

# Elasmosaurus

**Common Name:**

**Classification:**

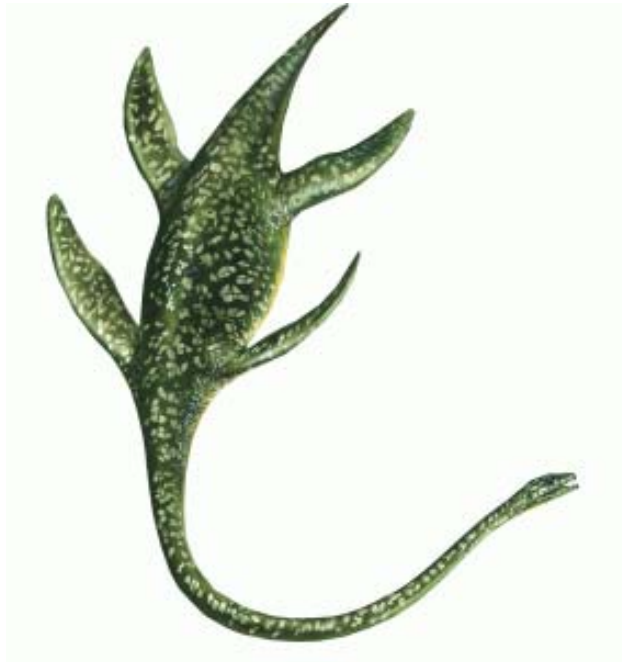
**Class:** Reptilia

**Order:** Plesiosauria

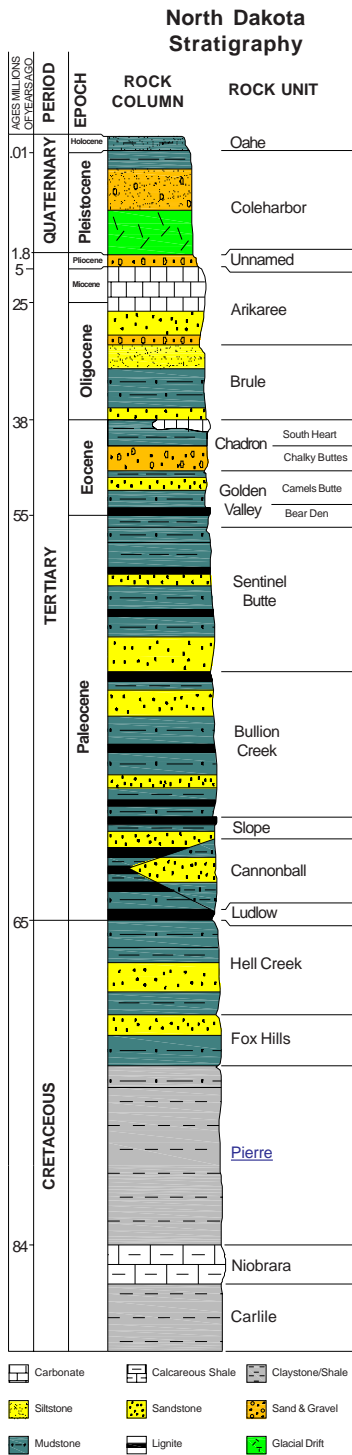
**Family:** Elasmosauridae

**Description:**

*Elasmosaurus* was one of the large marine plesiosaurs that inhabited the Cretaceous seas at the same time as the mosasaurs. They were also reptiles. Some of them grew to lengths of 40 feet or more. They were predators and competed with mosasaurs for food. Plesiosaurs and mosasaurs lived at the same time as dinosaurs but are not technically considered dinosaurs. They became extinct at about the same time as dinosaurs.



*Elasmosaurus*. Courtesy of Simon and Schuster Publishing Company.



Locations where fossils have been found