow, but if it gets filled up by minerals it will resemble the original organism or item again, this is a cast.

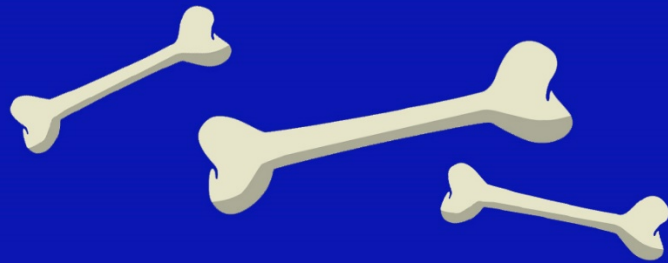


(Summarized from Sciencing.com)

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