CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Sea Pen

Pennatula phosphorea

The sea pen is a colonial marine invertebrate belonging to the order Pennatulacea, resembling a quill pen anchored in soft sea bottoms. Composed of hundreds to thousands of polyps, sea pens display a…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Pennatulidae
Habitat: Soft-bottom ocean floors (sandy or muddy substrates), usually in deeper waters
Diet: Carnivore (Planktivore)
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 10-15 years
Weight: Up to 200 grams
Scientific name: Pennatula phosphorea

Did you know?

- Sea pens can retract their entire bodies into the sediment if they sense danger, effectively hiding from predators.
- Sea pens are named for their resemblance to old-fashioned quill pens. They are colonial animals, meaning each 'individual' is actually a colony of sp…

What I learned

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