CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Vampire tetra

Hydrolycus scomberoides

The vampire tetra or payara (Hydrolycus scomberoides and its relatives) is a silver, deep-bodied characin of the fast water and rapids of the Amazon and Orinoco, and it is armed with a pair of fangs …

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Cynodontidae
Habitat: Fast-flowing freshwater rivers
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 2-4 years
Weight: 2-5 kg
Scientific name: Hydrolycus scomberoides

Did you know?

- The vampire tetra's lower fangs can grow so long they extend past its jaw, earning it a reputation as one of the most intimidating freshwater fish in…
- Its lower fangs are so long that its upper jaw has two holes for them to slide into when its mouth closes. It regularly preys on piranhas. It impales…

What I learned

© Creature Atlas · www.creatureatlas.com · Free for classroom & personal use