CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Giant Water Bug

Lethocerus americanus

Giant water bugs of the genus Lethocerus are the largest true bugs on Earth, with some New World species exceeding 10 cm, and they hunt far above their weight class: tadpoles, small fish, salamanders…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Belostomatidae
Habitat: Freshwater ponds, lakes, marshes, and slow-moving streams
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 1-2 years
Weight: 4-10 grams
Scientific name: Lethocerus americanus

Did you know?

- Male Giant Water Bugs in some species carry their eggs on their backs until they hatch, offering them protection and aeration.
- Male back-brooding in Belostoma and Abedus is one of the few examples of exclusive paternal care in insects, and males will abandon eggs that a rival…

What I learned

© Creature Atlas · www.creatureatlas.com · Free for classroom & personal use