

Cryptozoology

Where biology and fantasy collide: the amazing world of Bigfoot, the Loch Ness monster and many others.

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Activities sheet



Many people may laugh when they hear stories of the Loch Ness monster or Big Foot but did you know there is an entire scientific discipline devoted to the study of these creatures, animals whose existence has not yet been proven? Some of the creatures, called cryptids, are obviously fantastical, but cryptozoology studies all manner of suspected cryptids.

“The Hunt for the Unknown” Word search

L S N G N U U N O H S D Y G X	BIGFOOT
T I Z A R A A P T J K R O W L	BUNYIP
H M V L M M Q N J D U I W G S	CHUBACABRA
I E J E T H A K U I N B I S O	COELACANTH
B D L A D C T S C T K R E L M	CRYPTID
W U O L A Y W O Y P A E O N Y	CRYPTOZOOLOGY
R G N L H A E E M Y P D V Y K	GOATMAN
K K E Y M O T S V R E N C T M	HELL HOUND
Q O D P I I U O R C L U R C N	JERSEY DEVIL
C I A Z O P C N V E E H G P A	MOTHMAN
U P N E S S I E D A J T Q E V	NESSIE
E M C H U B A C A B R A R W M	SKUNK APE
R B F D X B N T O O F G I B R	SWAMP APE
C F C A E C J T T D B J D U A	THUNDERBIRD
G M Y G O L O O Z O T P Y R C	YETI
	YOWIE

Did you know that the Coelacanth was thought to be extinct for over 66 million years- that is until 1938 when it was “rediscovered” by a museum curator whilst looking over a fishing trawler catch for interesting additions to her

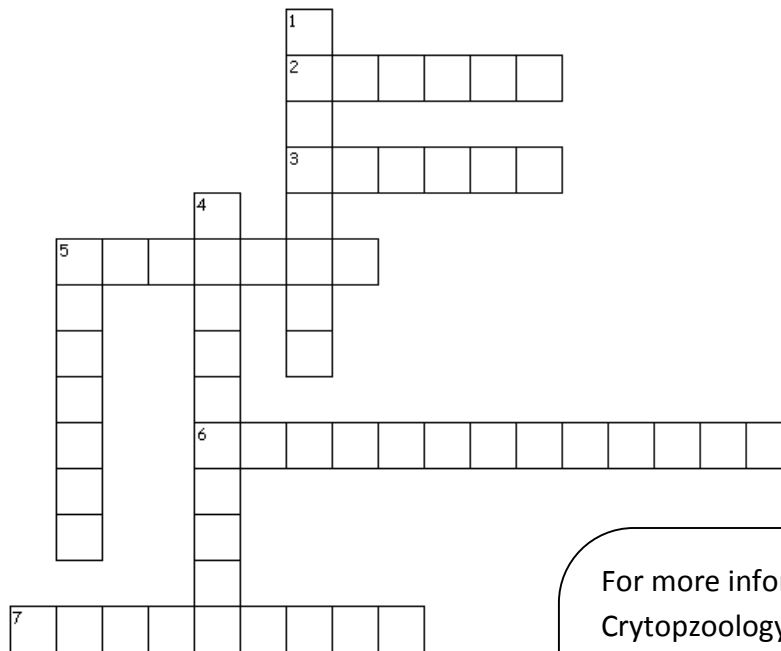
“Piecing together the evidence” Word Scramble

A	N	O	S	A	S	B	I	G	S	T	A	M	E	Q	U	A	R	N	T	I
T	C	H	F	O	F	O	O	H	E	R	T	T	H	E	H	E				



“Investigating the fringes of biology” cross word

The Yowie is an Australian Cryptid reputed to live in Australian bushland. It is sometimes also called the Bunyip and is common in Aboriginal legends



For more information on Cryptozology and associated topics I would definitely recommend the Podcast series known as “Monster Talk” hosted by the Skeptic magazine
(<http://www.skeptic.com/podcasts/monstertalk/>)



Across

- 2. A watery carnivorous equine (starts with K)
- 3. A Scottish mystery
- 5. Winged Biped who knew the future
- 6. The study of unknown animals
- 7. Another name for Australia's Tiger

Down

- 1. A rather smelly relative
- 4. Also known as the Goat sucker
- 5. A fishy tale



New species are being discovered all the time. According to Yale University, 16,969 new species were discovered in 2006 alone. Granted none of these were the size of Bigfoot or the Loch Ness Monster but those discovered included 2,000 plants and 1,000 vertebrates including 185 mammals, 196 reptiles, 108 amphibians, and 37 birds.