CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Colossal Squid

Mesonychoteuthis hamiltoni

Mesonychoteuthis hamiltoni is the heaviest invertebrate known, with confirmed specimens near 495 kg — far bulkier than the longer, more slender giant squid. It lives in the freezing waters around Ant…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Cranchiidae
Habitat: Deep Southern Ocean
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: Up to 2 years (estimated)
Weight: 250–495 kg (550–1,091 lbs)
Scientific name: Mesonychoteuthis hamiltoni

Did you know?

- Despite their gigantic size, colossal squids are believed to be relatively short-lived, possibly surviving only a couple of years.
- Sperm whales are the only known regular predator, and some carry circular scars from the colossal squid's rotating hooks. Because ammonium-laden fles…

What I learned

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