CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Atlantic Portuguese Man o' War

Physalia physalis

The Portuguese man o' war is not a jellyfish, and more surprisingly it is not really an individual animal at all. It is a siphonophore: a floating colony of specialised bodies called zooids, each des…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Physaliidae
Habitat: Open ocean (pelagic zone) in warm tropical and subtropical waters
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 1-3 years
Weight: 100-160 grams
Scientific name: Physalia physalis

Did you know?

- Despite looking like a jellyfish, the Portuguese Man o' War belongs to a different group of organisms called siphonophores.
- It is not a jellyfish and not even a single animal — it is a colony of specialised bodies, none of which can survive on its own. It cannot swim: the …

What I learned

© Creature Atlas · www.creatureatlas.com · Free for classroom & personal use