CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Springhare

Pedetes capensis

The springhare (Pedetes capensis) is a southern African rodent that looks and moves like a small kangaroo: it hops bipedally on greatly enlarged hind legs, covering 2 metres or more in a bound, and b…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Pedetidae
Habitat: Open grasslands and savannas
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 10-12 years in the wild
Weight: 2.5-4 kg
Scientific name: Pedetes capensis

Did you know?

- Despite their kangaroo-like appearance and hopping locomotion, springhares are actually rodents and not marsupials.
- Springhares glow pink and orange under UV light, an effect only reported in 2023 and unexplained. They plug their burrow entrances behind them with s…

What I learned

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