CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Bala shark

Balantiocheilos melanopterus

The Bala shark, also known as the tricolor shark or silver shark, is a striking freshwater fish native to Southeast Asia. With its torpedo-shaped body, large eyes, and distinctive black-edged fins, i…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Cyprinidae
Habitat: Freshwater rivers and lakes
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Endangered
Lifespan: 8-10 years
Weight: 1-2 kg
Scientific name: Balantiocheilos melanopterus

Did you know?

- Bala sharks can reach up to 35 cm (about 14 inches) in length, making them much larger than most aquarium owners expect.
- Bala sharks can leap out of the water when startled, a behavior known as 'skittish jumping.' Despite their name and appearance, they are not related …

What I learned

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