

Sea Monsters of the Seven Seas Word Search Definitions:

Afanc (Welsh): This lake monster uses its tail to make large waves that cause flooding. Reports conflict about its shape, but it is mostly noted as being much like a giant beaver.

Beisht Kione (Irish): Known as “Beast with a Black Head”, this creature dwells in the Irish Sea and has destroyed the lives of many fishermen.

Cetus (Greek): Thought to have been created by Zeus, it has the head of a greyhound, the body of a whale, and a split tale. Most sea monsters referred to in tales of Hercules and Perseus were called Cetus.

Dobhar-chú (Irish): This monstrous water creature, 6 to 8 feet in length, is known as the lord of the otters.

Grindylow (English): A Grindylow is a human-like being with long fingers that lives in marshes and steep pools and consumes unattended children who wander too close to its home.

Gunakadeit (Tlingit): According to legend, this sea creature saved a village from starving by bringing them good luck and prosperity.

Hippocamp (Greek): Composed of the top-half of a horse and the bottom half of a fish (also seen as a dolphin or serpent), it is believed to have pulled the chariot of the sea god Poseidon.



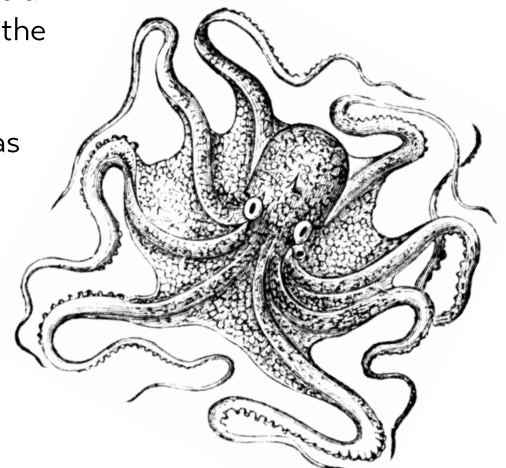
Hydra (Greek): A Hydra is many headed dragon with a shapeless, reptilian body. It is famous for its ability to grow back two heads for each one detached. In the myth of Hercules, the warrior fought and killed the monster.

Iku-Turso (Finnish): Thought to have been the god of diseases and/or war, it is a terrifying beast.

Jörmungandr (Norse): The Jörmungandr is an offspring of Loki and Angrboða, and an enemy of Thor. If he lets go of his tail, the world will end. Also known as the Midgard Serpent.

Kappa (Japanese): This water spirit likes to eat cucumbers. It looks like a combination of a turtle, a monkey, and a western monk (due to the bowl-like shape on the top of their head).

Kelpie (Celtic): A Kelpie is a mythical water horse thought to appear as a shaggy-haired human or an innocent horse. If someone were to try to ride the creature, it would take off into a nearby body of water and drown the unsuspecting rider.



Kraken (Norse): This giant octopus or squid was thought to capture or consume boats, either with its tentacles or by creating a whirlpool.

Loch Ness Monster (Scottish): This monster was thought to have an eel-like head and a body approximately 30 feet long. The first reported sighting of the Loch Ness Monster dates back to the 6th century. "Nessie", as it is nicknamed, is thought to possibly be a dinosaur.

Makara (Hindu): Its name translates to 'sea monster'. The representations of the makara vary from the body of a fish with the arms of a sea lion and head of an elephant to a gigantic crab, and an animal that has the upper body of a deer and the lower body of a fish.

Melusine (European): Resembling a half-woman, half-serpent creature, this myth is possibly derived from the 14th century tale of a girl cursed by her mother to have the lower half of her body be that of a serpent.

Merpeople (General): Mostly portrayed as women, they were half-human, half-fish and have the reputation of luring sailors to their deaths by sitting on the rocks and singing. Mermaid's were made more popular by Hans Christian Andersen's tale of the *Little Mermaid*.



Mokèlé-Mbèmbé (Congo): It is thought to resemble an elephant or dinosaur with scales covering its body like a crocodile. This creature was thought to kill sailors who ventured into its territory.

Qalupalik (Inuit): This creature lives under the ice of rivers and lakes, and steals children who are being disobedient. It is thought to resemble a person with green skin and long finger nails.

Rusalka (Slavic): This water spirit or nymph is known for dancing in the meadows during the new moon, but are more commonly seen in lakes or rivers where they lure humans into the depths.

Selkies (Irish, Icelandic, Faroese, Scottish): A Selkie is similar to a seal, but can shed their skin and walk the land as a human. If a female selkie should shed her skin and a man found it, he could force her to become his wife. If she were to recover her skin, however, she would be free again. Male selkies are able to control the weather to create storms capable of sinking ships as revenge for seals being hunted and killed.

Sirens (Greek): Sirens are beautiful women who, in Greek mythology, have wings given to them by the god Demeter and live on rocks at sea. Their singing lures sailors to investigate and, when they attempt to rescue the stranded maidens, they are pulled into the water and drowned.

Yacu-mama (South American): This monstrous sea-snake is over 100 feet in length and that inhabits the mouth of the Amazon River and nearby lagoons. It is the mother of all water creatures. To avoid being eaten by the beast, natives blow a conch horn before entering new areas of the river. If the yacu-mama is hiding in the area, it will always answer to conch horn, allowing the native to safely navigate around the Yacu-mama..