volume 5
issue 5

Monster Stories

©2009 by unukomo in Flickr. Some rights reserved http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/deed.en.

Stories about "monsters" are told around the world. Some are said to look human. Some are said to look like apes. Some are said to look like dinosaurs. What's similar about these stories is that there's no proof these creatures really exist.

In the northwestern United States, people tell stories about a creature called Bigfoot. This ape-like creature is said to be between six and ten feet tall, to weigh more than 500 pounds, and to be covered in fur. Scientists have found that someone who was playing a trick had molded Bigfoot's huge footprints from clay. Another person had dressed in an ape costume and roared to frighten people.

People who live in the Amazon rain forest of Brazil tell stories about a monster that roars like thunder, looks like a bear, and has a strong smell. Called a mapinguary, the creature is said to leave a trail of beetles behind it and to be seven feet tall. Scientists who scanned the area think the mapinguary could be a giant sloth.

A lake in northern Scotland is said to be the home of the Loch Ness Monster, called Nessie. This monster is said to be a large dinosaur-like creature with a long neck and a small head. Scientists have dragged nets across the lake, scanned it with high-tech equipment, and even used a submarine. However, no creature has ever been found. The photos of Nessie could show a tree branch, an otter, or something else.

What should you do if someone says there's a monster? Think about whether the person might be trying to trick you. Also, ask the person to show you proof. It can be fun to tell stories about such creatures, but no monsters have ever been found.

©2008 by BeneathOurFeet in Flickr. Some rights reserved http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0/deed.en

For more information about TextProject and *FYI for Kids*, visit textproject.org
v.1.0 © 2013 TextProject, Inc. Some rights reserved (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/us/).

Name _____

Monster Stories

Do you think monsters exist, or are they just made up to frighten people? Write what you would tell a friend or family member about the monsters presented in this article. Then ask that person whether monsters are real. Here are some words you might use.

Bigfoot	mapinguary	Loch Ness Monster		Nessie
lake	Scotland	Brazil	bear	beetles
dinosaur	tall	500 pounds	ape	United States

For more information about TextProject and *FYI for Kids*, visit textproject.org
v.1.0 © 2014 TextProject, Inc. Some rights reserved (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/us/).
©2008 by BeneathOurFeet in Flickr. Some rights reserved http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0/deed.en

REVIEW

Monster Stories

Write keywords or phrases that will help you remember what you learned.

For more information about TextProject and *FYI for Kids*, visit textproject.org
v.1.0 © 2014 TextProject, Inc. Some rights reserved (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/us/).
Image ©2008 by BeneathOurFeet in Flickr. Some rights reserved http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0/deed.en.