CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Mandarinfish

Synchiropus splendidus

Synchiropus splendidus is a small dragonet of Pacific reefs whose blue is not made the way almost every other blue in nature is made. Nearly all blue animals produce the colour structurally, by scatt…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Callionymidae
Habitat: Coral reefs and lagoons
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 10–15 years
Weight: 3–5 grams
Scientific name: Synchiropus splendidus

Did you know?

- Mandarinfish lack traditional fish scales and instead secrete a protective mucus coating that helps ward off disease and predators.
- Mandarinfish are notoriously hard to keep in aquaria because they eat only tiny live copepods and will starve in a tank without a mature, thriving po…

What I learned

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