

TOP TEN SIMPLE MYTHS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD.

ALCHEMY



Attempting to turn base metals into gold was even practiced by Sir Isaac Newton and is credited with forming the foundation of modern chemistry.

KING ARTHUR

There was no Arthur, Knights of The Round Table or Sir Lancelot, but this enduring myth symbolizing chivalry is woven through Western culture.



VIKINGS DISCOVERED AMERICA

It was a myth up until 1960, when conclusive proof showed they beat Columbus by 500 years and re-wrote history.



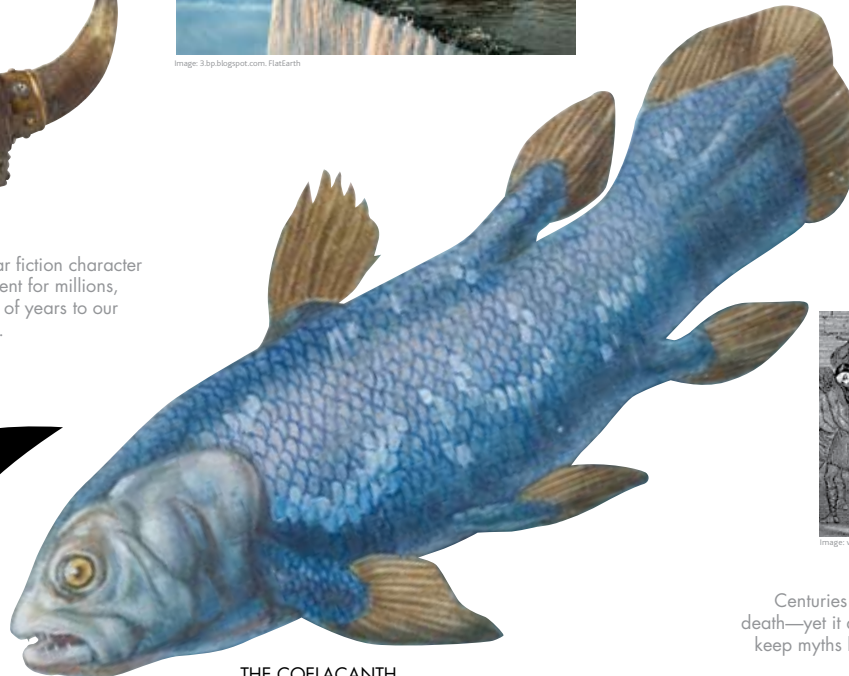
Image: 3.bp.blogspot.com. FlatEarth

THE EARTH IS FLAT

It sparked debate between scholars and theologians for centuries. The early Greeks got it right and, surprise, even Columbus knew it was round.

VAMPIRES

The vampire is the most popular fiction character of all time. Escapist entertainment for millions, this myth goes back thousands of years to our fear of the powers of darkness.



THE COELACANTH

Extinct for 64 million years, the mythical coelacanth turned up off the coast of South Africa in 1938 and turned paleontology upside down.



Image: web-proekt.ru/archives/tag/witchcraft

WITCHCRAFT

Centuries of upheaval, persecution and death—yet it doesn't exist. Theorists say we keep myths like this around to help us sort out good from evil.



THE HOLY GRAIL

The chalice Jesus supposedly drank from at the Last Supper is never mentioned in the Bible. (Historians agree it would have been a wooden cup anyway.) But the search for it continues to this day.



THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH

Ponce de Leon wouldn't have discovered Florida in 1513 if this myth hadn't beckoned him. The search for eternal youth is even more active today.

2ND JFK SHOOTER

Despite almost 50 years of forensic study, no conclusive evidence exists to disprove the most famous myth of the 20th century.



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