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dictionary

of the
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Language



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coe·la·canth  (sē lə-kānth')

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n.

Any of various mostly extinct lobe-finned fishes of the group Coelacanthiformes or Actinistia, known only in fossil form until a living species, *Latimeria chalumnae*, was identified in 1938. A second *Latimeria* species was described in 1999.

[New Latin *Coelacanthus*, former genus name : Greek *koilos*, hollow; see [-COEL](#) + Greek *akantha*, spine (in reference to the hollow spines of the fins).]

coe'la·can thine' (-kăn thīn', -thīn) *adj.*

coe'la·can thous (-thəs) *adj.*



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coelacanth

Latimeria chalumnae

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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