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animal fact file

atlas moth

NAME: Attacus atlas

FROM: Asia

EATS: Nothing!

SIZE: Up to 30cm wingspan

AGE: Up to 2 weeks

SEXING: Males have large antennae

HOUSING: Communal

The Atlas moth may be the biggest moth in the world.

They are said to be named after either the Titan of Greek mythology, or their map-like wing patterns.

They have triangular, window-like triangles on all four wings but the purpose of these is not clear, but they are thought to play a role in predator avoidance.

Adults lack mouthparts and therefore cannot feed, surviving entirely on larval fat reserves that they build up while they are caterpillars.



