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A SALTWATER CROCODILE'S BITING POWER IS NEARLY FOUR TIMES STRONGER THAN A LION'S.



2 A shingleback skink's tail is shaped almost exactly like its head.



3 A veiled chameleon's tongue can stretch one and a half times the length of its body.



16 SOME SNAKE SPECIES HAVE 400 PAIRS OF RIBS.



17 Crocodiles can climb trees.



19 Female leatherback sea turtles produce burp-like sounds.

4 The reticulated python can grow about the same length as certain fire engines.

5 SAND MONITOR LIZARDS STAND STRAIGHT UP ON THEIR HIND LEGS TO VIEW THEIR SURROUNDINGS.



6 A GROUP OF TORTOISES IS CALLED A CREEP.

7 King cobras, which grow up to 5.5m long, can lift the upper third of their bodies off the ground.



20 After hatching underground, some baby tortoises can take a month to dig to the surface.



21 Green basilisk lizards have specially designed feet that let them run on water without sinking.

22 About half of all known chameleon species can be found on the African island of Madagascar.



30 COOL THINGS ABOUT REPTILES



8 The tuatara, a reptile found only in New Zealand, can hold its breath for an hour.



9 Ancient Egyptians mummified Nile crocodiles to honour the god Sobek.



11 A FLYING DRAGON LIZARD can glide through the air for 9 metres on winglike skin flaps.

10 UP TO 20,000 FEMALE GREEN SEA TURTLES NEST ON AUSTRALIA'S RAINE ISLAND EACH YEAR.



13 BEFORE African egg-eating snakes swallow birds' eggs whole, then use their neck bones to crack open the egg inside their bodies. AFTER

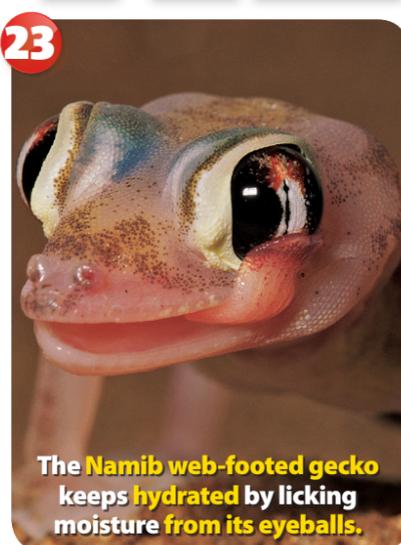


12 Most male box turtles have bright red eyes.

14 Eastern hog-nosed snakes PLAY DEAD when threatened.



15 A gila monster can eat up to a third of its weight in one meal.

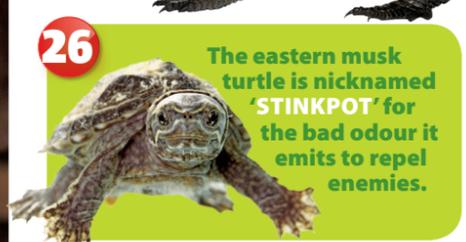


23 The Namib web-footed gecko keeps hydrated by licking moisture from its eyeballs.



24 Spectacled caimans blow bubbles at potential mates.

25 A 15-metre, one-tonne snake species named Titanoboa existed about 60 million years ago.



26 The eastern musk turtle is nicknamed 'STINKPOT' for the bad odour it emits to repel enemies.



27 An ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLE uses a WORMLIKE extension on its tongue to LURE FISH into its mouth.

28 American alligators build refrigerator-sized nests with twigs, leaves and mud.



29 The Gaboon viper carries enough venom to kill 30 people.



30 Galápagos marine iguanas can dive down more than 9m to eat algae off rocks in the ocean.