CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



American Woodcock

Scolopax minor

The woodcock is a shorebird that lives in young forest and eats earthworms, and almost everything about its anatomy is a consequence of that job. Its eyes have migrated so far back and high on the sk…

Quick facts

Classification: Bird
Family: Scolopacidae
Habitat: Young forests and moist woodlands
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 1-8 years
Weight: 140-230 grams
Scientific name: Scolopax minor

Did you know?

- Despite being classified as a shorebird, the American Woodcock spends almost its entire life far from water, preferring dense, damp woodlands.
- Woodcock walk with a bizarre rocking, foot-stamping gait, which may be a way of making worms move so they can be detected. Their cryptic dead-leaf pl…

What I learned

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