CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Swordtail

Xiphophorus hellerii

The Swordtail is a small, vibrant freshwater fish native to Central America. It is named for the distinct sword-like extension of the lower part of the male's tail fin, which is used in courtship dis…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Poeciliidae
Habitat: Freshwater streams and rivers
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 3-5 years
Weight: 2-6 grams
Scientific name: Xiphophorus hellerii

Did you know?

- Swordtail females can store sperm from a single mating and use it to fertilize multiple broods over several months.
- Male Swordtails use their elongated tail to attract females and deter rivals. They are known for their ability to interbreed with closely related pla…

What I learned

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