



請注意：中文文字内容只提供簡體版

科学家们说，他们在意大利北部的阿尔卑斯山地区发现了一种有史以来保存完好的最古老昆虫琥珀。这一国际科研成果刊登在最新发表的《国家科学院学报》上。BBC记者 Mark Duff 有以下报道：

High in the Dolomites of northeastern Italy, Italian researchers **chipping away at** rocks formed more than 200 million years ago found two **miniscule** mites and a fly **preserved** in tiny drops of amber. Highly-**magnified** photographs of the creatures show the mites, in particular, to be perfectly preserved. At 230 million years old, they're about 100 million years older than the oldest previous find of their kind.

The bugs probably fed off the leaves of the tree in whose **resin** they were eventually preserved. Researchers say the discovery shows the mites' ability to **adapt** to changing evolutionary conditions. For film lovers, though, it has **striking echoes** of the Stephen Spielberg blockbuster, Jurassic Park, in which a team of scientists use the DNA of a mosquito preserved in amber to recreate dinosaurs with **predictably** terrifying results.

### Questions

1. What have scientists found?
2. How many years have they been preserved?
3. What does the phrase 'striking echoes' mean?
4. Who was the film director of Jurassic Park?

## Vocabulary and definitions

<b>chipping away at</b>	剥落, 敲凿 (化石)
<b>miniscule</b>	极小的
<b>preserved</b>	完好保存的
<b>magnified</b>	放大的
<b>resin</b>	树脂, 松香
<b>adapt</b>	适应
<b>striking echoes</b>	惊人的相似之处
<b>predictably</b>	可预见地

## Answers to the questions

1. What have scientists found?

**Answer:** Two mites and a fly.

2. How many years have they been preserved?

**Answer:** 230 million years.

3. What does the phrase 'striking echoes' mean?

**Answer:** : It means there are surprising similarities.

4. Who was the film director of Jurassic Park?

**Answer:** Stephen Spielberg.

