

CYCLOPAEDIA 24 — CRYPTOZOOLOGY

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OVERVIEW

Do you believe in bigfoot, the Loch Ness monster, or the chupacabra? The pseudoscience devoted to the study of creatures from folklore record, as well as animals considered extinct, such as dinosaurs, is called cryptozoology (“the study of hidden animals”). Cryptozoologists call these creatures cryptids.

The field of cryptozoology originated from the research and publications of Bernard Heuvelmans, a Belgian-French zoologist, and Ivan T. Sanderson, a Scottish zoologist. Where biology regularly identifies new species, cryptozoology focuses on creatures from folklore and legends. Because of some of the practices of cryptozoology and its folklore roots, many view this pseudoscience as completely fake and showmanship.

Yet, over the years, many of these cryptids have been proven true such as the giant squid, the okapi, the platypus, and most recently the coelacanth which scientists had believed was extinct. When science proves folklore true, it only encourages cryptozoologists to seek even more for the most legendary of cryptids.

This article will not address such magical creatures as dragons, fairies, kaiju, lycanthropes, or mermaids. There are debates as to if those are cryptids or mythology. Other Cyclopaedias will explore those topics in greater detail.

MOST COMMON CRYPTIDS STILL BEING SOUGHT

The list of Cryptids grows constantly, but there are those that are talked about, researched, and pursued the most.

- El Chupacabra
- The Jersey Devil
- Kraken
- Loch Ness Monster
- Mokele-Mbembe
- Mothman
- Sasquatch/Bigfoot
- Thunderbird
- Yeti/Abominable Snow Man

Following are sources of information pertaining to Cryptozoology to assist prospective game masters, game designers, writers, and storytellers in knowing where to start their research.

ARTICLES

Cryptozoology, Archaeology and Paleontology: Histories Near the High Table

By Brysse, Keynyn

Source: Annals of Science, v67 n4 (201010): 569-575

Cryptozoology as a Pseudoscience: Beasts in Transition

By Schembri, Elise

Studies by Undergraduate Researchers at Guelph; Vol 5, No 1 (2011); 5-10

Cryptozoology in the Medieval and Modern Worlds

By Dendle, Peter

Source: Folklore, v117 n2: 190-206

BOOKS

Abominable Science!: Origins of the Yeti, Nessie, and Other Famous Cryptids

By Loxton, Daniel and Prothero, Donald

American Monsters: A History of Monster Lore, Legends, and Sightings in America

By Godfrey, Linda S.

Baby's First Cryptid

By Farmer, Carl

The Bigfoot Book: The Encyclopedia of Sasquatch, Yeti and Cryptid Primates

By Redfern, Nick

Bigfoot Observer's Field Manual: A practical and easy-to-follow step-by-step guide to your very own face-to-face encounter with a legend

By Morgan, Robert W.

Bigfoot!: The True Story of Apes in America

By Coleman, Loren

Bigfoot, Yeti, and the Last Neanderthal: A Geneticist's Search for Modern Apemen

By Sykes, Bryan

Chupacabra Road Trip: In Search of the Elusive Beast

By Redfern, Nick

Compendium of North American Cryptids & Magical Creatures

By Brown, Maury & Young, Ben Morrow Mike

Cryptid Cinema: Meditations on Bigfoot, Bayou Beasts & Backwoods Bogeymen of the Movies

By Bissette, Stephen R and Fenton, Steve

Cryptid Hunters

By Smith, Roland

Cryptozoology A To Z: The Encyclopedia of Loch Monsters, Sasquatch, Chupacabras, and Other Authentic Mysteries of Nature Paperback

By Coleman, Loren

Destination Truth: Memoirs of a Monster Hunter

By Gates, Josh

A Field Guide to the Cryptids of North America

By Shepherd, Dr. Courtney A.

Field Guide to Lake Monsters, Sea Serpents, and Other Mystery Denizens of the Deep

By Coleman, Loren

A Field Guide to Sasquatch Structures: The 50 Most Common Types in North American Forests

By Noël, Christopher

Finding Bigfoot: Everything You Need to Know (Animal Planet)

By ANIMAL PLANET

The Great Orm of Loch Ness: A Practical Inquiry into the Nature and Habits of Water-Monsters

By Holiday, F. W.

Hunting Monsters: Cryptozoology and the Reality Behind the Myths

By Naish, Darren

The Inhumanoids: Real Encounters with Beings that can't Exist!

By Nunnally, Barton M

International Cryptozoology Society Journal: Volume One

By Coleman, Loren

Know the Sasquatch

By Murphy, Christopher L.

The Land That Time Forgot

By Burroughs, Edgar Rice

Living Among Sasquatch: A Primer

By Gibson, Dave

The Loch

By Alten, Steve

The Loch Ness Legacy: Tyler Locke

By Morrison, Boyd

The Loch Ness Monster: The Evidence

By Campbell, Stuart

Loch Ness: From Out of the Depths: Original Newspaper Accounts of the Rise of the Loch Ness Monster - 1933-1934

By Gallagher, Patrick J

The Lost World

By Doyle, Arthur Conan, Sir

A Menagerie of Mysterious Beasts: Encounters with Cryptid Creatures

By Gerhard, Ken

Mirabilis: A Carnival of Cryptozoology and Unnatural History

By Shuker, Dr. Karl

Mokele-Mbembe: Mystery Beast of the Congo Basin

By Gibbons, William J. and Rebsamen, William

Monster Hunt: The Guide to Cryptozoology

By Storm, Rory

Monsters Among Us: An Exploration of Otherworldly Bigfoots, Wolfmen, Portals, Phantoms, and Odd Phenomena

By Godfrey, Linda S.

Monsters of the Midwest: True Tales of Bigfoot, Werewolves & Other Legendary Creatures

By Freeburg, Jessica

Monster Trek: The Obsessive Search for Bigfoot

By Gisondi, Joe

Mothman: The Facts Behind the Legend

By Wamsley, Jeff and Sergeant Jr., Donnie

Sasquatch: Legend Meets Science

By Meldrum, Jeff

Search at Loch Ness: The Expedition of the New York Times and the Academy of Applied Science

By Meredith, Dennis L.

Shapeshifters: Morphing Monsters & Changing Cryptids

By Redfern, Nick

Tales of the Cryptids: Mysterious Creatures That May or May Not Exist

By Halls, Kelly Milner

The Unexplained: An Illustrated Guide to the World's Natural and Paranormal Mysteries

By Shuker, Dr. Karl

The Weiser Field Guide to Cryptozoology: Werewolves, Dragons, Skyfish, Lizard Men, and Other Fascinating Creatures Real and Mysterious

By Budd, Deena West

Whiskey, Kilts, and the Loch Ness Monster: Traveling through Scotland with Boswell and Johnson

By Starr, William W.

Yeti - The Ecology of a Mystery 1st Edition

By Taylor, Daniel C.

GAMES

Bigfoot - Tabletop Game

The Bigfoot Game - Tabletop Game

The Cameron Files: Secret at Loch Ness - Video Game

Conspiracy X: Cryptozoology - RPG

Cryptids TV - Tabletop Game
Darkstalkers - Video Game
Dominant Species - Tabletop Game
The Hex Scouts Guide to Cryptozoology - RPG
Loch Ness - Tabletop Game
Pathfinder Campaign Setting: Mystery Monsters Revisited - RPG
Smash Up - Tabletop Game
Summit The Board Game - The Yeti Expansion - Tabletop Game

CINEMA

Abominable
The Abominable Snowman
Chupacabra Terror
Cryptid: The Swamp Beast - TV
The Family-Ness - TV
Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them
Harry and the Hendersons - TV and Movie
Harry Potter: Hogwarts Battle - The Monster Box of Monsters Expansion
In Search Of - TV
The Incident at Loch Ness
King Kong
Kong: Skull Island
Kraken: Tentacles of the Deep
The Land That Time Forgot
The Legend of Big Foot
The Legend of Boggy Creek
Little Big Foot
Loch Ness
Loch Ness - TV
Lost Tapes - TV
Lost World
The Mothman of Point Pleasant
Pete's Dragon
The Sasquatch Gang
The Secret Saturdays - TV
Scooby-Doo and the Monster of Mexico

Scooby-Doo and the Loch Ness Monster
Snowbeast
Strange Wilderness
Tremors
Trollhunter
The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep
X-Files - TV
Yeti Giant Of The 20th Century

LOCATIONS

Bigfoot Discovery Museum
<http://bigfootdiscoveryproject.com/>

Cryptozoology & Paranormal Museum
<https://crypto-para.org/>

International Cryptozoology Conference
<http://www.cryptozoonews.com/icc17/>

International Cryptozoology Museum
<http://cryptozoologymuseum.com/>

Loch Ness
<http://www.lochness.com/>

Nessieland
<http://www.nessieland.co.uk/>

PEOPLE

Roy Chapman
Loren Coleman
Charles Darwin
Ken Gerhard
Conrad Gesner
Bernard Heuvelmans
Dr. Karl P. N. Shuker
David Thompson
Craig Woolheater