

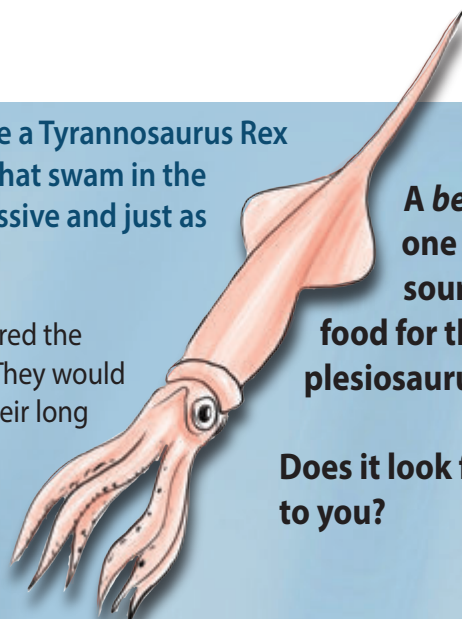


# JURASSIC DEPTHS

When we think of prehistoric animals we almost always imagine a Tyrannosaurus Rex or maybe a velociraptor. But what about the amazing animals that swam in the seas millions of years ago? They would have been just as impressive and just as deadly.

The Plesiosaurus was a predator, eating other fish and animals that shared the Jurassic seas. They would have eaten ammonites, fish and belemnites. They would have been able to swim using their four paddles and may have used their long neck to steer through the water.

**Only animals that lived on the land are called Dinosaurs!**  
**Animals that lived in the ocean are called Marine reptiles.**



**A belemnite, one of the sources of food for the plesiosaurus.**

**Does it look familiar to you?**

**PLESIOSAURUS :** (plesios = 'near to' | sauros = 'lizard')

**What was it?** Marine Reptile

**When was it alive:?** Between 200 and 175 million years ago (the early Jurassic period)

**How big was it?** About 3 meters long



First known record of a plesiosaur, 1719

## Percy the Plesiosaur

The Plesiosaur on display in Manchester Museum was uncovered in Ravenscar, near Robin Hood's Bay in North Yorkshire, by Manchester University geologist Fred Broadhurst and students on a geology field trip in 1960. They worked for days in very bad weather to secure the fossil remains and Percy was transported to Manchester in 3 sections. Percy is 180 million years old and is one of the most complete plesiosaur fossils ever discovered. Paleontologists come from all over the world to visit and study Percy.

