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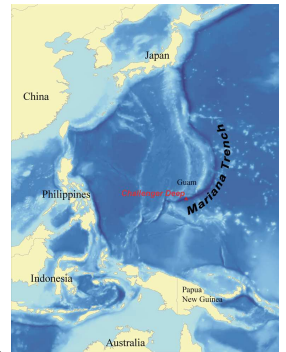


10 Minutes with Science: Geographical Accidents

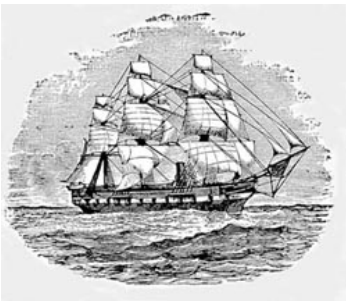
Ocean Trench: A sunken and elongated bottom area where the depth of the ocean increases.

THE MARIANA TRENCH

Could you tell me what is the deepest place in the earth's crust? If you read the title for the story, you got it right. It is the Mariana Trench located at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean, southeast of the Mariana Islands, also known historically as the islands of thieves.



Despite it being an unusual place because of its characteristics, the Mariana Trench began to be studied further at the end of the 19th century. In 1873, the British Royal Navy's ship, the Challenger, visited the Mariana Trench to be able to accurately measure its depth, which was 11,012 meters.



Years later, other ships also measured the trench to check its depth and obtained results similar to the initial one made by the Challenger.

This data fueled the interest of scientists, and they began to study how it had formed. As you can imagine, it was not easy because they had to have a ship capable of going down to that depth to obtain reliable, quality results. They used the Trieste bathyscaphe.

A bathyscaphe is a submersible ship that is used to explore the ocean depths.

