CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Bichir

Polypterus senegalus

The Bichir is a primitive, elongated fish native to the freshwater systems of Africa, known for its distinctive armored scales and ability to breathe air. Often described as 'living fossils,' bichirs…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Polypteridae
Habitat: Freshwater rivers, swamps, and floodplains
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 10-15 years
Weight: 0.2-2.0 kg
Scientific name: Polypterus senegalus

Did you know?

- Bichirs are among the few fish that can drown if they are unable to reach the water's surface to breathe air.
- Bichirs can walk short distances over land using their strong, lobed fins. They have a unique way of breathing air, surfacing regularly even when und…

What I learned

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