

# BOOK

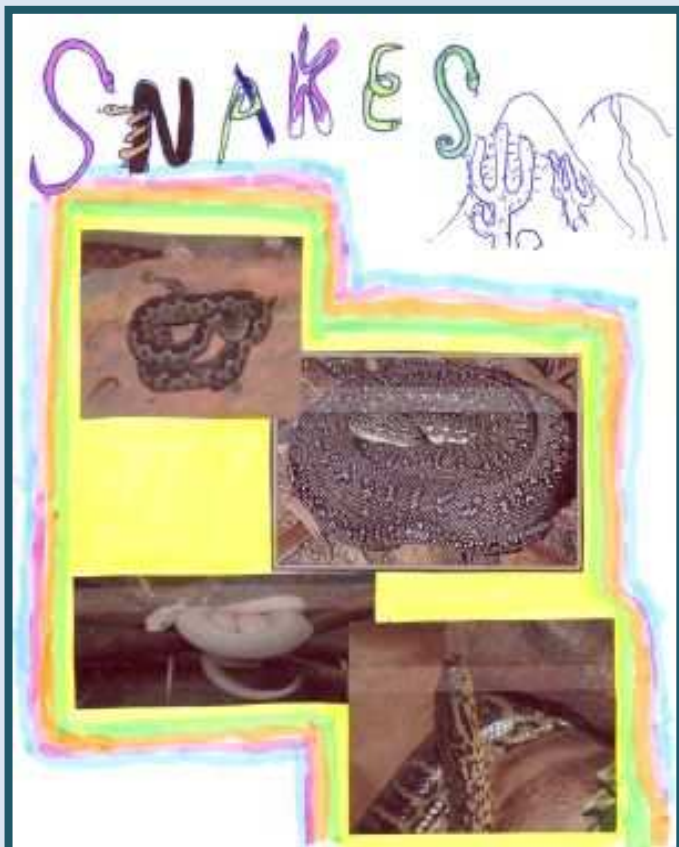


# Reports

**Mrs. Mavrokefalou**

**3 ESL Class**

# Snakes



Excellent  
I think I did it  
I did it

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SNAKES

Art work

A snake is an elongated reptile. Its all reptiles snakes are cold blooded. Snakes can be distinguished from lizards, lizards by their lack of eyelids, fork tongue and external ears. The 2,300 species of snakes spread across every continent except Antarctica ranging in size from the tiny 10cm long thread snake to pythons and anacondas over 7 meters long.





Where in the world do snakes live?

Snakes live almost everywhere. You might see one while crossing a desert, climbing a mountain or tubing in a forest. You might even see one while swimming in a lake, a river or on a beach.

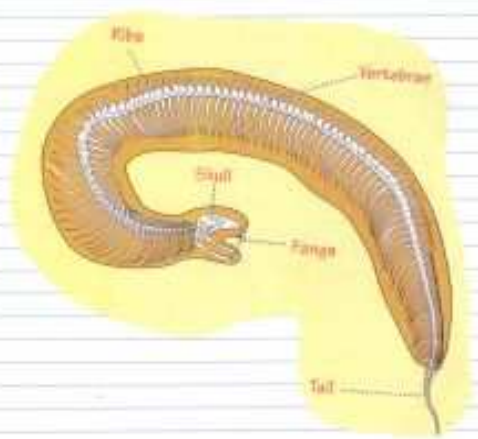
Even if you don't see snakes they probably live near you. Snakes are less common where the ground isn't frozen all year. They live on every continent except Antarctica. A few islands such as Ireland, Iceland, and New Zealand are also snake-free.

Many snakes live on the ground. Others burrow under the ground. Some live like the nightjar and live in the trees. Still others like to climb and spend most of their lives in the water.



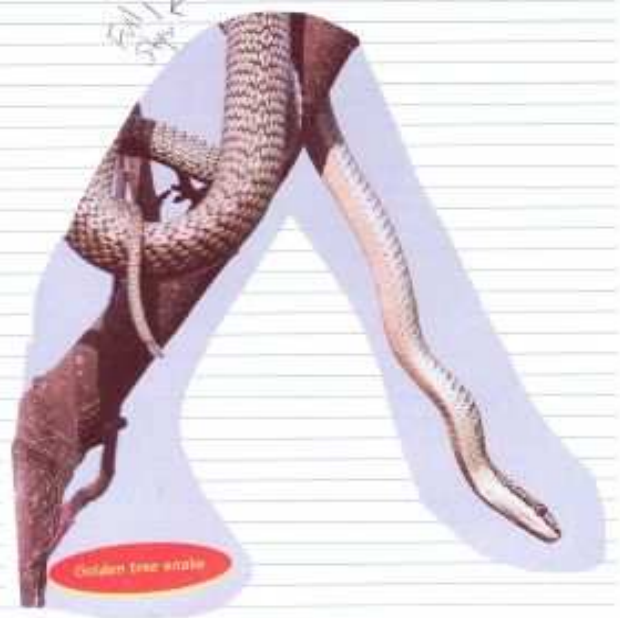
## Under All Those Scales

Snakes have remarkable skeletons under their scaly skin. They have about 150 to over 400 vertebrae, the single bones that make up a backbone. Humans have only 33! Each vertebrae has a pair of ribs and is attached to 2-4 small muscles attached to it. All these bones and muscles make it easy for a snake to bend around and around.



## SKIN

The skin of a snake is covered by scales and has a smooth, dry texture. Snake's eyelids are transparent "spectacle" scales which remain permanently closed.



snakes

## What's for dinner?

All snakes are strictly carnivores, eating small animals including insects. Other snakes will consume birds, eggs and small mammals. Because snakes cannot bite or chew their food to pieces, they must first swallow their prey whole. Some snakes eat small prey items. Vipers and pit vipers start out feeding on insects or mice but gradually to small lizards as adults.

The snake's jaw is the most unique you in the animal kingdom, allowing them to open their mouths wide enough to swallow their prey whole, even if it is larger in diameter than the snake's body. Feeding, snake become dormant while the process of digestion takes place.



## HARMLESS OR LETHAL

While snakes are typically small harmless creatures, some possess potent venom, capable of causing painful injuries or death to humans.

Northwestern garter snake



