

Dear Diary,

Today, I am writing to you on the first of January 1824 from Lyme Regis, searching around for fossils as the cold buries me. This afternoon, I would like to find some smaller but more interesting fossils that I can sell at the doorstep, unless I find a huge skeleton, like the time I found the plesiosaur, I still can't believe that I found a 17ft long skeleton!! It doesn't seem possible.

1823 was so busy, I wonder how many fossils I collected during the year! Maybe I should keep count for this year, I would like to know how many fossils I can collect during the year. I have been here at the beach for quite a while now and around an hour ago, I saw the spot where I found the plesiosaur skeleton!

It gave me a flash back of how excited I was on the day I discovered it, it wasn't even that long ago! That incredible day was the 10th of December. I gazed over at the wet sand where a rock, that I had never noticed before, was slightly above the surface. In the corner of my eye, I noticed a slight white rib poking through. I took it back to my workshop and started using my hammer and chisel. Then when I got closer to whatever was hiding, I used my brush to be more careful not to destroy my find.

When I found out that I had discovered the full skeleton of a plesiosaur, I couldn't believe my luck, and then a palaeontologist came to bring it back to the London Natural History museum. I was overwhelmed with joy even though he took the skeleton as he offered to give me £25!!!! That is a lot of money.

You could not imagine how furious I was at him when he announced to everyone in England that the plesiosaur skeleton I found was fake! Although, I am glad he did then admit his error a few days later.

I have got to go now, I think Joseph just found an ammonite between the rocks, I am going back to my workshop to get a better look.

1824 fossils collected = 1

Write again tomorrow, Bye