

Shastasaurus



18 Cool Facts you never knew about the Shastasaurus



1. The largest fossil of Shastasaurus found indicated it may have grown to 85 (26 meters) feet long, which rivals a blue whale in length!
2. Other fossils have the length at 69 feet (21 meers)
3. The weight of Shastasaurus was around 62,000 to 68,000 kg (130,000 to 150,000 pounds)
4. The name Shastasaurus means "Mount Shasta Lizard" After a mountain in California.
5. The Shastasaurus lived around 235 -205 million years ago during the middle to later triassic and possibly early jurassic period.
6. Shastasaurus and other ichthyosaurs did not have gills. They **breathed air and had to come up to the surface to breathe.**

7. Depending where it would be measured too the Shastasaurus head would be 2-3 meters long (6-13 feet).
8. It may have lived with early plesiosaurs as their timelines overlap a little, but was about 120 million years to early to swim with mosasaurus.
9. Shastasaurus, and other ichthyosaurs are not related to whales. Whales are actually related to mammals like **Pakicetus**
10. It has been suggested that the fastest any ichthyosaur could swim would be about 25 miles an hour (40 kmph!)
11. However, most of the time they would be lazily swimming around at around 4-8 kilometers per hour. which is around 4 miles an hour.
12. It had a long tail, and a streamlined body

13. Shastasaurus has no teeth it is short (for its size) mouth,
14. The fossils of Shastasaurus have been found in The united States, Canada and china so far and possibly the biggest one in the south of the united Kingdom.
15. Shastasaurus was a very early Ichthyosaur and although drawings often give it a dorsal fin (even ours!) It was probably too early to have evolved one,
16. The first fossil finds were in 1895, but other fossils have been found since then in 2000, 2004, and 2016
17. Shastasaurus was not the largest dinosaur, however it is the largest know marine reptile.
- 18 Shastasaurus can be difficult to pronounce, It has a lot of S letters! . However, it only has four syllables and is said like this. shass – tah – Saw – Rus

