CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Large Milkweed Bug

Oncopeltus fasciatus

The large milkweed bug is a brightly colored insect commonly found on milkweed plants throughout North America. Recognizable by its vivid orange and black pattern, this bug specializes in feeding on …

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Lygaeidae
Habitat: Open fields and meadows with abundant milkweed plants
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 1-2 months
Weight: 0.03-0.06 grams
Scientific name: Oncopeltus fasciatus

Did you know?

- Milkweed bugs have specialized mouthparts that allow them to pierce and suck nutrients from seeds and stems, making them highly adapted to their food…
- Milkweed bugs are immune to the toxic compounds in milkweed that deter most other animals. Their striking coloration is an example of aposematism, wa…

What I learned

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