

# BELEMNITE

*Meaning: Belemnite: an extinct marine cephalopod characterized by a bullet-shaped internal shell, commonly found as fossils in Jurassic sedimentary rocks.*

1. The belemnite, an extinct marine cephalopod, resembled a modern squid in many ways.
2. Fossils of belemnites are often found in sedimentary rock layers from the Jurassic period.
3. Scientists study belemnite fossils to understand the ancient environments of the oceans.
4. The belemnite's hard internal shell, called a guard, provides insight into its swimming abilities.
5. Many paleontologists consider belemnites to be important index fossils for dating geological strata.
6. In some regions, belemnite fossils can be found in abundance, attracting collectors and researchers alike.
7. The extinction of belemnites is thought to be linked to the mass extinction event that ended the dinosaurs.
8. Belemnites had a unique lifestyle, using jet propulsion to navigate through the water.
9. The study of belemnite morphology helps scientists infer their evolutionary relationships with other cephalopods.
10. Belemnite fossils often preserve delicate features that reveal details about their biology and ecology.

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