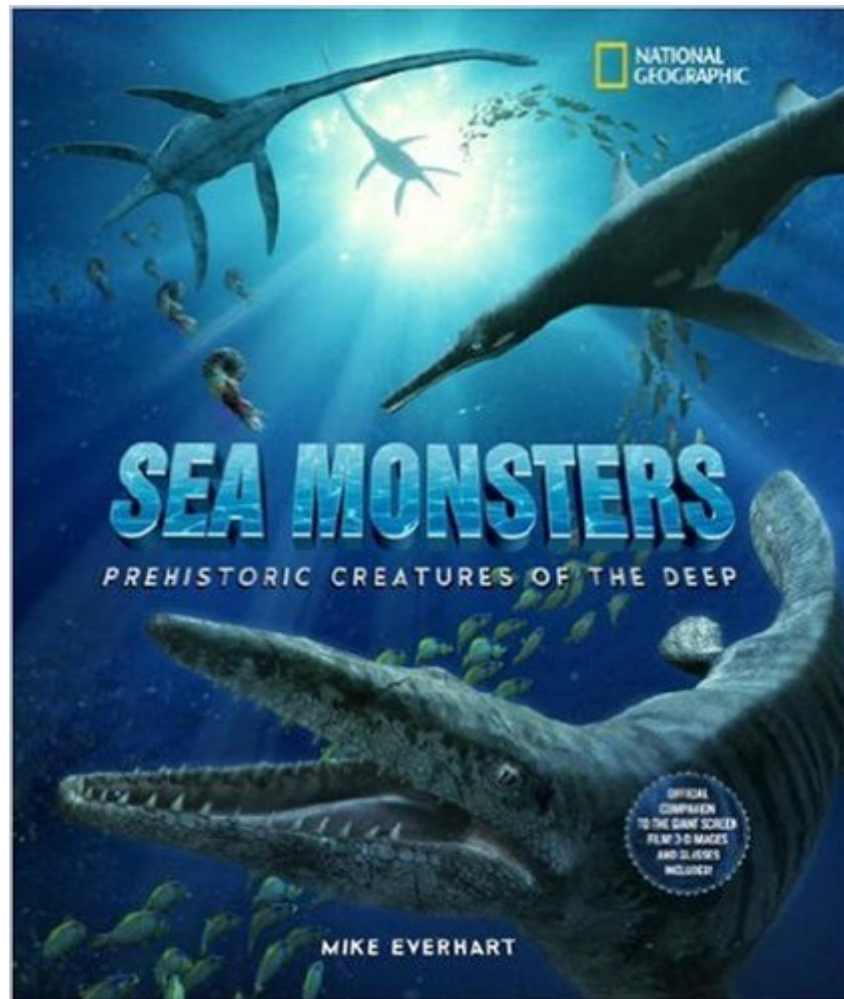


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# Sea Monsters: Prehistoric Creatures Of The Deep



## Synopsis

Sharks and dinosaurs, dinosaurs and sharks, we find them both alien and awe-inspiring, at once utterly inhuman and somehow irresistibly compelling. But forget Jaws and Jurassic Park; nothing can prepare you for *Sea Monsters: Prehistoric Creatures of the Deep*, an amazing plunge into the Cretaceous oceans of 80 million years ago, a merciless realm ruled by the most ferocious animals ever to stalk the seas of planet Earth. More terrifying than anything known to humankind, it scarcely seems possible that these swift, massive underwater predators actually existed, but they did; and this is their frightening, fascinating, unforgettable story. Featuring incredibly realistic computer-generated images and 3-D film clips; with 3-D glasses; field photography by National Geographic cameramen, and much more, the book interweaves dramatic scenes of the far, far distant past; up-to-the-minute scientific profiles of nearly two dozen sea monsters; and a group portrait of the eccentric Sternberg family, Kansas-bred pioneers of marine paleontology. From giant sharks and fierce reptiles to the fossil-hunters who proved that today's land-locked Great Plains were once submerged, to the cutting-edge Large Format Film technology that made *Sea Monsters* possible, this book and the movie behind it will forever change how we think about marine predators; and make us look at the oceans of our world with new eyes and a shivery mix of wonderment and ancient, instinctive fear.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

My sons watched *Chased by Dinosaurs* and became interested in sea monsters. But we were very

disappointed when we got this book. The 3-D photos are basically useless because the photos span two pages and the book does not open flat. When you do pry the book flat all the way almost breaking the binding, there is still about 2 centimeters lost in the middle - so don't try to count the bones on the elasmosaurus if your child wants to know exactly how many neck bones are there in the picture! *Cretoxyrhina* doesn't look impressive or even scary when you can't see it clearly - btw, that's 6 full pages wasted! I wish the author will just scale the pictures down to fit one page, that is still 9x11 inches and quite adequate. The pair of 3-D "glasses" is just a cardboard. So by the time you hold the "glasses" you don't have enough hands to flatten the book to avoid any glares. In all honesty, this is just an okay book. We prefer *Chased by Sea Monsters* which has more sea monsters and better index. *Chased By Sea Monsters*

One of the critics of TV is that it distracts people from reading. This might be true in some cases, but for the genre of prehistoric life (outside of dinosaurs), the CGI documentaries on cable and satellite TV have driven the sale of related books. This big, coffee-table book is one such example. Not quite as lavish as the books by Tim Haines, or the *Walking with Dinosaurs* series, this is still an impressive work by National Geographic, and features 3-D 2-page spreads with a pair of 3-D glasses. There is an accompanying movie of course, but the book is quite good by itself. It provides a mix of fossil-hunting documentary, to color illustrations of ancient sea monsters, along with descriptions of possible lifestyles and such. All told, a great book.

This book is a showcase for the Nat Geo movie of the same name and has little value as a standalone book. It has large 3-d pictures that you must use the little paper framed 3-D glasses to appreciate. This really doesn't work well at all. The images are also printed across two pages in many cases so that they are ruined by parts of the image being buried in the spine. About 20% of the book is tied up with sections on the making of the movie and about the art that they used - pure self promotion. I was very disappointed when I received this and cannot understand how this book got so many high reviews.

My then 7 year old little brother was on a serious sea monster kick after visiting the awesome Onion Creek Mosasaur exhibit at the Texas Memorial Museum in Austin. We then watched *Chased by Sea Monsters*, which is the DVD that this book is companion to. Naturally, all summer long he read every book I could get him that was about huge prehistoric ocean creatures. This is a great introduction to National Geographic for young readers and also makes a fascinating read for people

of all ages interested in the sea monster evolution and what lurked in our ancient oceans. Some of the fantastic artwork is in 3D to further intrigue younger readers (my kid brother loved it!) There are over 20 prehistoric sea creatures described including savage MONSTER sharks to bloodthirsty marine reptiles like mosasaurs, which are believed to be distantly related to monitor lizards such as the Komodo Dragon and which became our summer favourites. *Sea Monsters: Prehistoric Creatures of the Deep* contains an abundance of detailed information about the prehistoric ocean and is really a great primer on marine paleontology. Recommended for anyone with an interest in prehistoric sharks and marine reptiles, and especially for the young ones (or your inner child) fascinated by sea monsters!

My young son picked this out at the local aquarium. We purchased from , though. The pictures are very vivid and interesting. The 3D isn't really my thing, but I suppose most would think it is cool. I am glad it is only a very small portion of the book. Most of it is normal. The stories are fascinating.

This book has great photos and was sent in great time, and had 3-d glasses, which WERE provided. It has pictures of fossils and it gives you a feeling of wonder about the monsters of the deep. Great for the entire family..!!!

My kids are homeschooled, therefore I am always grapping up good book deals. This is a really cool book, and the sender really did fulfill their part of the deal. It was a used book, and it had an honest description. I knew what I was getting.

This companion to the screen film *SEA MONSTERS* stands alone well as an excellent addition to any general-interest lending library strong in sea exploration and ecology. Some 100 images taken from the film - many in 3-D - bring these sea monsters to life, while accompanying dialogue from pioneering paleontologists trace the vanished worlds and creatures of the past and brings prehistory to life. An excellent pick for any collection appealing to lay readers of prehistoric life or aquatic history. Diane C. Donovan California Bookwatch

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