CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



American Pika

Ochotona princeps

The pika is not a rodent — it is a lagomorph, a close relative of rabbits and hares, and it is one of the very few mammals that stays awake and active all winter in alpine talus without hibernating. …

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Ochotonidae
Habitat: Mountainous talus slopes and alpine meadows
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 3-7 years
Weight: 120-170 grams
Scientific name: Ochotona princeps

Did you know?

- Unlike many small mammals in cold habitats, American Pikas are active year-round and do not hibernate, relying entirely on their haypiles for winter …
- Pikas give a short sharp "eenk" alarm call and, separately, longer "songs" used mainly by males in the breeding season. They eat their own soft caeca…

What I learned

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