

Name: _____ Date: _____



Shoebill

Balaeniceps rex

The shoebill is a large, stork-like bird native to the swamps and wetlands of central tropical Africa. It is instantly recognizable by its massive, shoe-shaped bill, which it uses to catch large prey...

Quick facts

Classification: Bird

Family: Balaenicipitidae

Habitat: Freshwater swamps and wetlands

Diet: Carnivore

Conservation status: Vulnerable

Lifespan: 35-40 years

Weight: 4-7 kg

Scientific name: Balaeniceps rex

Did you know?

- Shoebills can make a sound called a 'bill clap,' which is reminiscent of a machine gun and is used to communicate, especially during the breeding season.
- Shoebills have a distinctive bill-clattering display used during nesting and territorial interactions. Their huge bills can be up to 24 cm (9.4 in) long.

What I learned
