

1. What was Mary's father's job? Tick one.

- fossil collector
- scientist
- quarry worker
- furniture maker

2. Who told Mary that her curiosities were actually called 'fossils'? Tick one.

- her father
- an important man of science
- tourists
- Elizabeth Philpot

3. Fill in the missing words.

The specimen is now known to be an ichthyosaur: a type of _____
marine mammal dating back around _____ million years.

4. When was the Jurassic Coast awarded UNESCO World Heritage status?

5. Where is Mary's ichthyosaur now?

6. **Mary and her family would sell their curiosities to tourists for a penny each. This was welcome extra income for the poor family.**

Explain why this income is described as 'welcome'.

7. Why do you think that Mary's discoveries are on display in the Natural History Museum?

8. Discuss why Mary is described as 'one of the most important fossil hunters'.

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- her father
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- tourists
- Elizabeth Philpot**

3. Fill in the missing words.

The specimen is now known to be an ichthyosaur: a type of **extinct** marine mammal dating back around **195** million years.

4. When was the Jurassic Coast awarded UNESCO World Heritage status?

It was awarded UNESCO World Heritage status in 2001.

5. Where is Mary's ichthyosaur now?

Today, Mary's ichthyosaur is on display at the Natural History Museum in London.

6. **Mary and her family would sell their curiosities to tourists for a penny each. This was welcome extra income for the poor family.**

Explain why this income is described as 'welcome'.

Pupils' own responses, such as: The income is described as 'welcome' because Mary's family were poor and would have appreciated the extra money.

7. Why do you think that Mary's discoveries are on display in the Natural History Museum?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Mary's discoveries are on display at the Natural History Museum so that the public can see them. They're considered an important part of British natural history.

8. Discuss why Mary is described as 'one of the most important fossil hunters'.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think Mary was one of the most important fossil hunters because she made lots of remarkable finds along the coast and helped scientists to learn more about the history of these species.

1. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they occur in the text.

- Mary befriended fellow fossil collector Elizabeth Philpot.
- A man of science paid Mary £25 for her ichthyosaur.
- Mary was given a yearly payment by the Geological Society of London.
- Mary discovered an ichthyosaur.

2. Who sold 'curiosities' with Mary? Tick one.

- Elizabeth Philpot
- tourists
- her family
- an important man of science

3. How old was Mary when she discovered the ichthyosaur?

4. Look at the section called **Mary's ichthyosaur**.
Find and copy one word which means 'found at sea'.

5. Where does the word 'ichthyosaur' come from?

6. **Mary took the specimen home where she began to slowly and carefully chip away at the great slab using a hammer and chisel.**
Discuss why Mary did this 'slowly and carefully'.

7. Explain what the phrase 'poverty-stricken household' means.

8. **Being poor and uneducated, Mary's achievements were largely overlooked and she was not mentioned in any scientific papers at the time.**

Who do you think received the praise for these discoveries?

9. Summarise Mary's achievements in 25 words or fewer.

1. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they occur in the text.

- 1 Mary befriended fellow fossil collector Elizabeth Philpot.
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2. Who sold 'curiosities' with Mary? Tick one.

- Elizabeth Philpot
- tourists
- her family**
- an important man of science

3. How old was Mary when she discovered the ichthyosaur?

Mary was 12 years old when she discovered the ichthyosaur.

4. Look at the section called **Mary's Ichthyosaur**.

Find and copy one word which means 'found at sea'.

marine

5. Where does the word 'ichthyosaur' come from?

Ichthyosaur means 'fish lizard' in Greek.

6. **Mary took the specimen home where she began to slowly and carefully chip away at the great slab using a hammer and chisel.**

Discuss why Mary did this 'slowly and carefully'.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Mary would have chipped away slowly and carefully because the fossil was old and delicate so she would not have wanted to damage it.

7. Explain what the phrase 'poverty-stricken household' means.

Pupils' own responses, such as: The phrase 'poverty-stricken household' means that Mary's family did not have much money and struggled to make ends meet.

8. **Being poor and uneducated, Mary's achievements were largely overlooked and she was not mentioned in any scientific papers at the time.**

Who do you think received the praise for these discoveries?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that the important men of science who paid Mary for her discoveries may have taken credit for the discoveries at the time.

9. Summarise Mary's achievements in 25 words or fewer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Mary Anning was an important palaeontologist and fossil collector from Lyme Regis, who found lots of important fossils (including an ichthyosaur) along the Jurassic Coast.

1. Which of the following best describes what Mary was most famous for? Tick one.

- teaching about fossils
- selling curiosities
- fossil collecting
- writing about fossils

2. Which words from the first paragraph suggest that Mary's achievements were special? **Tick two.**

- collector
- groundbreaking
- pioneering
- commonly

3. What is an ichthyosaur?

4. Find and copy one phrase which shows that Mary's family relied on the money that was made from the curiosities.

5. How often did Mary receive a payment from the Geological Society of London?

6. Why do you think that tourists bought Mary's curiosities?

7. **At the time, Mary's discoveries and achievements were not recognised (perhaps because she was a poor and uneducated woman).**
Discuss how you think Mary would have felt about this.

8. **Elizabeth enlightened her as to the true origins of her mysterious curiosities.**
Explain what is meant by this sentence.

9. Discuss what you think might have happened if Mary had not met Elizabeth Philpot.

9. Explain why you think that people are planning to erect a statue of Mary along the Jurassic Coast.

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2. Which words from the first paragraph suggest that Mary's achievements were special? **Tick two.**

- collector
- groundbreaking**
- pioneering**
- commonly

3. What is an ichthyosaur?

An ichthyosaur is an extinct marine mammal.

4. Find and copy one phrase which shows that Mary's family relied on the money that was made from the curiosities.

much-needed income

5. How often did Mary receive a payment from the Geological Society of London?

Mary received a yearly payment from the Geological Society of London.

6. Why do you think that tourists bought Mary's curiosities?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that tourists bought the curiosities because they were mysterious and eye-catching. They would also be a reminder of their trip to Lyme Regis.

7. At the time, Mary's discoveries and achievements were not recognised (perhaps because she was a poor and uneducated woman)...

Discuss how you think Mary would have felt about this.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I imagine that Mary would have felt disappointed and frustrated that she wasn't being given credit for her discoveries.

8. Elizabeth enlightened her as to the true origins of her mysterious curiosities.

Explain what is meant by this sentence.

Pupils' own responses, such as: This sentence means that Elizabeth told her that her mysterious curiosities were, in fact, fossilised animals and plants from millions of years ago.

9. Discuss what you think might have happened if Mary had not met Elizabeth Philpot.

Pupils' own responses, such as: If Mary had not met Elizabeth, I think that she would not have known what her curiosities were so they may not have been brought to the attention of the important men of science.

9. Explain why you think that people are planning to erect a statue of Mary along the Jurassic Coast.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that a statue of Mary is being erected on the Jurassic Coast because she was a very important individual who is especially significant in that area. It is a fitting and lasting tribute to her memory.