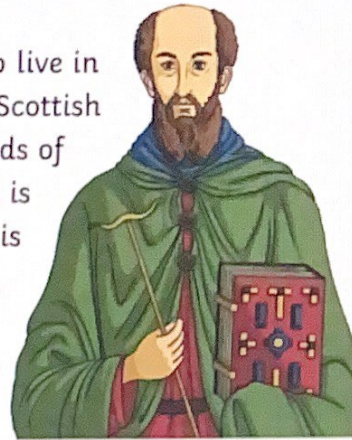


The Loch Ness Monster

The Legend of Loch Ness

The Loch Ness monster, known as Nessie, is said to live in the deep, murky waters of Loch Ness. Loch is a Scottish word for lake. Loch Ness is located in the Highlands of Scotland next to the town of Inverness. The loch is the second largest in Scotland. The deepest part is 812ft and it has been named Nessie's Lair.

The first story of Nessie, the monster in the loch, dates back to AD 565. A monk called Columba encountered a giant 'water beast' coming out of Loch Ness. Legend tells that Columba said a prayer and scared the monster off.

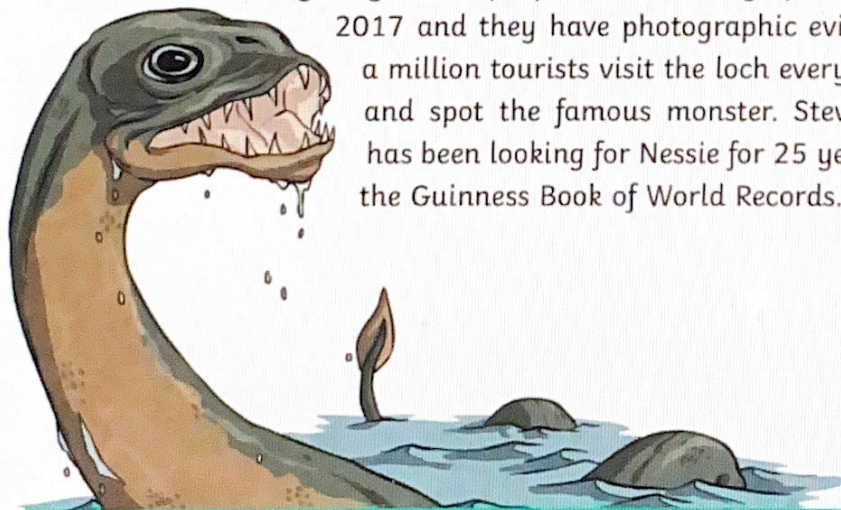


Believe It or Not?




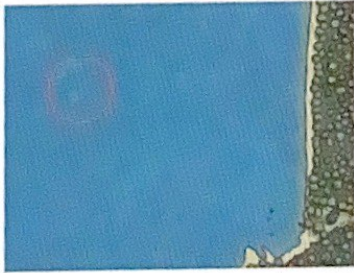
- Some scientists think that Nessie was a marine dinosaur.
- There are over 200 000 Internet searches for Nessie every month.
- Nessie has her own fan club.
- The largest search for the monster cost £1 million.
- Even Scooby Doo has tried to find Nessie – he too was unsuccessful!

Fact or Fiction?

Nobody has ever proved Nessie to be real. However, there have been over 1000 sightings since the legend began; there is even an official website to report a sighting. Three people have already spotted Nessie in 2017 and they have photographic evidence. Over a million tourists visit the loch every year to try and spot the famous monster. Steven Feltham has been looking for Nessie for 25 years. He is in the Guinness Book of World Records.



Famous Nessie Sightings:

Sighting	Evidence	Hoax
In 1934, a surgeon called Robert White reported that he saw Nessie's head coming out of the water.		40 years later, it was uncovered as a toy submarine with a fake head and tail.
In 1935, a hunter claimed he found a footprint on the banks of Loch Ness.		The print was made with a stuffed hippo foot.
In 2012, a boat skipper saw a hump coming out of the loch.		In 2013, the skipper admitted it was a fibreglass model of Nessie.
In 2014, Nessie was spotted on a satellite photo.		It was the wake of a boat.