CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

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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