CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Rainbow trout

Oncorhynchus mykiss

The rainbow trout is a vibrant freshwater fish native to cold-water rivers and lakes in North America, but has been introduced worldwide for sport fishing. Recognized by its iridescent coloring and d…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Salmonidae
Habitat: Cold, clear freshwater rivers, streams, and lakes
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 4-6 years
Weight: 0.5–2.3 kg (1–5 lbs)
Scientific name: Oncorhynchus mykiss

Did you know?

- Rainbow trout can hybridize with other trout species, sometimes producing hybrids known as 'cutbows' when crossed with cutthroat trout.
- Rainbow trout are capable of detecting ultraviolet light, which helps them locate prey in various water conditions. Some populations of rainbow trout…

What I learned

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