CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Scarlet Ibis

Eudocimus ruber

The scarlet ibis (Eudocimus ruber) is not born red. Chicks are grey-brown, and the adult's saturated scarlet is built entirely from carotenoid pigments absorbed from its food, chiefly small crabs and…

Quick facts

Classification: Bird
Family: Threskiornithidae
Habitat: Wetlands and coastal lagoons
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 15-20 years
Weight: 1.4-1.7 kg
Scientific name: Eudocimus ruber

Did you know?

- Despite their bold coloring, Scarlet Ibises hatch with gray or brown feathers, only turning scarlet after several years of eating carotenoid-rich foo…
- The red comes from the same class of pigments that colour flamingos, and the two birds go pale in captivity for exactly the same reason. Scarlet ibis…

What I learned

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