CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Atlantic wolffish

Anarhichas lupus

The Atlantic wolffish has a face like a nightmare for a good reason: it eats sea urchins, whelks, hermit crabs and scallops, and it needs to break them. Conical fangs at the front seize and wrench pr…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Anarhichadidae
Habitat: Cold, rocky seafloors of the North Atlantic Ocean
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Near Threatened
Lifespan: 12-20 years
Weight: 8-18 kg
Scientific name: Anarhichas lupus

Did you know?

- Despite their fierce looks, Atlantic wolffish are shy and spend most of their time hiding among rocks rather than actively hunting.
- By eating sea urchins, wolffish help keep urchin numbers down, and their removal is one factor in the spread of barren, kelp-stripped "urchin deserts…

What I learned

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