CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Mimic Octopus

Thaumoctopus mimicus

The mimic octopus is the only animal known to impersonate several different species and to choose between them. It can flatten itself and ripple across the seabed as a toxic flatfish, bury six arms a…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Octopodidae
Habitat: Shallow coastal waters and muddy estuaries
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 1.5-2 years
Weight: 0.5-1 kg
Scientific name: Thaumoctopus mimicus

Did you know?

- The Mimic Octopus can choose which animal to mimic based on the type of predator it faces, tailoring its disguise for maximum survival.
- It is the only animal known to impersonate multiple different species — flatfish, sea snake, lionfish — and to pick the right one. It reportedly mimi…

What I learned

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