

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Fairy Shrimp

*Branchinecta lynchi*

The fairy shrimp is a small, delicate freshwater crustacean found primarily in vernal pools and temporary ponds. They have elongated bodies, large stalked eyes, and swim gracefully upside down with t...

### Quick facts

**Classification:** Invertebrate

**Family:** Branchinectidae

**Habitat:** Seasonal freshwater pools (vernal pools)

**Diet:** Omnivore

**Conservation status:** Vulnerable

**Lifespan:** 4-8 weeks (as adults)

**Weight:** 5-40 mg

**Scientific name:** Branchinecta lynchi

### Did you know?

- Despite their fragile appearance, fairy shrimp eggs can survive extreme drought and freezing for decades before hatching.
- Fairy shrimp swim upside down and use their legs to both move and filter food from the water. Their eggs, called cysts, can withstand freezing and dr...

### What I learned

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