

The gulper eel

What's the strangest animal in the ocean? In this video, scientists exploring the deep ocean make a weird (yet wonderful) discovery.

Tasks

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises. You can also read the transcript.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. a Muppet
2. defensive
3. to tick someone off
4. a bladder
5. engorged
6. gills
7. to blow up
8. Googly Eyes

Definition

- a. used to protect from an attack
- b. the organs a fish uses to breathe
- c. to fill with air like a balloon
- d. to annoy someone (informal)
- e. a bag that holds air or water
- f. a puppet from a famous American television show
- g. a type of octopus with big eyes
- h. swollen

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. The scientists knew it was a gulper eel when they first saw it.	True	False
2. The eel felt in danger.	True	False
3. One of the scientists thinks the eel might have eaten too much.	True	False
4. The eel made itself look big as a form of defence.	True	False
5. The scientists are bored by the eel.	True	False
6. The scientists are about to finish exploring the ocean for the day.	True	False

Task 2

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

awesome	goodness	Is	just
kind	like	Look at	That's

1. his little face!
2. Looks a Muppet!
3. a fish!
4. Oh my
5. It got so big!
6. That was
7. that a gulper eel, then?
8. He's of like Googly Eyes.

Discussion

Have you ever seen a creature act like this?

Transcript

- Can we take a look at that?
- What is that?
- Oh, wow!
- Looks like a Muppet!
- What are you?
- What is that?
- It's like a, er ... huh ...
- Oh it's ...
- It's a fish.
- It's defensive.
- It's in the water column, isn't it?
- That's a fish?
- What? I don't know.
- What? Wow!
- That's what it looks like to me.
- Is it engorged or is it like that?
- Is it mad?
- Yeah!
- Touch it!
- Is it just ...?
- Oh my goodness! Oh my goodness!
- Look at his little face!
- He's kind of like Googly Eyes.
- I think he ate too much!
- We ...
- He's full.
- Wow. We really ticked him off.
- Uh-oh ... oh!
- Wow!
- That's their defence. Oh, wow, what?
- Are those just like the gill arches, er, the gills?
- Some kind of ...
- Wow!
- It just got so big!
- (Multiple laughs)
- It's all bladder!
- Oh my God!
- That's his defence, like, 'Let me blow up so I can show them how big I am.'
- Ooh.
- Incredible.
- Wow.
- Yep, he's doing the shake.
- What! OH MY GOD! Wow!
- Is that a gulper eel, then?
- Yes.
- I guess so, yeah. That is crazy ...
- That was awesome!
- That was so awesome.
- What a way to end the watch, right?
- Yeah, exactly!
- Bye!
- It's amazing!

Answers

Preparation task

1. f
2. a
3. d
4. e
5. h
6. b
7. c
8. g

Task 1

1. False
2. True
3. True
4. True
5. False
6. True

Task 2

1. Look at
2. like
3. That's
4. goodness
5. just
6. awesome
7. Is
8. kind