CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Venus Flower Basket

Euplectella aspergillum

The Venus flower basket (Euplectella aspergillum) is a deep-sea glass sponge that builds itself a hollow, cylindrical lattice out of silica, and that lattice has become a case study in structural eng…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Euplectellidae
Habitat: Deep ocean floor
Diet: Filter feeder
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: Up to 10-15 years
Weight: 100-300 grams
Scientific name: Euplectella aspergillum

Did you know?

- The sponge's silica fibers are so well-constructed that they can transmit light like natural fiber-optic cables.
- Its glass skeleton is a lattice so efficient at resisting buckling that engineers have proposed copying it for bridges and buildings. Its silica spic…

What I learned

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