CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Iberian Ribbed Newt

Pleurodeles waltl

Pleurodeles waltl has one of the most alarming defence mechanisms of any vertebrate: when seized, it swings its sharp-tipped ribs forward and outward, rotating them at the vertebral joints until they…

Quick facts

Classification: Amphibian
Family: Salamandridae
Habitat: Freshwater ponds, lakes, and slow-moving streams
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Near Threatened
Lifespan: 10-15 years
Weight: 25-55 grams
Scientific name: Pleurodeles waltl

Did you know?

- When threatened, the Iberian Ribbed Newt can literally push its ribs through its skin to pierce predators and deliver toxins, all while healing these…
- Iberian ribbed newts spent months aboard the Mir space station, and their regenerating limbs were studied in microgravity. The rib-piercing skin has …

What I learned

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