CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Fiddler Crab

Uca pugnax

A male fiddler crab has one claw that is grotesquely, uselessly large — in some species it makes up close to half his entire body weight — and one small ordinary one. The big claw cannot feed him. On…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Ocypodidae
Habitat: Coastal mudflats and mangrove forests
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 1-2 years
Weight: 8-12 grams
Scientific name: Uca pugnax

Did you know?

- Despite their small size, fiddler crabs are crucial ecosystem engineers—by burrowing, they improve soil aeration and nutrient cycling in coastal habi…
- In some species males build a chimney, hood or pillar of mud beside the burrow, which appears to work as a landmark that draws the eye of females sca…

What I learned

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