

Lecture 16: The Mesozoic Ocean

Terminology and Definitions: phragmocone, septum, septal walls, siphuncle, heteromorphic, planispiral, ichthyosaur, belemnite, sclerotic ring, f-number, pliosaurs

People: none

Classification:

Phylum Mollusca

Class Cephalopoda

Subclass Ammonoidea

Subclass Nautiloidea

Phylum Chordata

Subphylum Vertebrata

Class Euryapsida

-ichthyosaurs

-plesiosaurs

-pliosaurs

Dates: none

Review Questions:

Discuss the differentiating characteristics of nautiloids and ammonoids

Discuss various hypothesis that seek to explain why ammonoid sutures increase in complexity over time

Why are the eyes of ichthyosaurs so large?

What shape did the teeth of sauropods have?

How do we know that ichthyosaurs had excellent night vision?

How do we know that ichthyosaurs had a fish-shaped caudal fin?

How do we know that belemnites were an important part of the ichthyosaurs diet?

How do we know that ichthyosaurs were too weak to come onto the beach to lay their eggs?

How did ichthyosaurs reproduce if not via eggs?