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# EXPLORING REPUBLICANT

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# **CLASSIFICATION OF REPTILES**

# Testudines

Testudines are characterized by their bony shell, which serves as both protection and support.

### Families:

- Cheloniidae (Sea Turtles)
- Testudinidae (Tortoises)
- Emydidae (Freshwater Turtles)

Carettochelyidae (Pig-nosed Turtles)

### Notable Features:

Shell morphology, habitat preferences, and feeding habits.

# Squamata

Squamata is the largest order of reptiles, comprising lizards and snakes, known for their scaly skin and elongated bodies.

### Suborders:

- Lacertilia (Lizards)
- Serpentes (Snakes)

### Families:

FOLD

- Lacertilia: Gekkonidae (Geckos), Agamidae (Agamas), Varanidae (Monitor Lizards), etc.
- Serpentes: Pythonidae (Pythons), Colubridae (Colubrids), Viperidae (Vipers), etc.

### Notable Features:

Limb morphology (or absence), venomous adaptations, reproductive strategies.

# Crocodylia

Crocodylia includes some of the largest living reptiles, known for their semi-aquatic lifestyle and powerful jaws.

### Families:

- Alligatoridae (Alligators and Caimans)
- Crocodylidae (Crocodiles)

### Notable Features

Skull morphology, habitat preferences, nesting behaviors.

# Rhynchocephalia

Rhynchocephalia represents a small, ancient order of reptiles, with only one living species, the tuatara.

### Families:

Sphenodontidae

### Notable Features:

Unique dentition, third eye (parietal eye), conservation status.

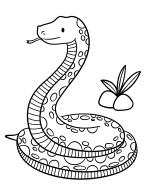
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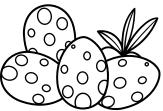
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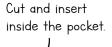
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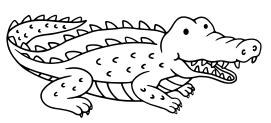
Reptiles have dry, scaly skin.



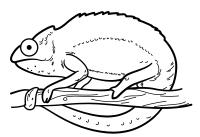


Most reptiles lay eggs.

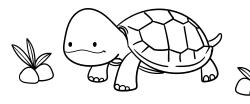




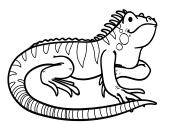
Reptiles have teeth that are all same size.



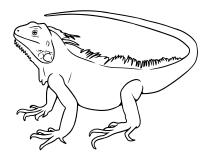
Reptiles are cold blooded.



Reptiles live on land and water.

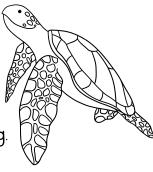


Reptiles have ear holes, not ears.

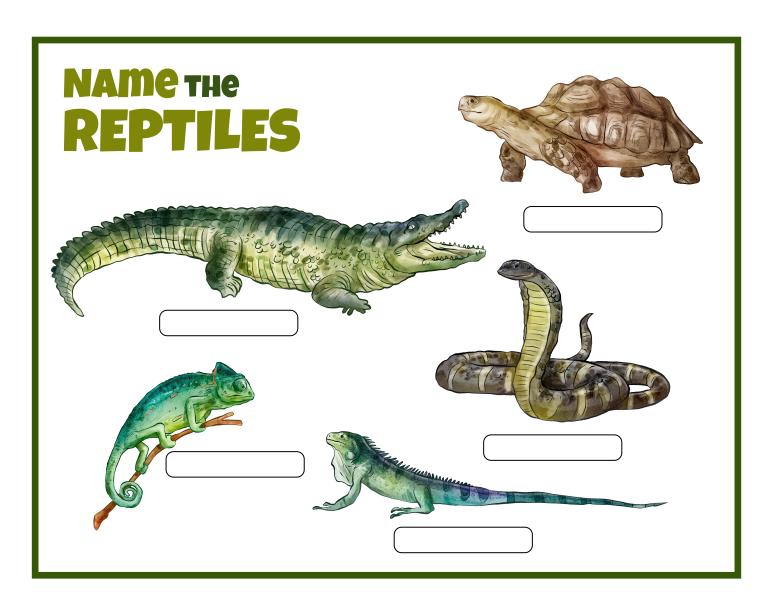


Reptiles scales not fur.



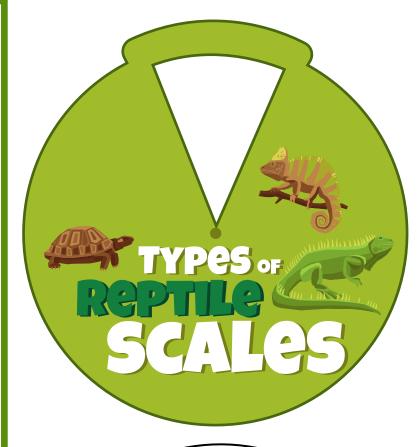








# CROCODILES OF THE WORLD American Alligator False Gharial







Saltwater Crocodile

# Temperate Forest

- Eastern Box Turtle (Terrapene carolina): Found in the deciduous forests of eastern North America, this terrestrial turtle is known for its hinged shell and ability to close itself tightly inside
- European Adder (Vipera berus): Inhabiting temperate forests and grasslands across Europe, this venomous snake is recognizable by its distinct zigzag pattern along its back.

# Arctic Tundra

- Arctic Fox (Vulpes lagopus): Though not a reptile, this carnivorous mammal is well-adapted to the harsh conditions of the Arctic tundra.
- Common European Viper (Vipera berus): Found in parts of the Arctic tundra in Scandinavia and Russia, this venomous snake is one of the northernmost reptile species in the world.

# Desert

- Sidewinder Rattlesnake (Crotalus cerastes): Found in the deserts of North America, this snake is adapted to sandy environments and moves in a distinctive sideways motion.
- Thorny Devil (Moloch horridus): Inhabiting the deserts of Australia, this lizard has a spiny appearance and feeds primarily on ants.

# Rainforest

- Green Tree Python (Morelia viridis): Native to the rainforests of New Guinea and northern Australia, this snake is known for its vivid green coloration and arboreal lifestyle.
- Green Iguana (Iguana iguana): Found in the rainforests of Central and South America, this large lizard is known for its bright green coloration and herbivorous diet.

# Savanna/Grassland

- Leopard Tortoise (Stigmochelys pardalis): Inhabiting the savannas of Africa, this tortoise is known for its distinctive shell pattern and herbivorous diet.
- Black Mamba (Dendroaspis polylepis) Found in savannas and woodlands of Africa, this highly venomous snake is known for its speed and agility.

# Tropical Island

- Komodo Dragon (Varanus komodoensis): Native to the Indonesian islands of Komodo, Rinca, Flores, and Gili Motana, this large lizard is the world's largest living lizard species.
- Galápagos Giant Tortoise (Chelonoidis nigra): Endemic to the Galápagos Islands, this iconic tortoise species played a key role in Charles Darwin's theory of evolution.

