CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Banded Archerfish

Toxotes jaculatrix

The archerfish shoots insects off overhanging vegetation with a jet of water fired from its mouth, and to do it it has to solve a genuinely difficult physics problem. Light bends as it crosses the wa…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Toxotidae
Habitat: Brackish mangroves, estuaries, and lower reaches of rivers
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 5-10 years
Weight: 20-80 grams
Scientific name: Toxotes jaculatrix

Did you know?

- The Banded Archerfish can recognize individual human faces, an ability rare among fish.
- It corrects for the refraction of light at the water's surface — the insect is not where it appears to be, and the fish compensates. It shapes its je…

What I learned

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