

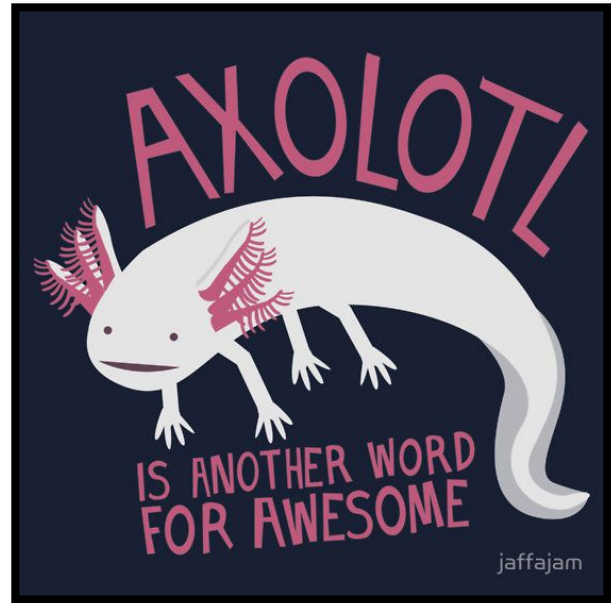
A lot of Axolotls

A Thematic Unit for Teaching Science and Spanish

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Visit the companion website for digital resources from this workshop!
<http://www.miscositas.com/workshops.html>



Resources for teaching about axolotls & Science:

- Ambystoma genetic stock center: distributes axolotl embryos, larvae, and adults to laboratories and classrooms: <http://www.ambystoma.org/genetic-stock-center>
- Edge of Existence: Very rich resource with information on how to care for axolotls plus background about their biology, environment, and endangerment: <https://www.edgeofexistence.org/blog/axolotls-on-the-edge/>
- Axolotl.org: Information about how to house, feed, and breed axolotls, plus links to books, more references, and sources for where to buy them: <http://www.axolotl.org>
- Video: "How do animals regrow limbs (and why can't we)?" <https://youtu.be/QFa6jP6WgzM>
- Pinterest board: Photos, infographics, illustrations and more information about *el ajolote*: <https://www.pinterest.com/miscositaspix/axolotl-ajolote/>

AXOLOTL

THEY ARE ABLE TO RE-GROW MISSING TISSUE IN ITS ENTIRETY, EVEN A WHOLE LIMB
LITTLE DUDE IS AMAZING! (That is why he has been used for research. Somebody trying to get the perfect soldier)

Listed as Critically Endangered because its Area of Occupancy is less than 10km², its distribution is severely fragmented, continuing decline in the extent and quality of its habitat and in the number of mature individuals.

CR
Critically Endangered

External gills Feathery filaments for gas exchange.

MAIN THREATS

- Biomed, physiological research
- International pet trade
- Consumption
- Pollution of the lakes and canals
- Sewage
- Captured for medicinal purposes (Brujos leave him alone!)
- Invasive species like Tilapia and carp are giving him a beating, literally, they eat him

Albino individuals have been bred in captivity, but are known to live in the wild

Public message brought to you by:

A RECENT SCIENTIFIC SURVEY REVEALED NO AXOLOTLS } BUT Under special protection the Axolotl and its habitat. In Mexico City lakes; Chalco and Xochimilco are being restored. } **AND** There is a plan to re-introduce captive-bred Axolotles. So there is hope that the population can be restored.

Source: IJCN, Arkive

Resources for teaching about los ajolotes in Spanish:

- Picturebook: "El Ajolote de la 89": <http://miscositas.com/El%20ajolote%20de%20la%2089-picturebook.pdf>
- Essay: "Axolotl" by Julio Cortázar: <http://www.ciudadseva.com/textos/cuentos/esp/cortazar/axolotl.htm>
- Video: Cortázar's "Axolotl" essay with narrated and video: <https://youtu.be/wR64OJXLxHo>
- Virtual picturebook: "El Ajolote de Xochimilco" – trilingual (English, Náhuatl, and Spanish) fully illustrated picturebook; great for interactive whiteboards: <https://agua.org.mx/biblioteca/cuento-el-ajolote-de-xochimilco/>
- Short reading: "Axolotl, el Ajolote" – tells the Aztec legend of the creation of the Sun and Moon and explains how the god Xólotl sacrificed himself to save the world. <http://rincondelecturas.com/lecturas/2010-0-axolotl-el-ajolote/20100-axolotl-el-ajolote.php>
- Video: "La danza de los ajolotes" - <https://youtu.be/J4PAoDI8mR8>
- Video: "Reportaje sobre Ajolotes en Xochimilco, por Paulina Sodí" - <https://youtu.be/32olA7a2TQQ>
- Video: "El axolote, en peligro de extinción" - <https://youtu.be/fMb1c0bHD9Y>
- Video: "Más verde: Ajolote mexicano" - <https://youtu.be/DONxTvkdhtY>

El ajolote en peligro de extinción

El agua contaminada pone en riesgo a esta salamandra

Hábitat: zona lacustre de Xochimilco y Chalco-Tláhuac

Población de ajolotes

1996	1.000 por Km2
2008	100 por Km2
2014	0,3 por Km2

Nombre científico: *Ambystoma Mexicanum*
"Axolotl": "monstruo del agua" en náhuatl

Tamaño: hasta 30 cm
Longevidad: hasta 20 años en cautiverio
Neotenia: permanece como larva toda su vida

Estado de conservación

Extinto	Amenazado	Alerta menor
EX	EX CR EN VU	NT LC

Fuente: Universidad Autónoma de México (UNAM) AFP

