

Facts About Snakes

(Story words: cold-blooded, warm, body, feet, squeeze, jaws)

Snakes are reptiles. Most snakes live in tropical climates where sun is plentiful. Snakes are cold-blooded and use the sun to warm themselves.

Snakes do not have legs, but they do have lots of bones. Humans have a total of 206 bones, but snakes have more than 400 bones. A human spine has 33 bones, but the spine of the snake has more than 200 bones. While humans use their legs to travel, a snake can move fast by flexing its whole body.

When snakes get too big for their skin, they just shed it. They will rub up against a rock or a branch, and the old skin will come off like an old sock. The fresh skin will shine and look fantastic. Many snakes have skins that are striped. The stripes help snakes to hide and blend in.

Snakes come in all sizes. There are snakes that are only two inches long, and then there are snakes that are 38 feet long.

Snakes have two methods of hunting. Some snakes constrict an animal. The snake will wrap its body around the animal and squeeze. Some snakes bite with fangs. And some snakes have fangs that inject venom into the animal they bite.

A snake always consumes an animal whole. The jaws of a snake are constructed to open wide. A small snake will consume insects and eggs. A big snake can polish off frogs, chickens, rodents, and rabbits.

Most people think that snakes are pests and would want to get rid of them if they saw them by their home. But some people have snakes for pets.