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Reptiles

Do you know the difference between a reptile and an amphibian? Which one has scales? Which one has long fingernails? They're so similar, it can be hard to tell!

Go to **<http://www.worldbookonline.com>**

Click on "Kids." If prompted, log on with ID and password.

Since this activity is about reptiles, you can find the answers by using the "Search" tool to search the key word **reptiles**.

Start by reading the article and watching the videos. Both resources will help!

Read the statements below and decide if the statement about reptiles is true! Write YES next to the statement that is TRUE. Write NO next to the statement is FALSE.

(YES) True, (NO) False

1. _____ I am cold-blooded.
2. _____ I have scales all over my body.
3. _____ My eggs need water, so they don't dry up.
4. _____ My toes have claws.
5. _____ I live on every continent, except Antarctica.
6. _____ Lizards and snakes make up the largest group of my family.
7. _____ I'm related to dinosaurs.
8. _____ My young hatch from flexible, leathery shells.
9. _____ My skin is moist and smooth.
10. _____ I went through *metamorphosis*, or change, as a baby to become the adult I am today!

Types of Reptiles

Let's get to know the four main groups of reptiles: lizards and snakes (known together as *squamates*), turtles, crocodilians, and tuatara. You can find the answers by using the "Explore" tool to search key words!

Lizards



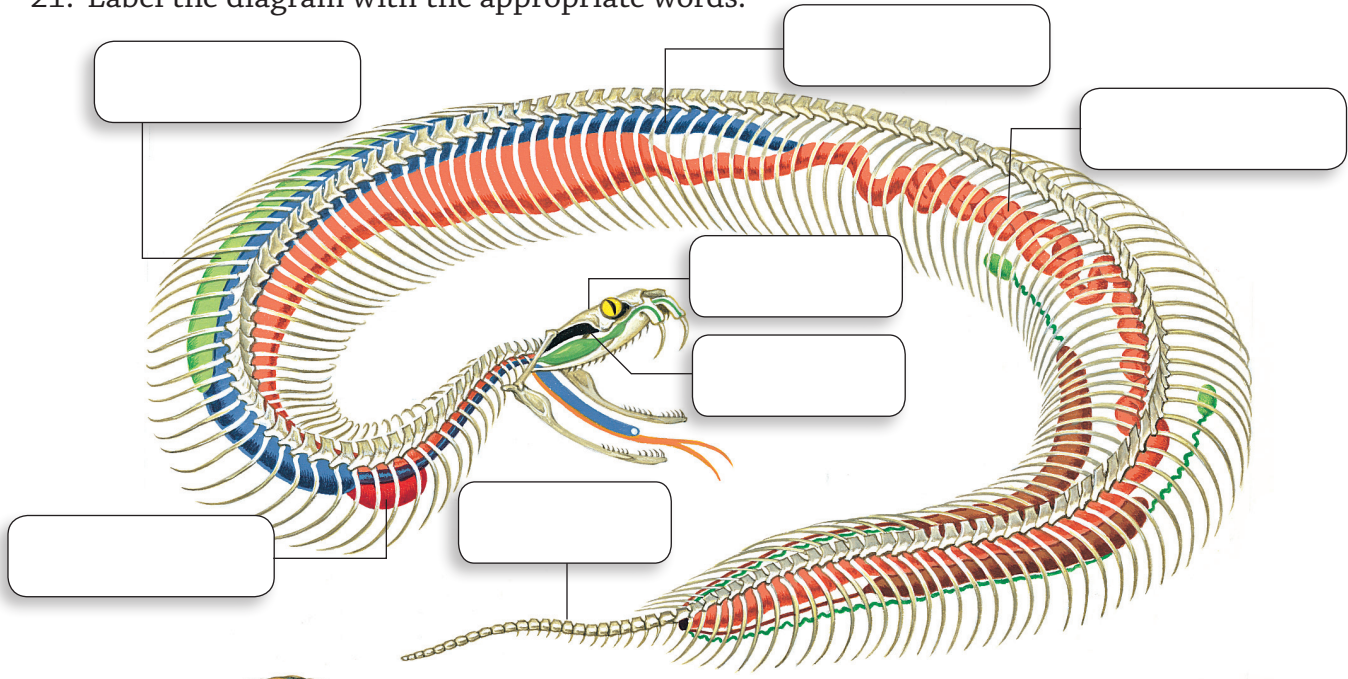
11. Look at the big picture in the World Book article “Lizards.”
What is the green lizard doing with its tongue?
12. How do lizards control their body temperature?
13. What are four ways lizards protect themselves from attackers?
14. **Watch the video** “Lizards Fighting” and explain what lizards usually fight over.
15. **Watch the video** “Komodo Dragon” and explain what the lizard is doing with its tongue.

Snakes

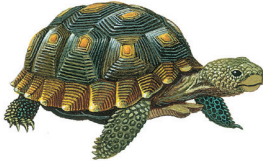


16. Why are a snake’s eyes always open?
17. What is molting?
18. What do snakes eat?
19. Snakes can live almost anywhere! Where will you NOT find a snake living?
20. **Watch the video** “What is the most dangerous river snake?” and explain what you should do if you see a poisonous snake.

21. Label the diagram with the appropriate words:



Turtles



22. What is the largest kind of turtle?

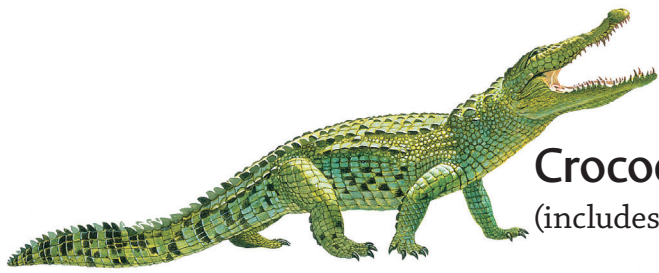
23. How fast can a sea turtle swim?

24. What is the inner layer of a turtle's shell made of?

25. Explain *scutes*.

26. **Watch the video** "Can snapping turtles really bite off your finger?" According to the scientist, can snapping turtles bite off your fingers?!

27. **Watch the video** "Common Snapping Turtle" and explain how the snapping turtle uses its tongue to catch fish.



Crocodilians

(includes crocodiles, alligators, gavials, and caimans):

28. What types of climates do crocodiles prefer?
29. How can you tell the difference between a crocodile and an alligator by looking at their snout?
30. How do alligators hunt their prey?
31. How and why did crocodiles and alligators become endangered?

Tuatara



32. Where do tuataras live?
33. What colors are tuataras?
34. How do tuataras defend themselves against attackers?
35. How long do tuataras live?

Play it!

Now that you know some things about reptiles, let's play some games! Go to the "More Information" tab in the "Reptile" article. Click on "Games" and show off your skills!

Read more by visiting World Book's eBook collection:

Reptiles. Chicago: World Book, 2013. Animal Lives. *World eBook*. Web. 15 Oct. 2015.

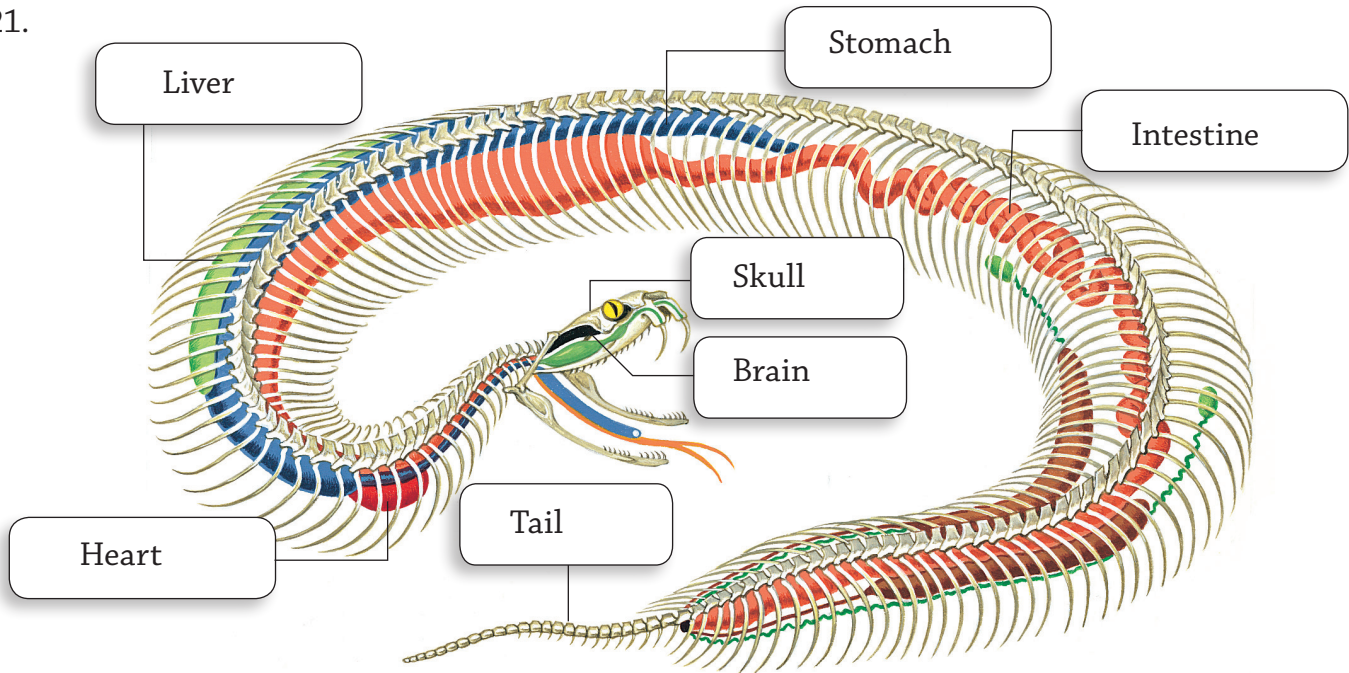
<<http://www.worldbookonline.com/wb/ebooks/mall/instit/catalog/urn:ISBN:978-0-7166-0437-2/detail.do>>.

Teacher Page

Answers:

1. Yes
2. Yes
3. No
4. Yes
5. Yes
6. Yes
7. Yes
8. Yes
9. No
10. No
11. The green lizard is catching an insect to eat with his tongue.
12. Lizards control their body temperature through their behavior. Lizards warm up by basking in the sun. They cool down by resting in the shade.
13. There are four ways lizards defend themselves.
 1. Some lizards escape from attackers by shedding their tails.
 2. Other lizards hiss and lash their tails to scare off attackers.
 3. Some change color to blend with their surroundings and hide.
 4. A few, such as monitor lizards, are fierce fighters.
14. Lizards fight over territory.
15. The Komodo Dragon uses his tongue to detect scents in the air.
16. The eyes of a snake are covered by clear scales instead of movable eyelids.
17. A snake sheds the outer layer of its skin. This skin-shedding is called molting.
18. Most snakes eat birds, fish, frogs, lizards, and such small animals as rabbits and rats. Some snakes eat other snakes.
19. Snakes cannot live where the ground stays frozen the year around. So there are no snakes in very cold regions or high up in mountains. In addition, many islands have no snakes, including the countries of Ireland and New Zealand.
20. If you see a poisonous snake, you should walk in the opposite direction.

21.



22. The largest turtle is the leatherback turtle. It grows from 4 to 8 feet (1.2 to 2.4 meters) long.

23. A sea turtle can swim up to 20 miles (32 kilometers) per hour.

24. The inner layer is made up of bony plates. It is part of the turtle's skeleton.

25. Scutes is the hardened skin of the outer later of a turtle's shell.

26. Yes, a snapping turtle can bite off your finger.

27. The snapping turtle uses its tongue as a lure to draw fish close to its mouth.

28. Crocodiles prefer warm, slow-moving waters.

29. Most crocodiles have pointed snouts, while most alligators have a rounded snout.

30. An alligator usually grabs prey with its strong jaws. It then holds the animal underwater until it drowns.

31. Illegal hunting and damage to their environment threaten the lives of alligators and crocodiles.

32. Tuataras live only on a few small islands near the Pacific island nation of New Zealand.

33. Tuataras have gray or greenish skin.

34. If an attacker grabs a tuatara's tail, the tuatara will shed it and grow another.

35. Tuataras can live a long time. Some have lived up to 77 years.