CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Ruby-tailed wasp

Chrysis ignita

The Ruby-tailed wasp is a brilliantly colored metallic insect renowned for its vivid iridescent blue, green, and red hues. This small solitary wasp is part of the cuckoo wasp family and is often seen…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Chrysididae
Habitat: Sunny woodland edges, gardens, and open habitats with abundant solitary bee and wasp nests
Diet: Carnivore (larvae); Adults feed on nectar
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 1-2 years
Weight: 10-20 mg
Scientific name: Chrysis ignita

Did you know?

- The Ruby-tailed wasp's exoskeleton is so tough that it can resist stings from the host insects it parasitizes.
- Ruby-tailed wasps are capable of curling into a tight ball to protect their vulnerable parts if attacked. Their metallic colors are caused by microsc…

What I learned

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