

Reading

READING

- 1 Look at the photos. What do you know about Loch Ness and the Loch Ness Monster?
- 2 Read the article quickly and match the pictures A–C to the paragraphs 1–3.
- 3 Read the article again and answer the questions.
 - 1 When do people think they see things on the loch?
 - 2 What does 'loch' mean?
 - 3 How big is Loch Ness?
 - 4 Which has more water: the lakes of Wales and England or Loch Ness?
 - 5 When did people first see a monster?



LOCH NESS

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1 Loch is the Scottish Gaelic word for 'lake'. Loch Ness is in the north of Scotland not far from Inverness. The loch is 230 m deep – it's the second deepest loch in Scotland – 36 km long and nearly 3 km wide. There's more water in Loch Ness than all the water in all the lakes in England and Wales. That's a lot of water for something to hide in!

2 The weather around the loch changes quickly. One minute it's sunny, the next it's cloudy, the next there's a bit of rain, and then it's sunny again. It can be a windy place, too. Clouds move quickly through the sky and on sunny days the clouds make shadows on the water. It's easy to think you see something in the water. When it's foggy, the fog sits on the loch and it's possible to think you see things then too.

TALKING POINTS

Do you think there is a monster living in Loch Ness? If not, why do so many people think they see something?

3 The story of the Loch Ness Monster, or 'Nessie', started about 1,500 years ago. Then people called it a giant water animal. In the 1930s, a new road beside the loch brought more people to the area and more people started to see more strange things. In fact, over 1,000 people think they saw a strange animal in the loch. There are several photos of some of the strange animals. Could any of them be Nessie?