

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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Jellyfish Giants



Some of the words in this article are tangled in the jellyfish tentacles. Can you replace the missing words?

ENGLAND – Lizzie Daly is a scuba _____, wildlife biologist and a reporter.

Last summer, she and photographer, Dan Abbott, went on a diving trip to _____ waters around the United Kingdom. Little did they know the excitement that lay ahead.

When they dove off the _____ of Cornwall, England, something very large suddenly appeared.

It was a barrel jellyfish. It was as _____ as Lizzie is tall.

Dan Abbott got a _____ and a video of Lizzie swimming with the huge jellyfish. Once it was posted online, it went *viral*—shared thousands of times on _____ media.

Lizzy and Dan spent an hour _____ with the jellyfish. Neither had ever seen a jellyfish this large before.

True or False?

When we at Kid Scoop come across stories such as this one about a jellyfish as large as a person, we wonder if it's true or not. Today, even photographs can be changed.

We checked this story out to make sure it was true. To do that, we checked three separate sources.

Sources for this report are Snopes.com (a fact-checking website), LiveScience.com and Smithsonian.com. All are respected sites that confirmed the story is true.

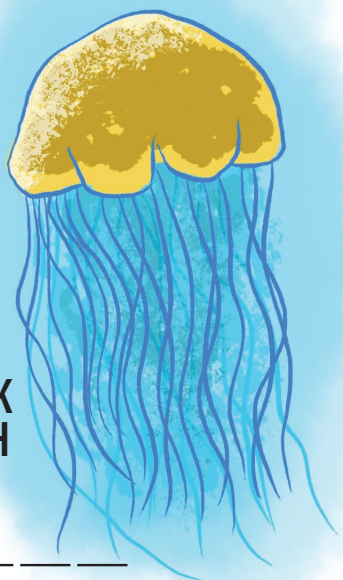
Anytime you read something that seems too wild to be true, check at least three respected sources to see if they are reporting the same information.

Largest Jellyfish

The barrel jellyfish Lizzie and Dan saw is larger than usual. Most barrel jellyfish are about 3 feet (1 meter) long. But it is not the largest jellyfish in the world. Circle every other letter below to learn the name of the world's largest jellyfish. Why do you think it's called this?

A D B I T O M N J S T M V A W N K
E B J Z E P L Q L G Y O F N I E S I H

L _____



Does the barrel jelly really eat with its arms?

The barrel jellyfish has many tiny mouths on the poofy cauliflower-like parts of its arms.

They don't eat fish. They eat very small **zooplankton** (tiny animal plankton) that they catch on these arms. Like all jellies, the pulsing of their bells helps to swirl plankton into their arms where they will sting their prey and eat it through the tiny mouths.

Extra! Extra! Jellyfish Adjectives

The barrel jellyfish and lion's mane jellyfish on today's page got their names because of the way they look. Explore the newspaper for adjectives that can be used to describe jellyfish. Can you come up with some new jellyfish names?

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Identify adjectives.

How big is it?

From the tips of its bell to the end of its tentacles, it can be over _____ feet long.
25 + 25 + 50

The largest one found to date was _____ feet long.
50 + 50 + 20

How many jellyfish can you find on this page?

Do barrel jellyfish sting?

They do sting their tiny prey. But, because their prey is so tiny, their sting is not very strong. A person who touches their arms would get a mild sting. The sting of the barrel jellyfish is not normally harmful to humans. If you find any jellyfish on a beach, it's best not to handle it as they can still sting when dead.

A special thank you to the Monterey Bay Aquarium for their help with this page!

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Jellyfish is a **compound word** – a word made by combining two smaller words (jelly + fish). Draw a line between the words below to create compound words.

Double Double Word Search

- JELLYFISH
- TENTACLES
- LARGEST
- BARREL
- SUMMER
- DIVER
- SCUBA
- COAST
- BEACH
- STING
- VIRAL
- VIDEO
- DEAD
- ARMS
- PREY

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

V	S	L	J	L	T	I	S	N	
I	E	L	A	E	D	G	I	M	Y
D	L	A	R	L	E	I	N	R	E
E	C	R	I	L	A	G	V	A	R
O	A	G	V	Y	D	G	B	E	P
B	T	E	J	F	N	U	E	L	R
L	N	S	Y	I	C	O	A	S	T
F	E	T	T	S	U	M	M	E	R
I	T	S	S	H	C	A	E	B	H

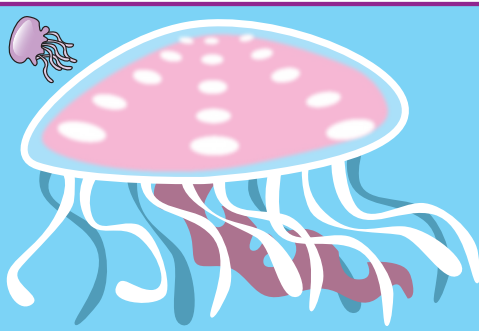
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Fact and Opinion

Facts can be measured, "The barrel jellyfish was 5 feet long." Opinions can differ from one person to another, for example, "The barrel jellyfish is beautiful." Can you find three of each in the newspaper?

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.



What's in the middle of a jellyfish?

ANSWER: Its jelly-button!

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