




Middle School 

Conservation Through Exciting Education



Crikey! Curriculum



Venomous Snakes!



Read the signs in the Venomous Snake exhibit to answer the following questions. For some of the questions you will need to read pretty carefully, for others you may need to also do some library or internet research.

1. Of the 16 species contained within the exhibit how many are actually venomous? _____

2. All the non-venomous snakes on display belong to a certain group of snakes. What is this group called? _____

3. While scientific names look confusing, they are actually quite helpful. Animals that share the same Genus name are very closely related, while still being different species. The Genus name is the first name in the two-part scientific name. Which snake on display is the closest relative of the:
 - Fierce Snake: _____
 - Eastern Brown: _____
 - King Brown: _____
 - Carpet Python: _____

4. What types of habitat are represented by the backdrop paintings?

5. Suggest places in Australia where you have seen (or where you might see) the habitats depicted in the backdrops.

6. Rank the following snakes from most to least venomous: Eastern Brown Snake, Eastern Tiger Snake, Fierce Snake, Spotted Python, Taipan.
 - 1. _____
 - 2. _____
 - 3. _____
 - 4. _____
 - 5. _____

7. While being the most venomous, the Fierce Snake is not responsible for the most envenomations in Australia. The Eastern Brown is. Can you explain why? (Hint: look at their distributions.)

8. While Australia has the most venomous snake we also have the “most venomous” of other animal groups as well. How many do you know?

Most venomous spider: _____

Most venomous jellyfish: _____

Most venomous mollusc: _____

Most venomous fish: _____

Most venomous mammal: _____



9. How many Green Tree Pythons do you observe in the enclosure? There are four. How effective is their colouration as camouflage?

10. Give examples of **arboreal** snakes in the collection.

11. Explain how being resistant to the venom of other snakes is an adaptation of the Woma.

12. Many snakes are ambush predators, but the Death Adder has special adaptation to help it. Describe this adaptation.

13. Read info on the Reticulated Python and its skeleton. If you were to design an exhibit that looked like the others in the room, what would you include?

14. In the space provided, design a sign for the Reticulated Python that conveys the same information as the other lightbox signs in the Venomous Snake House. Be sure to include all the features: distribution map, Croc Hunter fact, whether or not it's venomous, scientific name, size, habitat, food and a blurb.