CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Radiated Tortoise

Astrochelys radiata

Astrochelys radiata has one of the most striking shells of any tortoise — a high black dome with sharp yellow lines radiating from a pale centre on each scute, a pattern that looks decorative but wor…

Quick facts

Classification: Reptile
Family: Testudinidae
Habitat: Dry forests and thorny scrublands
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Critically Endangered
Lifespan: 40–100 years
Weight: 12–16 kg
Scientific name: Astrochelys radiata

Did you know?

- Radiated Tortoises are considered sacred in some Malagasy cultures, and harming them is taboo in certain local traditions.
- Estimates suggested the wild population fell from over 12 million in the 1990s to a few million within two decades, an almost unprecedented rate of d…

What I learned

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