CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Common Cuttlefish

Sepia officinalis

The cuttlefish is one of the great paradoxes in animal vision: it is a master of colour camouflage and is almost certainly colourblind. It has a single type of photoreceptor, which ought to make colo…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Sepiidae
Habitat: Shallow coastal waters, seagrass beds, sandy and muddy sea floors
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 1-2 years
Weight: 1.5–3 kg
Scientific name: Sepia officinalis

Did you know?

- Despite their name, cuttlefish are not fish at all—they are mollusks, closely related to squid and octopuses.
- Cuttlefish are almost certainly colourblind, yet match the colour of their surroundings with startling precision. Their W-shaped pupil and colour-spl…

What I learned

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