CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Pea Crab

Pinnotheres pisum

Pinnotheridae are among the smallest crabs in the world, a few millimetres across, and they spend their adult lives inside another animal — the mantle cavity of an oyster, mussel or scallop, or the b…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Pinnotheridae
Habitat: Shallow coastal waters inside the shells of bivalve mollusks
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 1-3 years
Weight: 0.01-0.05 grams
Scientific name: Pinnotheres pisum

Did you know?

- Pea crabs can sometimes be found inside oysters served at restaurants, surprising unsuspecting diners!
- A female pea crab that has moulted into her final soft form inside an oyster is a permanent prisoner: her carapace is too wide to pass back out throu…

What I learned

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