CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Electric Catfish

Malapterurus electricus

The electric catfish is a unique freshwater fish native to tropical Africa, famed for its ability to generate powerful electric shocks of up to 350 volts. These shocks are used both for hunting prey …

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Malapteruridae
Habitat: Slow-moving freshwater rivers and lakes
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 6-15 years
Weight: 1.5–4 kg
Scientific name: Malapterurus electricus

Did you know?

- The electric catfish's entire body, except for its head and tail, is lined with specialized electric organs that make up nearly one-third of its mass.
- Electric catfish can emit electric shocks strong enough to stun small prey or deter potential threats. Ancient Egyptians depicted these fish in their…

What I learned

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