CREATURE ATLAS

# Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



# Praying Mantis

*Mantis religiosa*

The most repeated fact about mantises is the least accurate. Sexual cannibalism is real, but the claim that females routinely bite off the male's head during mating is largely an artefact of early la…

## Quick facts

**Classification:** Invertebrate
**Family:** Mantidae
**Habitat:** Grasslands, gardens, forests, and shrublands
**Diet:** Carnivore
**Conservation status:** Least Concern
**Lifespan:** 6 to 12 months
**Weight:** 1 to 7 grams
**Scientific name:** Mantis religiosa

## Did you know?

- Some larger praying mantis species are known to prey on small birds, frogs, and even lizards, not just insects.
- Mantises are close relatives of cockroaches and termites, not of grasshoppers, and all three sit in the group Dictyoptera. Females lay eggs in a frot…

## What I learned

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