



Yucatan Sinkhole • Study Guide

A sinkhole is a deep pond created when the roof of a cave collapses and then the opening fills with water. In the Yucatan, Jonathan explores *Muyal-Ha* sinkhole, which is over 100 feet deep and has a false bottom created by clouds of sulfur. It's an incredibly eerie place!

Objectives

1. Introduces viewers to the environment of a submerged cave and sinkhole.

Questions for before watching the program

1. What are some formations that often form in caves?
2. Can anything live in caves?
3. What is a sinkhole and how is it different from a cave? What makes it different from a cenote?

Discussion for after watching the program

1. What makes a sinkhole different from a cave and a cenote?
2. What created the hazy water at the bottom of the sinkhole?
3. What is a stalactite and how is it formed? Can it form underwater?
4. Why are there no fish living at the bottom of the sinkhole?
5. Would there be a sulfur layer at the bottom of the sinkhole if it was a cenote? (Hint, a cenote has moving water because it's connected to an underground river).