CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Virginia Opossum

Didelphis virginiana

The Virginia opossum (Didelphis virginiana) is the only marsupial north of Mexico, and it is a bundle of physiological oddities. It has 50 teeth, more than any other North American land mammal, an op…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Didelphidae
Habitat: Forests, woodlands, farmlands, urban areas
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 2-4 years in the wild
Weight: 2-6 kg
Scientific name: Didelphis virginiana

Did you know?

- Despite being marsupials, female Virginia opossums can give birth to as many as 25 tiny young at once, but only a few survive to develop fully in the…
- Playing dead is an involuntary catatonic collapse, not a performance, and the animal cannot end it at will. Opossums carry a partial immunity to pit …

What I learned

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