

# The Great Sea Monster Cask Search and Find Book

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Full page color plate showing the Great Sea Monster Cask**
- 3. The search and find monsters, their pictures, and their statistics (see the monster and find it on the cask)**
- 4. What else did you see (find things without a picture from the description only)**
- 5. Questions and answers about sea monsters**
- 6. Carving and painting the Great Sea Monster Cask**
- 7. Inspiration**

## **1. Introduction**

The Great Sea Monster Cask, created in 2019 and 2020, is covered with strange and fearsome monsters. We had a great time making this masterpiece and many neighbors stopped by to see it as we worked on it in the garage.

Young people find it fun to hunt on the cask to locate the monsters. Maybe they have a favorite. Maybe they have read a story about one of these monsters. For whatever reason, it is fun to read about the monsters and find them on the cask.

We do not really know what lives deep in the ocean. For centuries there have been stories of sea monsters told by sailors who spent their lives at sea. Can we dismiss the tales of those brave people just because the stories are frightening or monstrous?

One thing you will notice is that only one of the monsters here has a real name. Don't you think they all should have names? I gave them some Latin names, but maybe you can help by thinking up a better name for each of these monsters after you find them on the cask. If you don't know Latin; no worries. I don't know it either.

Look at the pictures that show us how the cask was before we worked on it, some of what happened, and the story of The Great Sea Monster Cask.

After that, go ahead and read about the monsters and find them on the cask. Give them better names if you can.

There is a fun Q &A at the back about oceans, monsters, and things like that.

2. Full Page View of The Great Sea Monster Cask



**3. The Monster List and More (Pardon my Latin I made it up).**  
**Find each of these monsters on the Great Sea Monster Cask.**

1. The Great Sea Monster Cask Full View
2. Equus Prodigium Mortiferum Mare (Deadly Sea Horse Monster)
3. Asperito Specillo Venenum (Poison Rasp)
4. Suctus Armamini (Sucking Arm)
5. Rex Prodigium (Monster King)
6. Anguis Sanguis (Blood Snake)
7. Gladius Venenum (Poison Sword)
8. Laetus Foraminis Factorem (Colorful Hole Maker)
9. Cete Puginatum (Fighting Whale)
10. Sanguis Lactentem Equus (Blood Sucking Horse)
11. Porcus Candida Candorum (Dazzling Pig)
12. Malleus Volantes (Flying Hammer)
13. Falcum Cauda (Sickle Tail)
14. Leo Hinnitum Manibus (Lion Maned Grabber)
15. Bulla Gladio (Bubble Sword)
16. Laetus Gladio (Colorful Sword)
17. Suffocant Purpura (Purple Choker)
18. Mordeao Invisibilia (Invisible Gnaw-fish)
19. Orca Mortiferum (Deadly Orca)
20. Flere silva lupus (Crying Forest Wolf)
21. Nasus Titurans. (Thrasher Nose)
22. Gurgitem Abripuit Mortiferium (Deadly Whirlpool)
23. Questions and Answers



Only the head rises out of the sea, so we do not know how big the monster really is. The sharpened point at the end of its nose is hard as the finest steel; so hard it can rip through the hull of a ship in an instant. Its sharp white teeth are made so they can fall out if needed to allow it to escape when the teeth are caught in a large prey. Its bite is so strong it can cut an iron railroad rail in half. It can swallow an entire cow in one gulp. We don't even know what its body looks like below the neck.

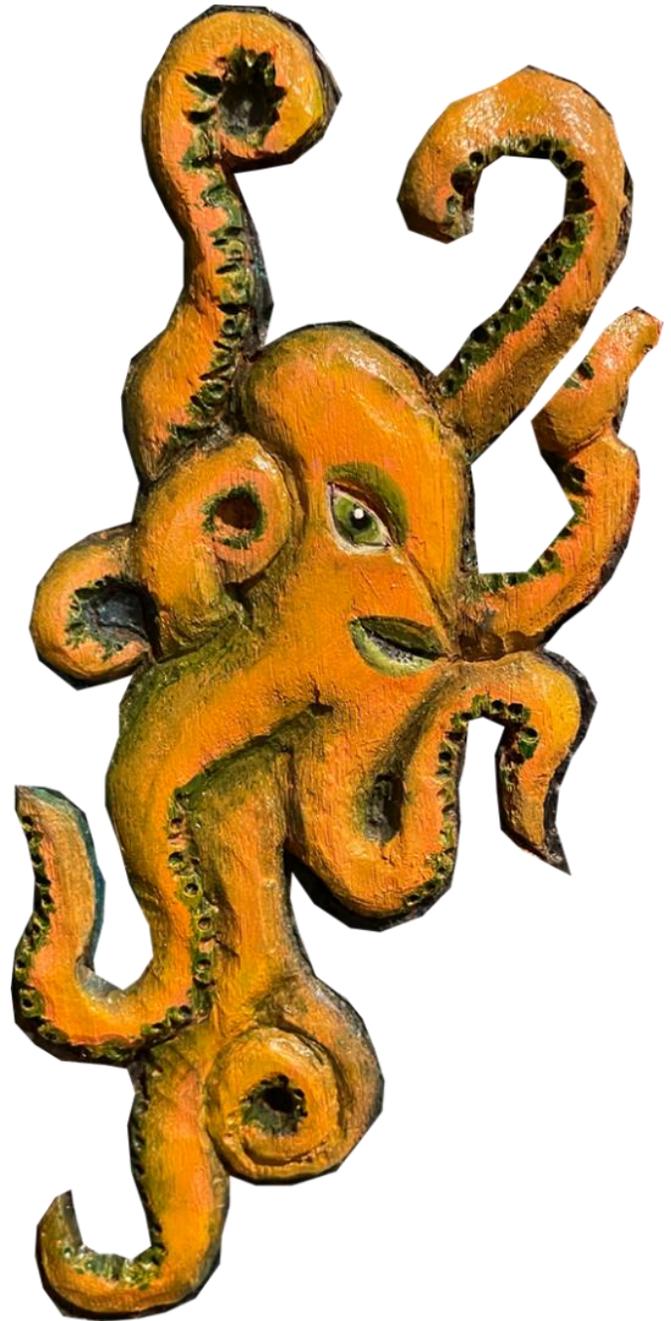
Name:	Equus Prodigium Mortiferum Mare (Deadly Sea Horse Monster)
Length:	120 feet
Weight:	80,000 pounds (estimated)
Primary Victims:	Sailors and other sea creatures
Habitat:	Deep sea far from land
Weapons:	Sharp point on nose. Long sharp teeth.
Tactics:	Smashes ships and eats crew and passengers
Lifespan:	100 – 200 years
Victim's last words:	The head is not that big, so the rest of it can't be that big.

This harmless looking smaller pinkish monster looks like a worm or a small snake. It does not look dangerous, but it is. This monster does not have a poisonous bite; the scales on its body are so rough they can scrape skin and can spread a paralyzing poison into the skin of anything that brushes up against it. Once the prey is paralyzed, the creature will nibble away with small painful bites. This creature rarely hunts alone; preferring to stay in a pack with others where it is much more dangerous.



Name:	Asperito Specillo Venenum (Poison Rasp)
Length:	3 feet
Weight:	20 - 25 pounds (observed)
Primary Victims:	Swimmers and waders at the seashore
Habitat:	Near sea shore in shallow waters
Weapons:	Rough scaly skin and poisonous excretion
Tactics:	Scrapes against the skin of its victim and emits poison
Lifespan:	5 to 7 years
Victim's last words:	Something rubbed against my leg and it burns.

The gripping arms of this orange octopus are so strong they can bend iron bars. Because it has no bones, it can slip easily through the smallest opening. Its blood is blue and contains copper. Its pointed beak is tough enough to penetrate the hulls of warships. If it makes even a small hole in the ship's hull, it can sneak in and attack the crew and passengers. Once in its grasp, no prey can escape the suffocating grip of the suction cupped tentacles. Like a squid, it can squirt clouds of ink into the water or even the air to confuse its prey.



Name:	Suctus Armamini (Sucking Arm)
Length:	40 feet
Weight:	500 pounds (observed)
Primary Victims:	Sailors, passengers, swimmers, waders
Habitat:	Near sea shore in shallow waters
Weapons:	Powerful tentacles, ink spray, sharp beak
Tactics:	Camouflages itself by changing color then pounces on and grasps victim
Lifespan:	20 – 25 years
Victim's last words:	It is too big to fit through that hole – don't worry.

A Kraaken is probably the fiercest of all monsters. A Kraaken can be huge, bigger than a house. It can be so huge it dwarfs all but the largest vessels. While it cannot swim fast, it can wait for a ship to pass



nearby then attack by grasping with its long tentacles. This blue-colored Kraaken can hypnotize its prey with the red and white glowing eyes even at night. If it should be able to get hold of your ship, you are doomed. It will slowly crush the ship until the occupants are forced to leap into the water where they are easily caught and eaten whole or torn painfully into pieces. Like a squid it can spray large amounts of dark ink to confuse victims and hide itself.

Name:	Rex Prodigium (Monster King)
Length:	200 feet (tip of tentacle to tip of tentacle)
Weight:	20,000 – 30,000 pounds (estimated)
Primary Victims:	Sailors, passengers
Habitat:	Deep sea
Weapons	Long powerful tentacles and strong beak
Tactics:	Waits for passing vessel then grabs ahold and crushes it - can spray ink or hypnotize
Lifespan	500 – 1000 years
Victim's last words:	Look at those eyes – they are amazing. So compelling.....

The torpedo shaped body of this gigantic sea snake is covered with a smelly slime that allows it to swim as fast as any ship.

Once it catches up with a ship, it can rear the front part of its oily body up out of the water and onto the main deck; from there it will wrap around anything and crush it. It swallows its prey whole into the horrible maw where digestion can start. Legend says the snake is not red until it swallows a person and uses the fresh blood to color itself.



Name:	Anguis Sanguis (Blood Snake)
Length:	80 feet
Weight:	3000 pounds (estimated)
Primary Victims:	Sailors, passengers, swimmers, waders
Habitat:	Near sea shore or at sea
Weapons:	Crushing coiling ability
Tactics:	Swims alongside a vessel then lifts itself onto main deck
Lifespan:	30 – 40 years
Victim's last words:	You are crushing me....

The horn of this sea unicorn is not only long and sharp; it has a sack of the most horrible poison at its base that can be injected into a captured prey. This horn also has teeth like a saw and can be used to saw through wooden boats and ships. The poison digests the prey slowly from the inside. The speed of this creature in the open sea is more than that of all but the fastest ships so it can eat any time it wishes. Once it catches up to a ship, the horn can be used to put holes in the hull and sink the vessel.



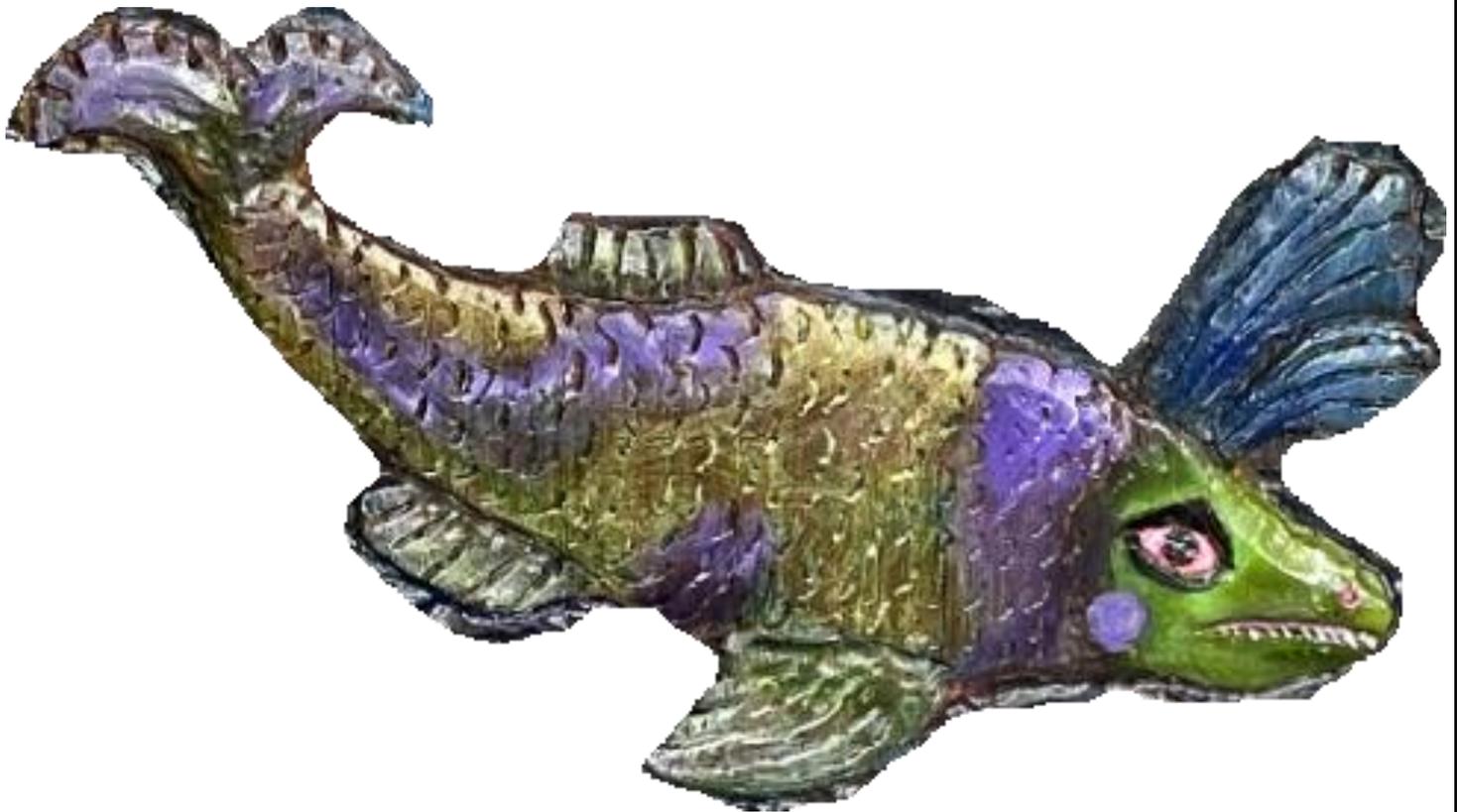
Name:	Gladius Venenum (Poison Sword)
Length:	20 feet
Weight:	2000 pounds (estimated)
Primary Victims:	Sailors, passengers
Habitat:	Deep sea
Weapons:	Sharp horn, saw teeth on horn, poison
Tactics:	Smashes holes in ship's hull spears and poisons victims
Lifespan:	15 – 20 years
Victim's last words:	Look at that – a unicorn in the water. I wonder if it is friendly.

This colorful brown and green striped monster lives in shallower water where it can blend in with sand and seaweed. Its tiny paddle-like flippers do not allow it to swim fast so it waits quietly and without movement until a boat passes over; then it pierces holes in the bottom of the boat with its hard and sharp long teeth. If you have ever been on a boat on the ocean, you have most probably gone right over one of these and never realized it.



Name:	Laetus Foraminis Factorem (Colorful Hole Maker)
Length:	20 feet
Weight:	500 pounds (observed)
Primary Victims:	Boaters, swimmers, waders
Habitat:	Near sea shore in shallow waters
Weapons:	Long sharp teeth
Tactics:	Uses camouflage to get close then bites victim
Lifespan:	5 – 8 years
Victim's last words:	I think something just bumped the bottom of the boat.

People will rarely see this colorful but fierce fighting monster since it lives in the deep and spends most of its time battling others of its species. This monster will eat its own offspring in the blink of an eye. When not fighting, the monster does attack passing ships and, because of its immense size and bony head, easily rams them and bursts their hulls; then it leisurely eats their passengers. This monster is so big it can eat the entire crew and all the passengers of a ship in one meal.



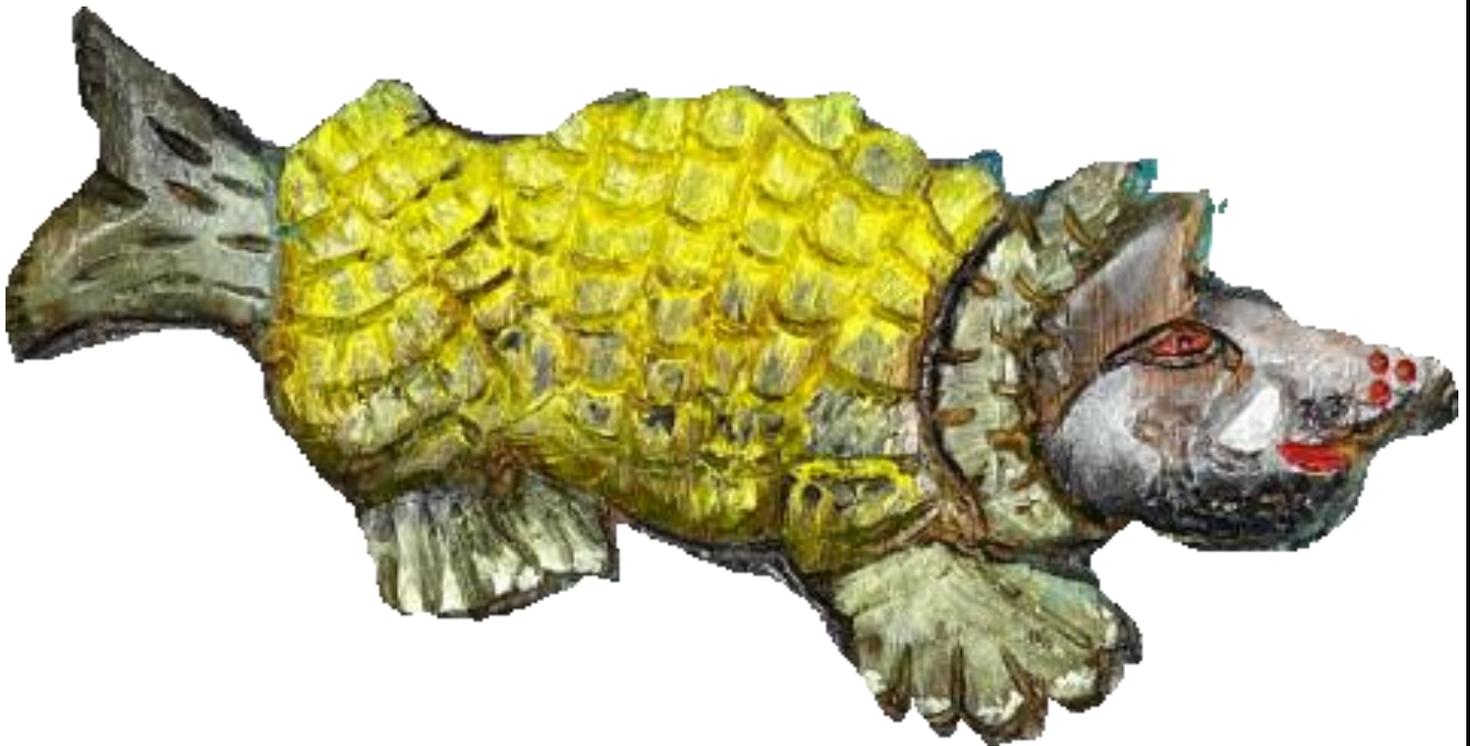
Name:	Cete Puginatum (Fighting Whale)
Length:	100 feet
Weight:	160,000 pounds (80 tons) (estimated)
Primary Victims:	Sailors, passengers
Habitat:	Deep sea
Weapons:	Bony head and sharp teeth
Tactics:	Rams vessels with its head
Lifespan:	40 – 60 years
Victim's last words:	It looks like that thing is headed right toward us.

This unusual monster, shown here spouting water and drooling blood, does not have large sharp teeth. Instead it has a toothless mouth that can expand and lips that can apply a suction to its prey. Once the prey has been caught in the suction-like mouth the monster can suck so hard that the skin of the prey bursts letting the monster drink the blood from the prey. When it done feeding, it lets the drained and empty body of its victim drift to the bottom of the sea.



Name:	Sanguis Lactentem Equus (Blood Sucking Horse)
Length:	30 feet
Weight:	2500 pounds (estimated)
Primary Victims:	Sailors, passengers, boaters, swimmers, waders
Habitat:	Mid to seep sea (but it has been seen near shore)
Weapons:	Strong suction mouth
Tactics:	Spouts water to distract victim then sucks out all the blood
Lifespan:	25 – 40 yerars
Victim’s last words:	Don’t worry it has no teeth; it can’t hurt us.

Much larger than it looks, this pig-like monster has amazingly hard shiny scales all over its body that reflect light. It can reflect light into a focused beam that will blind and confuse its prey. The hard scales make it impervious to defensive weapons like harpoons or spears. Once the prey has been dazzled, this creature rips its victim with razor-sharp teeth sucking and lapping at the open wounds until all the blood is gone.



Name:	Porcus Candida Candorum (Dazzling Pig)
Length:	20 feet
Weight:	1000 pounds (observed)
Primary Victims:	Sailors, passengers, boaters
Habitat:	Mid to deep sea (but has been observed near shore)
Weapons:	Hard shiny scales; razor sharp teeth
Tactics:	Blinds with reflected light then bites
Lifespan:	10 - 15 years
Victim's Last Words:	I can't see. That light is so bright it is blinding me.

Although smaller than most monsters, this one has a secret weapon; this monster swims so fast it can fly up out of the water. It is also one of the few sea monsters that can make noise. As it flies through the air it screams in a shrill loud way that frightens prey. Once airborne, it will strike any prey with its hardened forehead rendering the prey unconscious or at least stunned. If it can, it will knock the prey into the water where it, and others like it, will surround the prey and make an easy meal of it.



Name:	Malleus Volantes (Flying Hammer)
Length:	3 to 5 feet
Weight:	Up to 50 pounds (observed)
Primary Victims:	Sailors, passengers, boaters
Habitat:	Mid to deep sea
Weapons:	Ability to fly & make noise
Tactics:	Tactics: Swims at top speed then flies up out of water to strike victim like a hammer
Lifespan:	3 – 4 years
Victim's last words:	Did you hear that?

This snake shaped creature is a trickster. It coils up on its body hypnotically and sways in front of its prey making like it is going to strike. But the real weapon of this beast is the super sharp sickle-like long claw blade at the end of its tail. Once the prey is mesmerized looking at the face, the creature whips the slashing tail around and disables the prey for later eating.



Name:	Falcum Cauda (Sickle Tail)
Length:	15 feet
Weight:	200 pounds (observed)
Primary Victims:	Boaters, swimmers, waders
Habitat:	Near sea shore in shallow waters. It can go up on land for hours at a time.
Weapons:	Hypnotic stare; sickle-shaped sharp tail
Tactics:	Faces and hypnotizes victim then slashes suddenly with scythe-like tail
Lifespan:	5 to 8 years
Victim's last words:	Look that thing is dancing; how cute.

This monster almost looks like a harmless colorful lobster with a green lion’s mane; but it is not a lobster at all, and it is not at all harmless. It is a hard-shelled creature with a poisonous mane that grasps its victims paralyzes then kills anything that gets into the mane. By the way, the mane can be retracted to look like it is close to the head but when it is puffed out and fully expanded, it covers a very large space in the water like a net ensnaring the prey and making escape impossible.



Name:	Leo Hinnitum Manibus (Lion Maned Grabber)
Length:	20 feet
Weight:	500 pounds (observed)
Primary Victims:	Boaters, swimmers, waders
Habitat:	Near sea shore in shallow waters
Weapons:	Poisonous ensnaring mane
Tactics:	Ensnares victim in poisonous mane and holds victim until dead
Lifespan:	5 to 7 years
Victim’s last words:	Oh, that hair is so beautiful.

This colorful yellow and brown creature looks angry, but it has no teeth, no claws, and no tentacles to make it dangerous. It can expel a huge bubble of pressurized air into the water that sends a stunning shock wave to nearby prey. In addition, it does have a long super sharp sword-like tongue hidden in its mouth that can quickly snap out and cut deeply. A few cuts of that sharp tongue will incapacitate prey. A few more will finish the job.



Name:	Bulla Gladio (Bubble Sword)
Length:	10 feet
Weight:	200 pounds (observed)
Primary Victims:	Boaters, swimmers, waders
Habitat:	Near sea shore in shallow waters
Weapons:	Sharp sword-like tongue
Tactics:	Shock-wave bubble burst used to stun victim
Lifespan:	7 to 9 years
Victim's last words:	None. The shock wave surprised them and stunned them before they could speak.

The white spikes on top of this creature's head can cut flesh if needed but their main purpose is to distract prey. The colorful shimmering body, that can change color, along with the waving white spikes can capture the attention of any prey that did not understand that the sharp spike coming off the monster's nose is a lethal stabbing weapon. Many creatures have been speared and stuck on that horn where they remained twisting and wriggling on that horn until the monster became hungry; scraped them off the horn and devoured them.



Name:	Laetus Gladio (Colorful Sword)
Length:	20 feet
Weight:	1000 pounds (observed)
Primary Victims:	Boaters, swimmers, waders
Habitat:	Near sea shore in shallow waters
Weapons:	Dazzling distracting displays; sharp horn on forehead
Tactics:	Sometimes keeps victim speared on horn for days before eating
Lifespan:	12 to 15 years
Victim's last words:	Look. What does that thing have stuck on its horn?



The purple octopus is small and kind of cute, but very lethal. With the ability to change color and match its surroundings, this monster can hide almost anywhere. It can, suddenly and without warning, shoot through the water like a purple rocket surprising its prey. It kills its prey by attaching suction cups to the cheeks of the victim and pressing itself into the victim's mouth where it expands and blocks the airways and sucks the air out of the victim's lungs.

Name:	Suffocant Purpura (Purple Choker)
Length:	2 feet
Weight:	10 pounds (observed)
Primary Victims:	Boaters, swimmers, waders
Habitat:	Near sea shore in shallow waters
Weapons:	Powerful tentacles with suction cups, sharp beak, jet speed
Tactics:	Uses camouflage then jet stream speed and suffocating grip
Lifespan:	5 to 8 years
Victim's last words:	MMMHHNNGGGHH.... (a muffled cry for help)

This colorful splasher paddles cheerfully on the surface often playfully shooting spouts of water high into the air. But the water can be expelled with such force it turns into a misty cloud that covers the immediate area around the splasher making it invisible. When invisible in the cloud, this monster can strike its prey from within the cloud with rows of small sharp teeth tearing off chunks of flesh from a confused prey that cannot see its attacker.



Name:	Mordeao Invisiblia (Invisible Gnaw-fish)
Length:	60 feet
Weight:	5000 pounds (estimated)
Primary Victims:	Sailors, passengers, boaters
Habitat:	Mid to deep sea
Weapons:	Mist spray; teeth
Tactics:	Invisibility cloak
Lifespan:	25 to 30 years
Victim's last words:	I swear I saw something over there by that cloud.

This is no common orca. A regular orca would be fierce enough, but this one has been bred for attacking and sinking ships. Weighing thousands of pounds and swimming through the water at high speed, this whale of a living torpedo is responsible for sinking more ships than any other monster. Once the occupants of the stricken ship are in the water, the orca can feast. This orca is one of the few creatures that hunts for fun; not always for food.



Name:	Orca Mortiferum (Deadly Orca)
Length:	30 feet
Weight:	20,000 pounds (estimated)
Primary Victims:	Sailors, passengers, swimmers, waders
Habitat:	Inland bays and sounds
Weapons:	Size; battering ram head, teeth
Tactics:	Cunning hunter
Lifespan:	30 to 40 years
Victim's last words:	Orcas are harmless to people.

This creature, a land-based creature, already has a name; it is a Squonk. It lives in the deep woods and cries constantly out of shame. The horrible ugly rolls of skin make all other creatures stay away from the repulsive Squonk; it has a lonely life. Its tears are made of acid which means they can dissolve flesh so that is another reason the animals stay away from the Squonk. It is believed that Squonks do not eat people; at least no one has ever seen a Squonk eating a person.



Name:	Flere Silva Lupus (Crying Forest Wolf)
Length:	6 feet
Weight:	200 pounds (estimated)
Primary Victims:	Foolish people wandering alone in the woods.
Habitat:	Woodlands
Weapons:	Acid tears
Tactics:	Apparent sadness and tears
Lifespan:	Unknown
Victim's last words:	Oh, you poor thing. Let me give you a hug.

The needle-sharp piercing horn on this monster make it dangerous to anything that comes near. It has extremely poor eyesight which means it constantly swings its head back and forth trying to see. Unable to clearly see its prey, this monster tends to lash out at anything that strays anywhere nearby. It is unlikely this monster could catch your ship if it were moving, but this aquatic terror has sunk many ships that were at anchor. That is another reason not to stop you boat on the sea.



Name:	Nasus Titurans. (Thrasher Nose)
Length:	10 feet
Weight:	500 pounds (observed)
Primary Victims:	Boaters, swimmers, waders
Habitat:	Near sea shore in shallow waters
Weapons:	Sharp horn
Tactics:	Depends on luck to spear prey
Lifespan:	7 to 10 years
Victim's last words:	Watch out! That thing is moving around like crazy.

Not really a monster but much more deadly is the giant whirlpool. Whirlpools have been known to suck anything floating nearby into the strong currents and pull down even large ships that stray nearby. The swirling waters tug at the ships and inch them ever closer to the gaping hole in the center from which there is no escape. It is no use to jump from a ship caught in a whirlpool if you are trying to save your life; even the strongest swimmers eventually tire and are sucked down into the swirling hole never to be seen again.



#### **4. What else can you find without a picture? Did you see:**

1. Vaca Marina (A Brown & Tan Sea Cow)?
2. Magenta Nautilus Shell?
3. Mountain Lion (Nittany Lion)?
4. Liberty Bell?
5. Red Dragon of Wales?
6. Covid-19 Virus?
7. A mermaid?
8. Tile (Ultima Thule the mysterious island)?
9. The sun?
10. The moon?
11. The planet Saturn?
12. A shooting star?
13. An unidentified flying object?
14. A spotted owl?
15. A sea elephant?
16. A happy red shark?
17. A gold miner?
18. A blue creeper monster?
19. A water buffalo?
20. Four sailing ships?
21. Old man wind?
22. A ship's wheel?
23. A Civil War soldier's blue jacket?
24. A sitting Monk in an orange robe?

PS: The last couple of pages of the book that will show you pictures of these extra creatures.

## **5. Questions and Answers**

1. How many oceans are there? What are they?
2. How deep is the deepest part of the ocean?
3. How much of the earth is covered with ocean?
4. How much of the earth's oceans have we explored?
5. Why is the ocean salty?
6. Are the oceans exactly as salty everywhere?
7. Is our blood as salty as sea water?
8. How big was the biggest squid ever found?
9. What is the largest whale and how big is it?
10. Do all whales have teeth?
11. What is squid ink made from?
12. How big is a real Orca?
13. How big is a real great white shark?
14. How big was the biggest dinosaur?
15. How does an octopus change color?
16. How fast is the fastest swimming creature?
17. Can sea creatures make noises?
18. Can sea creatures fly out of the water?
19. Are whirlpools real?
20. Is there a sea creature with a horn on its head?
21. Is there a sea creature with a saw on its nose?
22. Are some sea creatures poisonous?
23. What are the chances of being killed by a sea creature?
24. What is the difference between an arm and a tentacle on an octopus or squid?
25. Can a whale really sink a ship?

1. Q: How many oceans are there?

A: From the NOAA: Historically, there are four named ocean basins: the Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, and Arctic. However, most countries - including the United States - now recognize the Southern (Antarctic) as the fifth ocean basin. The Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian are the most commonly known.

2. Q: How deep is the deepest part of the ocean?

A: From the NOAA: The average depth of the ocean is about 12,100 feet. The deepest part of the ocean is called the Challenger Deep and is located beneath the western Pacific Ocean in the southern end of the Mariana Trench, which runs several hundred kilometers southwest of the U.S. territorial island of Guam. Challenger Deep is approximately 36,200 feet deep (7 miles). It is named after the HMS **CHALLENGER**, whose crew first sounded the depths of the trench in 1875.

3. Q: How much of the world is covered with ocean?

A: From the NOAA: The ocean is the lifeblood of Earth, covering more than 70 percent of the planet's surface, driving weather, regulating temperature, and ultimately supporting all living organisms. Throughout history, the ocean has been a vital source of sustenance, transport, commerce, growth, and inspiration.

4. Q: How much of the earth's oceans have been explored?

A: From the NOAA: More than eighty percent of this vast, underwater realm remains unmapped, unobserved, and unexplored.

5. Q: Why is the ocean salty?

A: From the NOAA: Rocks on land are the major source of salts dissolved in seawater. Rainwater that falls on land is slightly acidic, so it erodes rocks. This releases ions that are carried away to streams and rivers that eventually feed into the ocean. Many of the dissolved ions are used by organisms in the ocean and are removed from the water. Others are not removed, so their concentrations increase over time.

6. Q: Are the oceans exactly as salty everywhere?

A: From the NOAA: The concentration of salt in seawater (salinity) varies with temperature, evaporation, and precipitation. Salinity is generally low at the equator and at the poles, and high at mid-latitudes. The average salinity is about 35 parts per thousand. Stated in another way, about 3.5 percent of the weight of seawater comes from the dissolved salts.

7. Q: Is our blood as salty as sea water?

A: From KidsAnswers: The claim that the composition of blood is similar to sea water is based on the assumption that life came from the ocean. ...contrary to what some may claim, the similarities between our blood and seawater are simply not there. However, even if blood and sea water were similar, this wouldn't prove one came from the other.

8. Q: How big was the largest squid ever found?

A: From the Smithsonian: Giant squid live up to their name: the largest giant squid ever recorded by scientists was almost 43 feet (13 meters) long and may have weighed nearly a ton. You'd think such a huge animal wouldn't be hard to miss. But because the ocean is vast and giant squid live deep underwater, they remain elusive and are rarely seen: most of what we know comes from dead carcasses that floated to the surface and were found by fishermen.

9. Q: What is the largest whale and how big is it?

A: The biggest we could find was nearly 100 feet long and weighed almost 190 tons (as much as 30 elephants).

10. Q: Do all whales have teeth?

A: No. Some whales have teeth while others have something called a baleen that filters small creatures out of the water for food.

11. Q: What is squid ink made from?

A: There is no magic ingredient in squid ink. Melanin is the main ingredient that makes the dark ink. It is a natural substance found in many animals. Have you ever eaten squid in its own ink? It is a delicacy.

12. Q: How big is a real Orca?

A: From National Geographic: Average life span in the wild: 50 to 80 years. Size: 23 to 32 feet. Weight: Up to 6 tons

13. Q: How big is the great white shark like the one seen in Jaws?

A: From National Geographic: Size: 15 feet to more than 20 feet. Weight: 2.5 tons or more.

14. Q: How big was the biggest dinosaur?

A: From Discover Magazine: There's no shortage of sauropods lining up for a crack at the superlative. At present, the race seems neck-and-neck between *Argentinosaurus* and *Patagotitan*. Both are estimated to have been over 100 feet long and weighed in excess of 90 tons.

15. Q: How does an octopus change color?

A: The scientific name for the octopus family is “cephalopod.” Basically, the color changes would be like looking at a white balloon filled with colored water. Squeeze the balloon and you see more color. If you had many balloons with different colors in them, you could make a display. Technically from Ocean Conservancy: Cephalopods have specialized cells in their skin called **chromatophores**. Each chromatophore cell has a stretchy sac called the cytoelastic sacculus that is filled with pigment, which can be red, yellow, brown or black in color. When the muscles around the cell tighten, they pull the pigment sac wider, meaning more pigment is visible on the octopus’ skin.

16. Q: How fast is the fastest swimming creature?

A: From Live Science: If you exclude leaping, the killer whale would be the speediest sea creature, clocking in at 34.5 miles per hour (15.4 meters per second), according to the ReefQuest Centre for Shark Research.

17. Q: Can sea creatures make noises?

A: From Discovery of Sound in the Sea: Many marine animals rely on sound for survival and depend on unique adaptations that enable them to communicate, protect themselves, locate food, navigate underwater, and/or understand their environment. They may both produce sounds and listen to the sounds around them.

Sounds are particularly useful for communication because they can be used to convey a great deal of information quickly and over long distances. Changes in rate, pitch, and/or structure of sounds communicate different messages. In particular, fishes and marine mammals use sound for communications associated with reproduction and territoriality. Some marine mammals also use sound for the maintenance of group structure.

18. Q: Can sea creatures fly out of the water?

A: From National Geographic: Flying fish can be seen jumping out of warm ocean waters worldwide. Their streamlined torpedo shape helps them gather enough underwater speed to break the surface, and their large, wing-like pectoral fins get them airborne.

Flying fish are thought to have evolved this remarkable gliding ability to escape predators, of which they have many. Their pursuers include mackerel, tuna, swordfish, marlin, and other larger fish. For their sustenance, flying fish feed on a variety of foods, including plankton.

19. Q: Are whirlpools real?

A: From World Atlas: The Gulf of Corryvreckan is a strait located between Jura and Scarba islands, Scotland. The underwater topography of the area and the strong Atlantic current conspire to create a strong tidal race. As the tides enter the strait it speeds up and meet a variety of seabed features such as deep holes and rising pinnacles. The features come together to form the Corryvreckan whirlpool, the third largest in the world. The whirlpool is located on the northern part of the gulf and surrounds the pyramid-shaped pinnacle. The Corryvreckan Whirlpool is believed to be unnavigable by many although the Royal Navy has not classified it as so. However, the nearby Little Corryvreckan has been officially classified as unnavigable because of its violence. The divers who explore the area consider it as one of the most dangerous dives in Britain.

20. Q: Is there a sea creature with a horn on its head?

A: Of course, there are sailfish and swordfish. There is also a kind of porpoise called a narwhal that has a long spike on its head. From National Geographic: These legendary animals have two teeth. In males, the more prominent tooth grows into a swordlike, spiral tusk up to 10 feet long. The ivory tusk tooth grows right through the narwhal's upper lip. Scientists are not certain of the tusk's purpose, but some believe it is prominent in mating rituals, perhaps used to impress females or to battle rival suitors. Females sometimes grow a small tusk of their own, but it does not become as prominent as the male's.

21. Q: Is there a sea creature with a saw on its nose?

A: There is a sawfish, and it is weird. From Animal Network: The saw is actually a modified rostrum or "nose." The points of the saw are teeth growing out of either side of the rostrum. The fish can use their spiky weapons in defense, they mostly use it to help them catch fish. Like the swordfish, this species swings its rostrum back and forth into schools of fish to stun them. Then, it swims overtop of the fish to eat because its mouth is positioned underneath its body like a stingray!

22.Q: Are there poisonous sea creatures?

A: You bet! There are many poisonous creatures in the sea. The most poisonous is the box jellyfish according to NOAA: They may not look dangerous, but the sting from a box jellyfish could be enough to send you to Davy Jones's locker-a watery grave, that is.

Box jellyfish, named for their body shape, have tentacles covered in biological booby traps known as nematocysts - tiny darts loaded with poison. People and animals unfortunate enough to be injected with this poison may experience paralysis, cardiac arrest, and even death, all within a few minutes of being stung. But don't choose the mountains over the ocean just yet. Of

the 50 or so species of box jellyfish, also called sea wasps, only a few have venom that can be lethal to humans.

23. Q: What are the chances of being killed by a sea creature?

A: Not very big; you have nothing to worry about. There are some shark-caused deaths but not many. There are really not many people in the U.S. who die from animal encounters in any year and most of those that do are from insect bites that cause a reaction. From Science Daily: It was found that from 2008-2015, there were 1,610 animal-related fatalities in the US, which is about 230 per year, that is with the majority of deaths the result of encounters with nonvenomous animals (57 percent). The most common deaths were from farm animals, dogs, and insects.

24. Q: What is the difference between an arm and a tentacle in an octopus or squid?

A: Arms have suckers all the way along while tentacles have them only near the tip. So technically an octopus has only arms and no tentacles. But the word tentacles is scarier for sure.



25. Q. Can a whale really sink a ship?

A. Yes and it has happened. Around 1820 a Nantucket whaling vessel, named Essex, was rammed by a sperm whale. The sides of the ship were smashed inward, she filled with water, and sank. The captain and some of the crew drifted at sea for three months, having to resort to cannibalism before eventually being rescued. The book 'Moby Dick' was inspired by this story. The Essex was typical of the whaling fleet; her measurements were:

Length:	87 ft 7 in (26.7 m)
Beam:	24 ft 0 in (7.3 m)
Depth:	12 ft 6 in (3.8 m)

That means the whale that attacked her and sunk her, if it was 55 feet long, could have been more than half the length of the Essex.

## 6. Carving and Painting The Great Sea Monster Cask

This cask came from Italy and brought it back to our weighed more than 500



to Pennsylvania where we found home in Haymarket, Va. It pounds; we needed a forklift to load it into the truck. At home we unloaded it with the help of some neighbors.

It was only the ends of the big cask that interested us so the cask had to be cut down. The first end was removed after which the remaining staves were cut loose. We gave them to an artisan who makes furniture from old barrels. The cutting down of the cask required several days' work with the thick oak wood and

the small saw.



The end of the cask was secured on a big wooden rack made for the task of holding it while we carved it and painted it. I did the carving using the same gouges I always use. They worked simply fine, but it took a long to carve deep enough and across the entire face of the cask end.

Some of these tools have been used for years. They are traditional steel wood-shapes that help the carver



They carver gouges of different make exactly the right cuts.

All the designs were first made on paper that we then attached to the cask end so we could draw the design directly onto the wood. With the design right there, we could then carve it. The drawings were our guides. If you look closely you can see some of the monsters emerging from the wood. They had to be cut much deeper than this to be ready for painting.

The cask end was large; 5 feet tall and not quite 4 feet across. It weighed more than 225 pounds. That is a lot of wood to be carved. The whole year. We started around August of 2019 and finished in October



of 2019 and finished in October 2020.



The painting brought the cask to life. Each monster was painted with artist oil paint. Some of the monsters needed to be painted several times to be exactly right.

We hope that our hard work gives you great fun looking at the monsters, searching for them on the cask, studying the tactics and how they

succeed in the oceans of the world. Fear not – all of this is meant to be fun!



## 7. Inspiration

Inspiration for The Great Sea Monster Cask came from the 1539 Carat Marina map created by Olaus Magnus; a Swedish cleric who went to Rome and worked on his writings and creations. His map of Scandinavia and surrounding waters has many monsters that were intended to scare away fishermen from foreign lands by making them think there were monsters in the waters of Scandinavia.



The next page has a landscape version of this map to study. Can you see monsters on that map?



Extra Search and Find Items



Flying Saucer



Gold Miner



Civil War  
Soldier's  
Jacket



Sun



Red Dragon  
Of Wales



Covid 19



Liberty  
Bell



Nittany Lion  
Mountain Lion



Nautilus  
Shell



Orange Robed  
Monk



Sea  
Elephant



Ship's  
Wheel



Shooting Star

Water Buffalo



Blue Creeper



Mermaid



Old Man Wind



Happy Red Shark



Spotted Owl



Vaca Marina Sea Cow



Moon



Saturn the Planet



Sailing Ship



Sailing Ship



Sailing Ship



Sailing Ship

