

APPROXIMATE MAXIMUM
DIAMETER OF EYE:

AFRICAN ELEPHANT
5 CENTIMETERS

BLUE WHALE
15 CENTIMETERS

OPHTHALMOSAURUS
23 CENTIMETERS

GIANT SQUID
25 CENTIMETERS

TEMNODONTOSAURUS
26 CENTIMETERS

ICHTHYOSAUR EYES were surprisingly large. Analyses of doughnut-shaped eye bones called sclerotic rings reveal that *Ophthalmosaurus* had the largest eyes relative to body size of any adult vertebrate, living or extinct, and that *Temnodontosaurus* had the biggest eyes, period. The beige shape in the background is the size of an *Ophthalmosaurus* sclerotic ring. The photograph depicts a well-preserved ring from *Stenopterygius*.

FACT: Their eyes were the largest of any animal, living or dead