CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Giant Spider Crab

Macrocheira kaempferi

Macrocheira kaempferi has the greatest leg span of any arthropod that has ever lived, reaching close to 3.7 m from claw tip to claw tip, but the animal itself is far smaller than that number suggests…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Inachidae
Habitat: Deep ocean waters
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Not Evaluated
Lifespan: 50-100 years
Weight: 16-19 kg
Scientific name: Macrocheira kaempferi

Did you know?

- The Giant Spider Crab holds the record for the longest leg span of any marine arthropod, outstretching even the largest land spiders.
- Because the carapace does not grow after the terminal moult, an old crab accumulates a lifetime of barnacles, scars and encrusting growth, and the sh…

What I learned

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