

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Blind cave tetra

*Astyanax mexicanus*

The blind cave tetra is a remarkable freshwater fish known for its complete lack of eyes and pigmentation, adaptations for life in dark subterranean caves. Unlike its surface-dwelling relatives, this...

### Quick facts

**Classification:** Fish

**Family:** Characidae

**Habitat:** Cave streams and underground freshwater pools

**Diet:** Omnivore

**Conservation status:** Least Concern

**Lifespan:** 3-5 years

**Weight:** 2-4 grams

**Scientific name:** *Astyanax mexicanus*

### Did you know?

- Some populations of blind cave tetras have evolved independently in different cave systems, making them a classic example of convergent evolution.
- Blind cave tetras are born with eyes, but the eyes degenerate and are absorbed as the fish matures. They are able to navigate using their lateral lin...

### What I learned

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