

Teacher Guide

Radical Reptiles

Description: In this 15-minute video, students in grades K-5 will learn about myths that cause reptiles to be misunderstood and unique characteristics that make them fascinating.

Featured animals: ball python, legless lizard, box turtle

Worksheets

1. Snakes Vs. Lizards - Students compare characteristics of snakes to those of lizards.
2. Turtles & Tortoises - Students sort animals based on their shell shape to determine whether they live on land or in water.
3. How to Draw a Turtle - Students use lines and different shapes to draw a turtle.

Post-video Discussion Questions

1. What are four kinds of reptiles?

snakes, lizards, turtles, and crocodiles/alligators

2. What's the difference between poison and venom?

Poison is eaten or inhaled and venom is injected with fangs or a stinger.

3. Some snakes are _____ but snakes are never _____.

venomous/poisonous

4. Snake scales are smooth and dry but never _____. *slimy*

5. Which has a longer tail – a snake or a lizard? *lizard*

6. How can you tell the difference between a snake and a legless lizard?

Lizards have ears and eyelids, whereas snakes do not. Lizard tails are long and some lizards can lose their tail. Snake tails are short and can't ever break off.

7. What are the two parts of a turtle's shell?

carapace (top) and plastron (bottom)

8. What's the difference between a turtle shell and a tortoise shell?

Turtles have flat, smooth shells and tortoises have domed, bumpy shells.

9. What's the name of the box turtle in the video? *Nate*

10. How can you help a turtle that's crossing the road?

Gently pick it up and place it on the side of the road in the direction it was going. Don't pick up a snapping turtle!