CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Coconut Crab

Birgus latro

The coconut crab is the largest land arthropod alive, with a leg span approaching a metre, and it has committed to land so completely that it will drown if held underwater. It has abandoned gills for…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Coenobitidae
Habitat: Coastal forests and rocky shorelines on Indo-Pacific islands
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Vulnerable
Lifespan: 40-60 years
Weight: 2-4 kg
Scientific name: Birgus latro

Did you know?

- Despite being crustaceans, adult Coconut Crabs cannot swim and will drown if submerged in water for extended periods.
- The largest land arthropod on Earth — and it drowns if held underwater, because it breathes air. Its claw is one of the strongest pinchers ever measu…

What I learned

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