

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!

TULLY MONSTER MYSTERY SOLVED!



Run time: 7:27

Suggested age level: elementary grades, tweens and teens

Essential question: How does our understanding of extinct animals change with new scientific discoveries?

Key vocabulary:

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

Invertebrate – an organism without a spine or spinal column

Guiding questions:

1. What characteristics of the Tully Monster and its fossil form make it hard for scientists to study it?
2. How do scientists study extinct animals? How does having a variety of specimens of the same species impact the discoveries scientists make?

Take action:

1. Find a small object around your home that is soft like the body of an animal. Then use two pieces of clay or playdough and smush the object in between them.
2. After the object has been squashed, take apart the two pieces of clay. What do the imprints look like? How does the original object look?
3. Based on this activity, describe the challenges scientists have in studying the Tully Monster.