CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Asian Water Monitor

Varanus salvator

The Asian water monitor is the second-heaviest lizard alive, behind only the Komodo dragon, and it is one of the very few big reptiles that has done well out of human cities. It swims powerfully with…

Quick facts

Classification: Reptile
Family: Varanidae
Habitat: Tropical forests, wetlands, and riverbanks
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 15-20 years
Weight: 19-50 kg
Scientific name: Varanus salvator

Did you know?

- Despite their intimidating size, Asian Water Monitors are occasionally kept as exotic pets in some countries.
- In Sri Lanka the species is traditionally protected because it eats crabs that undermine paddy-field bunds. It is one of the few lizards that has lea…

What I learned

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