CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



African Helmeted Turtle

Pelomedusa subrufa

The African Helmeted Turtle is a small to medium-sized freshwater turtle known for its distinctive domed shell and broad, flattened head. Found throughout much of sub-Saharan Africa and parts of the …

Quick facts

Classification: Reptile
Family: Pelomedusidae
Habitat: Freshwater bodies such as ponds, lakes, marshes, and slow-moving rivers
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 20-50 years
Weight: 0.5-2 kg
Scientific name: Pelomedusa subrufa

Did you know?

- This species is known to hunt cooperatively in groups, herding fish into shallow water to catch them more easily.
- African Helmeted Turtles can secrete a foul-smelling liquid from their musk glands when threatened. They are also capable of walking significant dist…

What I learned

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