

WEIRD AND WONDERFUL

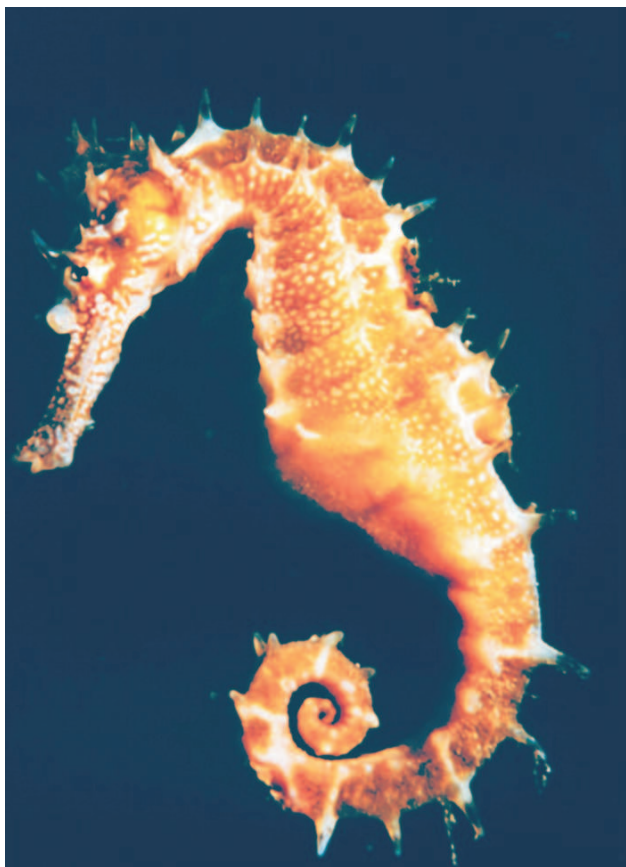
The Seahorse

There are lots of different kinds of fish in the sea. Many of them are weird and wonderful. The seahorse is one example. This comical-looking fish swims upright, and when it wants to rest, it anchors itself to seaweed with its tail.

But the strangest thing about seahorses is that the male acts as mother. When the female lays her eggs, she sends them into a pouch on her mate's belly. There the young seahorses hatch, and are fed by a special liquid produced from the lining of the pouch. After about two weeks the pregnant male 'gives birth', and a swarm of miniature seahorses pops out into the ocean. They then swim away to look after themselves.

Evolution simply can't explain how seahorses came to live like this, with the father swapping jobs with the mother, or how the female "learned" to lay the eggs in her mate's pouch. Neither can it explain how the male got his special pouch and the ability to produce the liquid to feed the growing babies.

Seahorses must have been created the way they are by God in the beginning, when He said "Let the water be filled with living things." (*Genesis 1: 20*)



The Seahorse: Dad is Mum!

Photo credit: US National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

THE POWER OF WATER

Look at a drop of water hanging from a leaf after rain; it seems so small and weak. Yet water is very powerful. We can see this in a thundering waterfall, or the huge waves that smash against the rocks in a storm. The ocean is a source of energy. Scientists are finding ways to use that energy to make electricity, which is much cleaner than burning coal in power stations. For hundreds of years people have used the power of water to drive machinery to grind corn and do other jobs. And in many parts of the world electricity is made by water-driven turbines.



So there is a great power in water, and a storm at sea can be very frightening. But God, who made the sea, is even more powerful, and He has control over it. The Bible tells us that God said to the sea, "You may come this far, and no farther. This is where your proud waves must stop". (*Job 38: 11*). When Jesus and His disciples were caught in a terrible storm on the Sea of Galilee, Jesus simply stood up in the boat and ordered the wind and waves to stop—and they obeyed Him, because Jesus is the Creator who is in control of all He made.

His love for us is even more wonderful than His power over the winds and waves. He proved that love, and His power over evil, by dying on the cross and rising again. If we are sorry for all the wrong things we have done, God promises to 'throw all our sins into the deepest sea.' (*Micah 7: 19*). That means they are gone for ever!



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PUZZLE ANSWERS:

WORD PUZZLE

1. Butterfly fish. 2. Seahorse. 3. Creatures with backbones. 4. They take warm water to the poles and cool water towards the equator. 5. Porcupine fish. 6. Tube worms. 7. Viperfish. 8. Fish did not evolve.

QUESTIONS

1. Trout. 2. Perch. 3. Sole. 4. Herring. 5. Salmon. 6. Clownfish. 7. Stingray. 8. Piranha. 9. Halibut. 10. Sturgeon.

JUMBLED FISH

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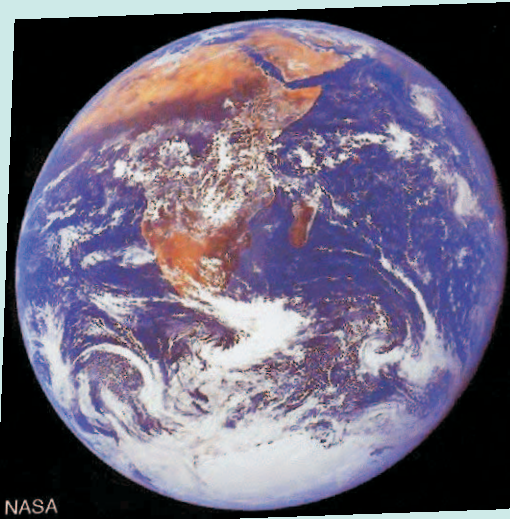
WONDERS
under the
SEA!

We know more about the surface of the moon than the depths of the ocean!

A WATERY WORLD

Planet earth has lots of water. In fact it covers nearly ¾ of its surface. The deepest part of the ocean is the Marianas Trench in the Pacific Ocean at about 11,000 metres, or almost seven miles, deep! If the world's highest mountain — Mount Everest — were put into this part of the ocean, the top of it would be nearly 1½ miles below the surface!

Because the oceans are so large and deep many parts of them have still not been explored. In fact, we know more about the moon's surface than the ocean depths! We can be sure that there are many creatures living in those dark depths still waiting to be discovered! 'Look at the sea, so big and wide. Its creatures large and small cannot be counted.' (*The Bible, Psalm 104: 25*)



NASA



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Mount Everest

Did fish evolve?

The picture on the right shows fish swimming near sponges. Evolutionists believe that the first sea creatures were 'simple' animals without backbones such as sponges and corals, and that creatures with backbones (vertebrates) — like the fish in the picture



Masterclips photo

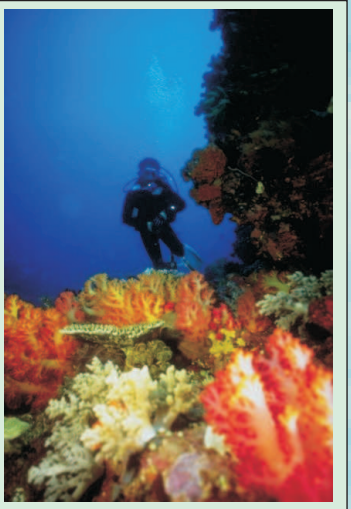
and all the other kinds of fish we find in the oceans — evolved from them. The problem with this idea is that although there are lots of fish fossils (left), there are no fossils showing animals without backbones turning into fish. In fact, fossils of both kinds are found in the same rocks, and so-called 'simple' creatures like sponges are still living today! This evidence points to creation, not evolution.



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God's secret garden

When divers explore the ocean floor, they often find beautiful 'gardens' full of amazing colour. But these gardens are mostly made of animals not plants — things like corals, sponges, sea fans and sea anemones. These colourful scenes have been there ever since the creation of the world, but before humans were able to dive to admire them, they were a secret known only to God, who enjoyed creating beautiful things, and called them all good.



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