

Student Name: _____

Student Handout

CRETACEOUS SEAS FACT SHEET

Use library or Internet resources to research the answers to the following questions. Your answers will be one of the prehistoric marine reptiles listed below.

Dolichorhynchops (dolly ko RING cops)

Xiphactinus (zi FAC tin us)

Protostega (pro toe STAY ga)

Tylosaurus (TIE lo sore us)

Tusoteuthis (two so TOOTH is)

Cretoxyrhina (cray tox ee RHI na)

Ammonite (AM mon ite)

Hesperornis (hes per OR nis)

Henodus (HEN o dus)

Styxosaurus (STIK so SAWR uhs)

1. This animal had tentacles and lacked an external shell. It is identified by the fossilized 'pen' that was inside its body. _____
2. This bird-like marine reptile swam but could not fly. _____
3. This fast-swimming reptile looks like a dolphin but is not related.

4. This immense bony fish had a powerful tail that allowed it to swim very fast.

5. This top predator with a keen sense of smell had large, sharp teeth that when lost were replaced by the teeth behind it. _____
6. This marine reptile was wider than it was long, and has distant relatives swimming the seas and lakes today. _____
7. This giant reptile had a hard shell covered in leather and needed to come ashore to lay eggs. _____
8. This invertebrate had tentacles and a hard shell. _____
9. Name the snake-like marine reptile at the top of the food chain in the Cretaceous seas. _____
10. This distant cousin of the *Dolichorhynchops* had a super-sized neck that equaled more than half its length. _____