



Monkeydactyl

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- Researchers in China have discovered a fossil of the Jurassic-era Pterosaur species, **which has Opposable Thumbs, which distinguishes it from other species.**
- This fossil is about 160 million years old. It is named 'Kunpengopterus Antipollicatus', also **known as 'Monkeydactyl'.**
- In the Greek language, 'antipolycatus' means 'front ring'. It was used to climb trees or to hold branches of trees, which shows adaptation to axillary life.
- The pterosaur species belongs to the reptile class, which is related to the dinosaurs. These are the first animals after insects to be able to fly. It can be extremely large in size (jet aircraft size) as well as extremely small.
- The research team **used 'micro-computed tomography' (micro-CT) to scan the fossils** of antipolyticus. In this technique, X-rays are used to make an image of an object.

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