



Trilobites: An Introduction



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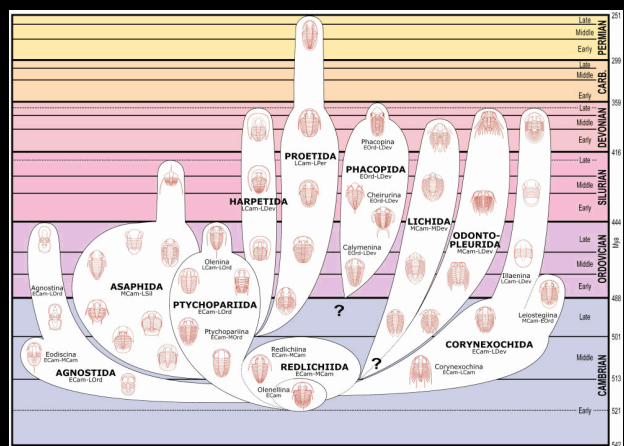


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Welcome back!

Have you got your replica
specimens now?

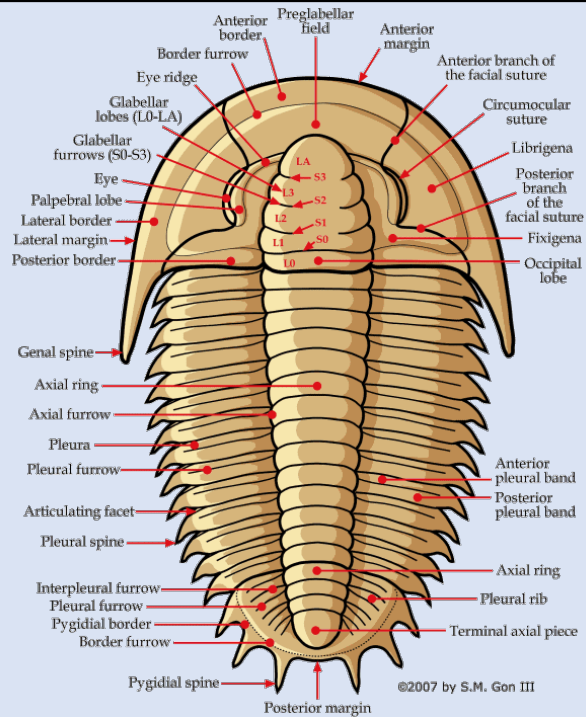


Have you explored trilobites.info?

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Trilobites in close-up



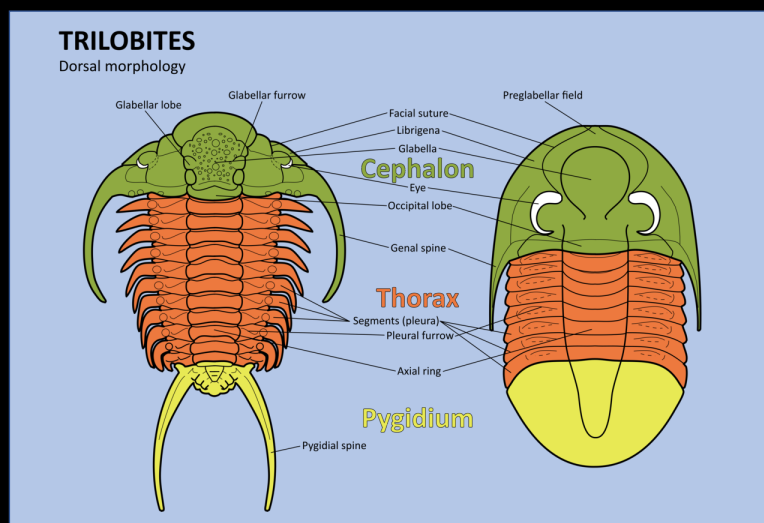
www.trilobites.info

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Heads or tails?

(image from
Wikimedia
Commons)

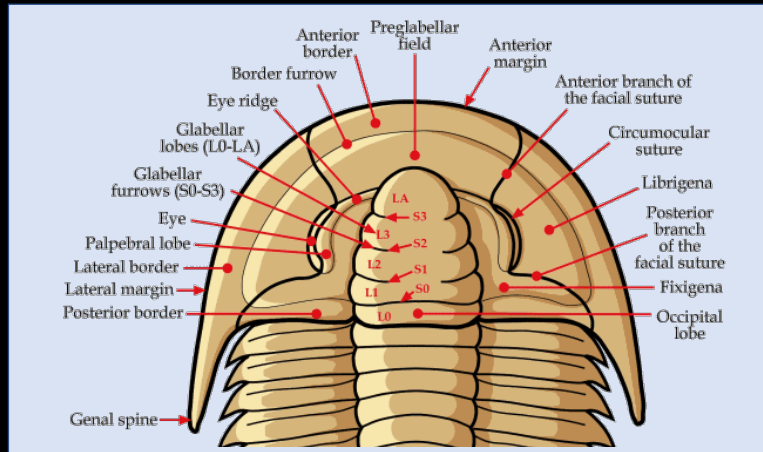


4



Heads!

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The most diagnostic features are in the cephalon

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Heads!

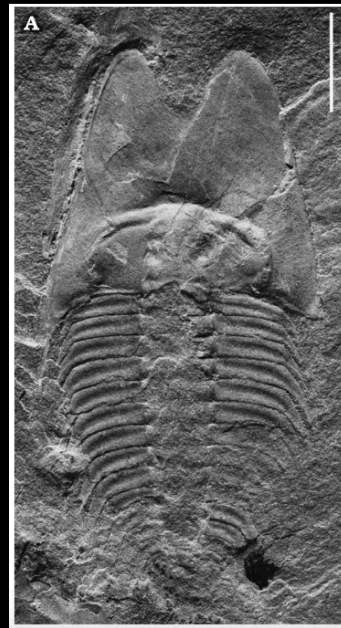
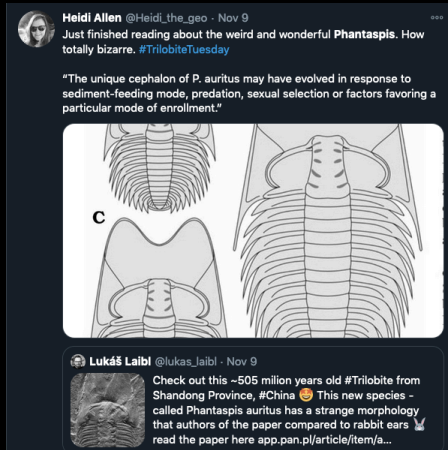


Leonaspis coronata

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Bunny ears!



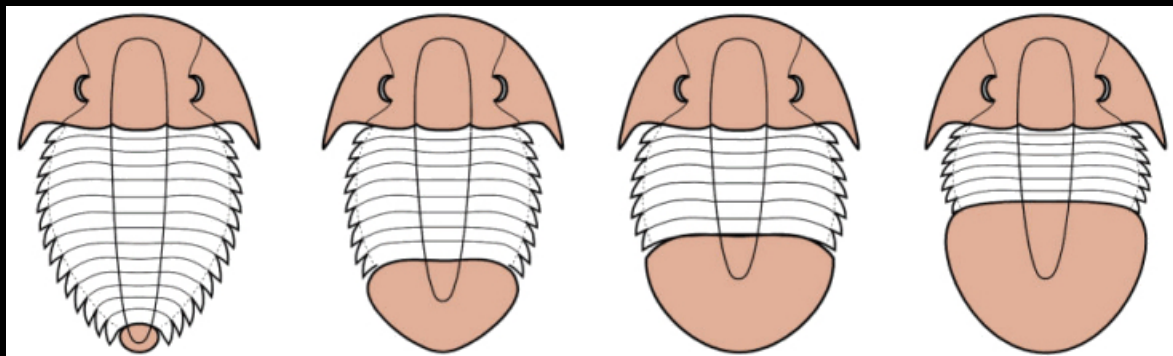
Newly discovered Cambrian trilobite, *Phantaspis*

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And tails!

www.trilobites.info



micropygous

isopygous

macropygous

The pygidium can be distinctive too

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Big bottom!



Cybantyx anaglyptos

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Trilo-sight

The eye of
Paralejurus
(image from
Wikimedia
Commons)



Eye-identify your
13 specimens

Which ones are
trlobtes?

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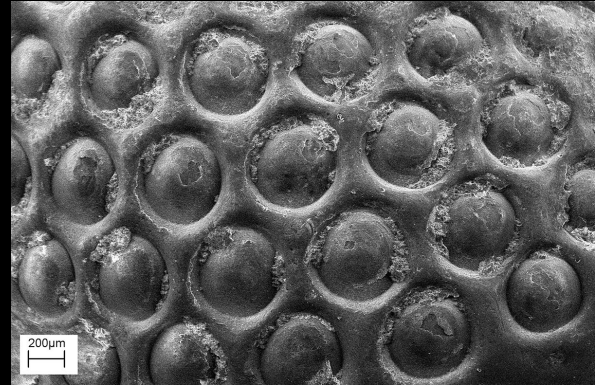
Trilo-sight: 2 main types

Holochroal ("whole surface")
many small lenses, one cornea



Paralejurus (Wikimedia Commons)

Schizochroal ("split surface")
fewer, larger lenses, separate cornea



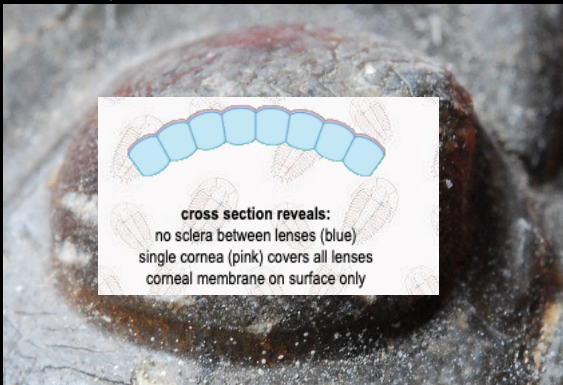
Phacops (photo: Dr Paul Taylor @BryozoanNhm)

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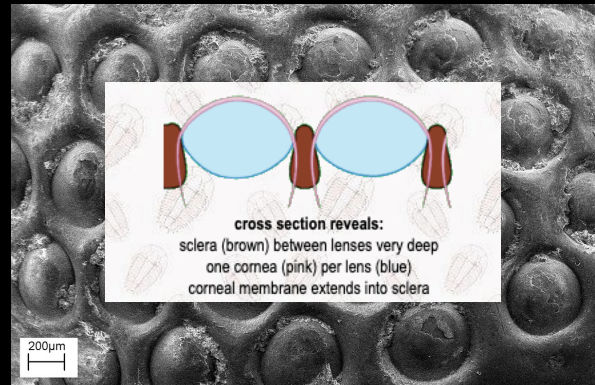
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Paralejurus (Wikimedia Commons)

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Phacops (photo: Dr Paul Taylor @BryozoanNhm)

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Trilobite ecology

How did trilobites live?



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Eyes, size, spines,
head shape,
body shape

Crawl/burrow
swim/float

Predator/scavenger
Grazer/filter-feeder



Cyphaspis ceratophthalma
Deposit feeder?



Geragnostus callavei
Deep-water detritivore?



Sphaerexochus mirus
Fast-moving carnivore?

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Gladiator trilobites?

(image from
Wikimedia
Commons)

Walliserops trifurcatus



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Coming up in the new year!

Introduction to Fossils
– Thursdays at 1900 GMT
7th, 14th, 21st January



Today's slides are on
www.fossilhub.org

Yorkshire Coast Fossils
– Tuesdays at 1900 GMT
26th Jan, 2nd, 9th February



<https://hiddenhorizons.co.uk/collections/all-events>

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