CREATURE ATLAS

# Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



# Moss Piglet

*Hypsibius dujardini*

Tardigrades — water bears, moss piglets — are half-millimetre invertebrates with eight legs tipped in claws, and their reputation for indestructibility is badly overstated. An active, hydrated tardig…

## Quick facts

**Classification:** Invertebrate
**Family:** Hypsibiidae
**Habitat:** Moist terrestrial environments such as mosses, lichens, and leaf litter
**Diet:** Omnivore
**Conservation status:** Least Concern
**Lifespan:** 3 months to 2.5 years
**Weight:** 0.0002–0.001 grams
**Scientific name:** Hypsibius dujardini

## Did you know?

- Moss piglets can lose almost all the water in their bodies and remain dormant for decades, reviving once rehydrated.
- Tardigrades are eutelic: an adult has a fixed number of cells, roughly 1,000, and grows by making existing cells bigger rather than dividing more. A …

## What I learned

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