CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Ocean sunfish

Mola mola

The ocean sunfish is the heaviest bony fish in the world and looks like a fish that has been bitten in half. It effectively has no tail — the rear of the body ends in a clavus, a rudder formed from f…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Molidae
Habitat: Open ocean (pelagic zones) of temperate and tropical seas
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Vulnerable
Lifespan: 10-25 years
Weight: 247–2,300 kg (545–5,070 lbs)
Scientific name: Mola mola

Did you know?

- Despite their size, ocean sunfish are often mistaken for sharks or other sea creatures due to their enormous dorsal and anal fins breaking the surfac…
- The heaviest bony fish alive — and it has essentially no tail, swimming by flapping its dorsal and anal fins like wings. It basks on its side at the …

What I learned

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