CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Hooded Seal

Cystophora cristata

Cystophora cristata of the North Atlantic pack ice carries the strangest display organ of any seal. The adult male has an inflatable sac of nasal cavity that swells into a black balloon on top of his…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Phocidae
Habitat: Arctic and subarctic oceanic pack ice
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Vulnerable
Lifespan: 25-35 years
Weight: 170–450 kg
Scientific name: Cystophora cristata

Did you know?

- Hooded seal pups are weaned after just 3–5 days, the shortest lactation period of any mammal.
- Hooded seals dive routinely to 600 m and have been recorded past 1,000 m, and can stay down for nearly an hour. The blueback pelt was so valuable tha…

What I learned

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