

Oxford University Museum of Natural History



We are turning 160!



This year marks 160 years of the Museum! To celebrate, we have put together a very special video all about our fantastic architecture. Bear-whales, angels, hidden bats – the Museum building is chock full of architectural visions of the natural world. A world first in 1860, and unique to this day, this building teaches you about the natural world in its very fabric. Watch the video above to find out more.



The Museum was first opened in 1860 after being designed in the neo-Gothic style, and was intended to be a place to study nature. The visual direction of the Museum was heavily influenced by 19th century art critic John Ruskin, who was passionate about architecture reflecting the natural world. Read more about our history [here](#).

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archive documents and images across our social media channels this week. Links to our channels are below; follow us to stay connected.

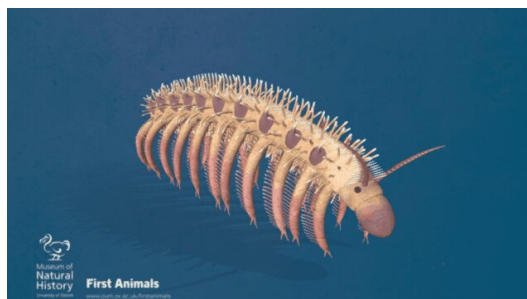
First Animals online



Although we are still closed to the public physically, there is so much for you to discover online. For example, did you know that our First Animals exhibition has lots of supporting content on our website? Our First Animals exhibition online has an array of content to keep you occupied! What were the First Animals on the planet like, why did they arrive, and how? Where did they live, and what did they look like? Find out more about the enigmatic and peculiar First Animals [here](#).

First Animals online talks - join us!

We are hosting regular live events online about...you guessed it...the First Animals! Our upcoming events are listed [here](#), so sign up free and join us for our next online events, wherein you will get to interact with other attendees and ask questions to our expert speakers in the live chat.



Re-watch previous events

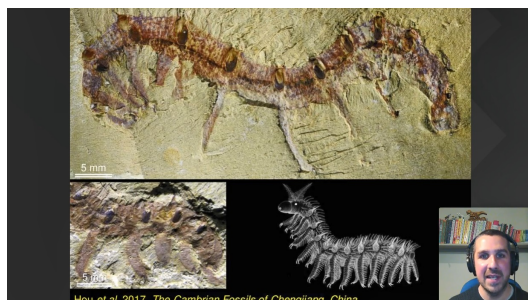
If you have missed our previous live

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much knowledge and insight from top researchers in the fields of palaeontology, palaeobiology, geology and more. Free science learning at your fingertips!



*The videos and live events for First Animals are not suitable for young children as they are quite advanced. Young people and adults are welcome to all whether you are a beginner or expert.



Conservation Optimism video collaboration

We recently did a collaboration video with the wonderful Julia of Conservation Optimism, who used our online virtual tour to talk about some of our specimens and similar species in the context of conservation. Watch the video [here](#).



More Than a Doodle



Want something creative to keep you occupied at the weekends or a crafternoon? We have a new art challenge called More Than a Doodle, where we post weekly items from our online collections on social media and you can use them as a source of inspiration to create something wonderful. You may also explore our social media accounts, our website, and find items you'd like to create. Use the hashtag #MoreThanADoodle and tag us @morethanadodo so we can see what you have created! Find out more [here](#).

Read our blog - featuring swifts!

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members of the Museum? Recently we have been posting updates about the swifts that nest in our building's tower, and lots more. Discover our blog [here](#). We also have a live camera of the swifts to study their behaviour which you can tune in to [here](#).



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