

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Coelacanth

*Latimeria chalumnae*

The coelacanth is a rare, deep-sea fish known as a 'living fossil' due to its ancient lineage dating back over 400 million years. Thought to have been extinct until its dramatic rediscovery in 1938 o...

### Quick facts

**Classification:** Fish

**Family:** Latimeriidae

**Habitat:** Deep marine caves and volcanic slopes

**Diet:** Carnivore

**Conservation status:** Critically Endangered

**Lifespan:** Up to 60 years

**Weight:** 50–110 kg

**Scientific name:** *Latimeria chalumnae*

### Did you know?

- Coelacanths give birth to live young after an unusually long gestation period of up to 3 years.
- Coelacanths have a hinged skull allowing them to widen their mouth for large prey, and their lobed fins are considered evolutionary precursors to ter...

### What I learned

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