CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Rainbow Darter

Etheostoma caeruleum

The Rainbow Darter is a small, vibrantly colored freshwater fish native to streams and rivers of eastern North America. Males display striking blue and orange markings, especially during breeding sea…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Percidae
Habitat: Freshwater streams and rivers
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 3-4 years
Weight: 2-5 grams
Scientific name: Etheostoma caeruleum

Did you know?

- Despite their vivid colors, Rainbow Darters are rarely kept in home aquariums because they require fast-flowing, highly oxygenated water to thrive.
- Rainbow Darters lack a swim bladder, which allows them to stay close to the streambed without floating away. During breeding season, males become eve…

What I learned

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