CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Galápagos Tortoise

Chelonoidis nigra

The Galápagos tortoise is the largest tortoise alive, and its shell varies from island to island in a way that helped shape the theory of evolution. On lush, wet islands the shells are domed and the …

Quick facts

Classification: Reptile
Family: Testudinidae
Habitat: Volcanic islands with arid lowlands, grasslands, and humid highlands
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Vulnerable
Lifespan: 80–150 years
Weight: 100–417 kg (220–919 lbs)
Scientific name: Chelonoidis nigra

Did you know?

- The oldest recorded Galápagos Tortoise lived to be at least 176 years old!
- Shell shape varies by island — domed for grazing wet islands, saddlebacked for reaching cactus on dry ones — a pattern that helped shape evolutionary…

What I learned

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