

A Wonderful World of Knowledge...Know More About It

Episode #7: Big Fish

Tonight in "A Wonderful World...Know More About It", the question is, "What is Africa's largest fish?"

Africa is blessed with a huge variety of fish, with more than 500 species in Lake Malawi alone.

It's quite difficult to prove which of its freshwater species is the largest, but the Nile perch is certainly a contender, with some reaching 200 kilogrammes. Its introduction into Lake Victoria in the 1950s resulted in the extinction of as many as 100 species of fish from the lake, as the Nile perch is a tremendous predator.

For saltwater species living in African waters, there is no question. Growing to 12 metres and weighing as much as 13 tonnes, the whale shark takes the prize. No other fish even comes close.

Swimmers can be thankful that the whale shark primarily eats only very small sea creatures and fish, like sardines and anchovies.

