

Looking for a way to engage with your learner more deeply through our videos? Use these guiding questions to dig a little deeper as you explore Field Museum collections and research at home!

THE FIELD REVEALED: THE TULLY MONSTER



Run time: 1:54

Suggested age level: elementary grades, tweens and teens

Essential question: What mysteries can extinct animals leave behind for scientists?

Key vocabulary:

Paleontology – the study of fossils to learn about past life on Earth

Invertebrate – an organism without a spine or spinal column

Gastropod – a class of animals that includes snails and slugs

Guiding questions:

1. What features of the Tully Monster make it hard for scientists to study how it lived?
2. What makes the Tully Monster fossil so hard to understand?
3. How would you study the fossil of an animal no one has ever seen before?

4. What current animals do you think will puzzle future paleontologists? Why do you think its fossil remains will be hard to understand?

Take action:

1. Find a small natural object around your home. Then, press it into mud, playdough, or clay to leave an imprint.
2. What does the object have in real life that doesn't show up on the imprint? How do you think this relates to fossils paleontologists find?