CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Common Firefly

Photinus pyralis

A firefly's glow is one of the most efficient light sources in nature: the reaction between luciferin and the enzyme luciferase releases almost all its energy as light and almost none as heat, which …

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Lampyridae
Habitat: Moist meadows, forests, and near freshwater sources
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 1-2 years (including larval stage)
Weight: 0.01-0.03 grams
Scientific name: Photinus pyralis

Did you know?

- Some firefly larvae can glow underground, deterring predators even before they emerge as adults.
- Firefly light is nearly 100% efficient — almost no heat at all, which is why it is called "cold light". Each species has its own flash code: pulse co…

What I learned

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