CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Kissing Bug

Triatoma infestans

Kissing bugs (subfamily Triatominae) are blood-feeding true bugs of the Americas that get their gentle name from a nasty habit: they feed at night on sleeping people, often around the lips and eyes w…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Reduviidae
Habitat: Human dwellings, cracks in walls, animal burrows, and nests
Diet: Carnivore (Hematophagous—blood-feeding)
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 6 months to 2 years
Weight: 0.02 - 0.05 grams
Scientific name: Triatoma infestans

Did you know?

- Kissing Bugs transmit Chagas disease not through their bite, but via their feces, which can enter the body through the bite wound or mucous membranes.
- The parasite gets in through your own scratching, not the bite - which means a bug can feed on you harmlessly if the faeces never reach a break in th…

What I learned

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