CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Dugong

Dugong dugon

Dugong dugon is the only strictly marine mammal on Earth that eats nothing but plants, and unlike a manatee it never enters fresh water and never leaves the sea. Its closest living relatives are elep…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Dugongidae
Habitat: Shallow coastal marine waters with seagrass beds
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Vulnerable
Lifespan: 50–70 years
Weight: 230–500 kg
Scientific name: Dugong dugon

Did you know?

- Dugongs are believed to be the origin of ancient sailor legends about mermaids due to their human-like features when seen from a distance.
- Dugongs are the most plausible origin of the mermaid legend, and Christopher Columbus's disappointed logbook note that the "mermaids" he saw were not…

What I learned

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