CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Secretary Bird

Sagittarius serpentarius

The secretary bird is a bird of prey that gave up hunting on the wing and took up walking instead. It strides across African grassland on long, stilt-like legs, covering many kilometres a day, flushi…

Quick facts

Classification: Bird
Family: Sagittariidae
Habitat: Savanna and open grassland
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Vulnerable
Lifespan: 10-15 years in the wild
Weight: 2.3–4.5 kg
Scientific name: Sagittarius serpentarius

Did you know?

- Despite their impressive size and fierce hunting skills, Secretary Birds are capable of flight and can soar great distances, though they prefer to wa…
- It kills snakes by stamping — a strike delivered in about ten to fifteen milliseconds, too fast to be aimed by feedback. That stamp lands with severa…

What I learned

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