CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Asian arowana

Scleropages formosus

The Asian arowana is the most expensive aquarium fish in the world, and the reason is entirely cultural rather than biological: its large metallic scales, barbels and sinuous swimming resemble a Chin…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Osteoglossidae
Habitat: Slow-moving freshwater rivers and swamps
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Critically Endangered
Lifespan: 15-20 years
Weight: 2-6 kg
Scientific name: Scleropages formosus

Did you know?

- The Asian arowana is so protected that international trade is strictly regulated by CITES, and each permitted aquarium specimen is microchipped for i…
- A trade this lucrative has produced genuinely bizarre practices, including cosmetic surgery on high-value fish — eye-lift procedures for drooping eye…

What I learned

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