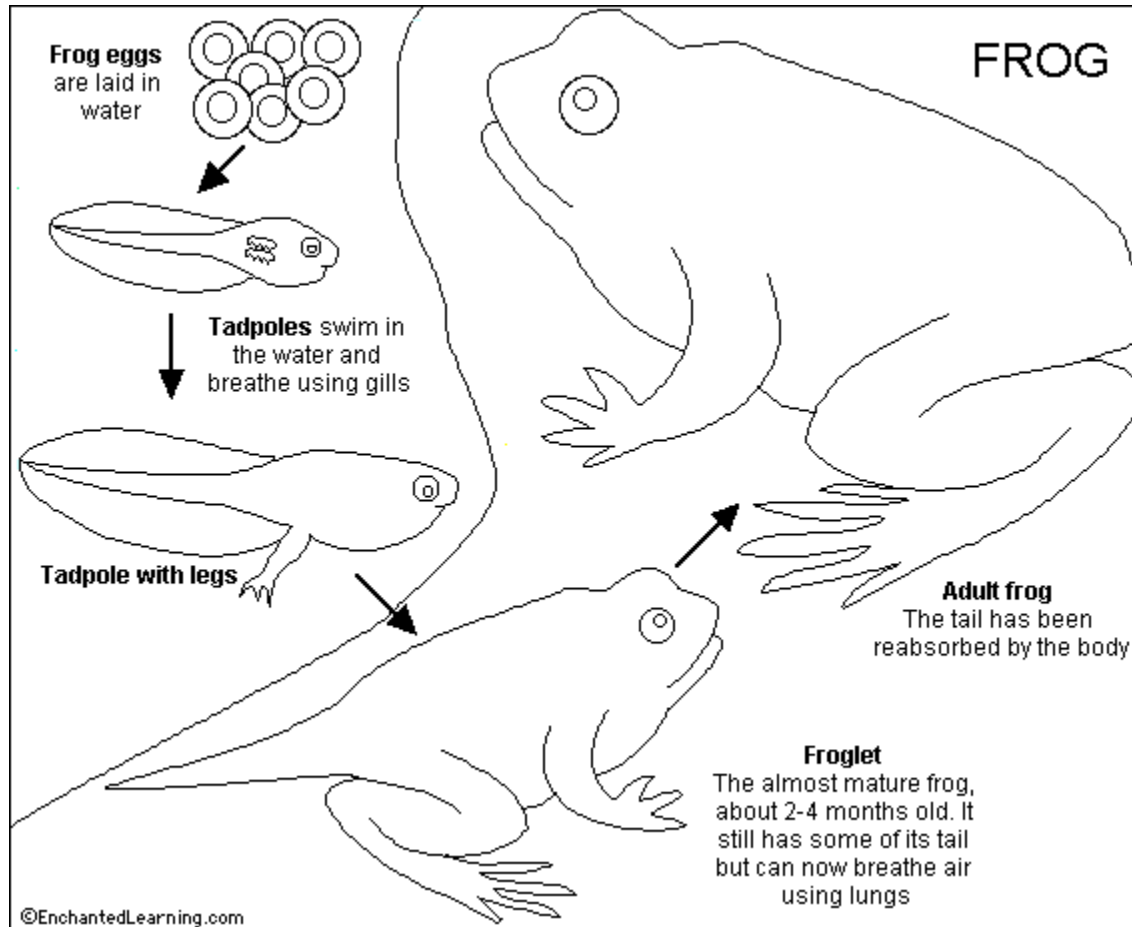


# Amphibians

# Amphibian life cycle



- <http://www.reptilesfaz.com/herp-amphibians.html>

# Reptiles

- Turtles
- Lizards and snakes
- (Crocodiles)
- (Tuatara)

# Reptiles

- <http://www.kcc.org.nz/animals/tuatara.asp>



# Reptiles of AZ

- Displays and Behavior
- The lab of Dr. Barry Sinervo  
[http://bio.research.ucsc.edu/~barrylab/classes/animal\\_behavior/video\\_only.html](http://bio.research.ucsc.edu/~barrylab/classes/animal_behavior/video_only.html)
- Organizations
- <http://www.arts.arizona.edu/herp/index.html>
- <http://www.reptilesfaz.com/h-accounts.html>
- <http://azreptiles.com/>

# Reptiles and Sonoran Desert

Tucson and its surrounding environs have long been a Mecca of sorts for herpetologists. The reason for this is the density and diversity of the amphibian and reptile populations found here. The Sonoran Desert has provided a wide variety of unusual habitats and conditions, and reptiles and amphibians have evolved and adapted to fill them

**"the 100 mile circle"** - an arbitrarily chosen area radiating 100 miles in all directions from the center of Tucson.

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are needed to see this picture.

<http://www.arts.arizona.edu/herp/circanim.html>

For the sake of standardization, we are basing our list on names presented in Crother et al (2000, 2003). For those species occurring in Mexico but not in the U.S. we use Liner (1994).

Determining the distributions of the herpetofauna of the 100 mile circle was done using Stebbins (2003), Lowe et al. (1986), and the accounts in the Catalogue of North American Amphibians and Reptiles.

Mexican species distribution is based on vouchered specimens at the University of Arizona herpetology collection and the accounts in the Catalogue of North American Amphibians and Reptiles.

# The Herpetofauna of the 100-Mile Circle

## AMPHIBIANS

### SALAMANDERS

#### Family Ambystomatidae

Tarahumara Salamander

*Ambystoma rosaceum*

Tiger Salamander

*Ambystoma tigrinum*

#### Family Plethodontidae

Tlaconete Pinto

*Pseudoeurycea bellii*

# The Herpetofauna of the 100-Mile Circle

## AMPHIBIANS-Toads

### Family Bufonidae

<i>Bufo alvarius</i>	Sonoran Desert Toad
<i>Bufo cognatus</i>	Great Plains Toad
<i>Bufo debilis</i>	Green Toad
<i>Bufo kelloggi</i>	Little Mexican Toad
<i>Bufo microscaphus</i>	Arizona Toad
<i>Bufo punctatus</i>	Red-spotted Toad
<i>Bufo retiformis</i>	Sonoran Green Toad
<i>Bufo woodhousii</i>	Woodhouse's Toad

### Family Microhylidae

	Great Plains Narrow-mouthed Toad
<i>Gastrophryne olivacea</i>	

### Family Pelobatidae

<i>Scaphiopus couchii</i>	Couch's Spadefoot
<i>Spea bombifrons</i>	Plains Spadefoot
<i>Spea multiplicata</i>	Mexican Spadefoot

# The Herpetofauna of the 100-Mile Circle

## AMPHIBIANS-Frogs

### Family Hylidae

*Hyla arenicolor* Canyon Treefrog

*Hyla wrightorum* Mountain Treefrog

*Pternohyla fodiens* Lowland Burrowing Treefrog

### Family Leptodactylidae

*Eleutherodactylus augusti* Barking Frog

### Family Pipidae

*Xenopus laevis* African Clawed Frog (*Intro.*)

### Family Ranidae

*Rana berlandieri* Rio Grande Leopard Frog (*Intro.*)

*Rana blairi* Plains Leopard Frog

*Rana catesbeiana* American Bullfrog (*Intro.*)

*Rana chiricahuensis* Chiricahua Leopard Frog

*Rana magnaocularis* Northwest Mexico Leopard Frog (*Marg.*)

*Rana subaquavocalis* Ramsey Canyon Leopard Frog

*Rana tarahumarae* Tarahumara Frog

*Rana yavapaiensis* Lowland Leopard Frog

# The Herpetofauna of the 100-Mile Circle

## Reptiles- TURTLES & TORTOISES

### Family Emydidae

*Terrapene ornata* Ornate Box Turtle

### Family Kinosternidae

*Kinosternon arizonense* Arizona Mud Turtle

*Kinosternon flavescens* Yellow Mud Turtle

*Kinosternon sonoriense* Sonoran Mud Turtle

### Family Testudinidae

*Gopherus agassizii* Desert Tortoise

### Family Trionychidae

*Apalone spinifera* Spiny Softshell (Intro.)

**Desert Box Turtle** *Terrapene ornata luteola*  
photo by Erik F. Enderson

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# Arizona Mud Turtle-*Kinosternon arizonense*

photo by Roger A. Repp

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Texas Spiny Softshell  
*Apalone spiniferus emoryi*  
*Introduced*  
photo by Erik F. Enderson



**Desert Tortoise *Gopherus agassizii***  
photos by Donald E. Swann and Roger A. Repp

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Male combat

# The Herpetofauna of the 100-Mile Circle

## Reptiles- LIZARDS

### Family Anguillidae

*Elgaria kingii* Madrean Alligator Lizard

### Family Crotophytidae

*Crotaphytus collaris* Eastern Collared Lizard

*Crotaphytus nebrius* Sonoran Collared Lizard

*Gambelia wislizenii* Long-nosed Leopard Lizard

### Family Helodermatidae

### Family Eublepharidae

*Coleonyx variegatus* Western Banded Gecko  
*Heloderma suspectum* Gila Monster

### Family Gekkonidae

*Hemidactylus turcicus* Mediterranean Gecko (Intro.)

# Arizona Alligator Lizard-*Elgaria kingii nobilis*

photos by Cecil Schwalbe and Erik F. Enderson

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juvenile

# Collared Lizard-*Crotophytus collaris*

Truly one of the most beautiful lizards in AZ. Easily identified by the

two distinct double collars. These C. C. inhabit carnivores like rocky outcroppings.

Eastern  
Collared  
Lizard

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Desert  
Collared  
Lizard

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## **Banded Gecko-*Coleonyx variegatus***

Another common desert dweller this small 3-4" nocturnal gecko is variably banded or blotched with brown, black, dark green mottling on pale tan or yellowish background. One of the few lizards to vocalize.

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## **The Gila Monster- Heloderma suspectum**

Arizona's largest and most famous lizard, the only venomous lizard in the United States: Obtains lengths of 20 inches, very heavy-bodied and can weigh two pounds. They are slow moving and distinctly patterned with a "beaded" black and yellow/orange/pinkish coloration.

It is thought that they spend up to 98% of their lives underground.

The venom is said to be painful but there appears to be no confirmed deaths from a Gila Monster bite.

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# The Herpetofauna of the 100-Mile Circle

## Reptiles-Lizards

### Family Iguanidae

*Callisaurus draconoides* Zebra-tailed Lizard

*Cophosaurus texanus* Greater Earless Lizard

*Ctenosaura hemilopha* Cape Spinytail Iguana (Marg.) (Intro.)

*Dipsosaurus dorsalis* Desert Iguana

*Holbrookia elegans* Elegant Earless Lizard

*Holbrookia maculata* Common Lesser Earless Lizard

*Sauromalus ater* Common Chuckwalla

*Urosaurus graciosus* Long-tailed Brush Lizard

*Urosaurus ornatus* Ornate Tree Lizard

*Uta stansburiana* Common Side-blotched Lizard

*Phrynosoma cornutum* Texas Horned Lizard

*Phrynosoma ditmarsii* Rock Horned Lizard

*Phrynosoma hernandesi* Greater Short-horned Lizard

*Phrynosoma modestum* Round-tailed Horned Lizard

*Phrynosoma platyrhinos* Desert Horned Lizard

*Phrynosoma solare* Regal Horned Lizard

*Sceloporus clarkii* Clark's Spiny Lizard

*Sceloporus cowlesi* Southwestern Fence Lizard

*Sceloporus jarrovii* Yarrow's Spiny Lizard

*Sceloporus magister* Desert Spiny Lizard

*Sceloporus slevini* Slevin's Bunchgrass Lizard

*Sceloporus tristichus* Plateau Lizard

*Sceloporus virgatus* Striped Plateau Lizard

# ***Callisaurus draconoides* Zebra-tailed Lizard**

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## **Desert Iguana-*Dipsosaurus dorsalis***

A large pale gray/tan, spotted, stout, chiefly herbivorous lizard easily identified by the enlarged row of scales forming a ridge down the back. Often found around creosote bush near a burrow or den for shelter.

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**California Side Blotched Lizard-*Uta stansburiana elegans***

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## ChuckWalla-*Sauromalus ater*

The second largest lizard in Arizona is a vegetarian rocky outcropping dweller. Often seen basking on the rocks even in the heat of mid-day. Young have banded tails and darker backs.

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# Horned Lizards

These gentle creatures are often doomed by uneducated collectors.

With the majority of their diet made up of ants it is often starvation that kills captive animals.

Short horns are easy to identify because of the small nearly even sized horns on the back of the neck.

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**Regal Horned Lizard - *Phrynosoma solare***

**Greater Short-horned Lizard**

# The Herpetofauna of the 100-Mile Circle

## Reptiles-Lizards

### Family Scincidae-Skinks

*Eumeces callicephalus* Mountain Skink

*Eumeces obsoletus* Great Plains Skink

### Family Teiidae-Whiptails

*Aspidoscelis arizonae* Arizona Striped Whiptail

*Aspidoscelis burti* Canyon Spotted Whiptail

*Aspidoscelis costata* Western Mexico Whiptail (Marg.)

*Aspidoscelis exsanguis* Chihuahuan Spotted Whiptail

*Aspidoscelis flagellicauda* Gila Spotted Whiptail

*Aspidoscelis pai* Pai Striped Whiptail

### Family Xantusiidae

*Xantusia bezyi* Bezy's Night Lizard

*Xantusia vigilis* Desert Night Lizard

*Aspidoscelis sonorae* Sonoran Spotted Whiptail

*Aspidoscelis tigris* Tiger Whiptail

*Aspidoscelis uniparens* Desert Grassland Whiptail

*Aspidoscelis velox* Plateau Striped Whiptail

*Aspidoscelis xanthonota* Red-backed Whiptail

**Mountain Skink-*Eumeces callicephalus*** photo by Erik F. Enderson  
**Great Plains-Skink *Eumeces obsoletus***  
photo by Robert L. Bezy and Kathryn Bolles

Skinks (family Scincidae) are lizards characterized by smooth, shiny cycloid scales that are underlain by osteoderms, or plate-like bony deposits in the skin (Pough et al. 2001).

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# The Herpetofauna of the 100-Mile Circle

## Reptiles-Snakes

### Family Boidae

*Boa constrictor* Boa Constrictor (Marg.)

*Lichanura trivirgata* Rosy Boa

### Family Colubrida

*Arizona elegans* Glossy Snake

*Chilomeniscus stramineus* Variable Sand Snake

*Chionactis occipitalis* Western Shovel-nosed Snake

*Chionactis palarostris* Sonoran Shovel-nosed Snake

*Diadophis punctatus* Ring-necked Snake

*Gyalopion canum* Chihuahuan Hook-nosed Snake

*Gyalopion quadrangularis* Thornscrub Hook-nosed Snake

*Heterodon nasicus* Western Hog-nosed Snake

*Hypsiglena torquata* Nightsnake

*Lampropeltis getula* Common Kingsnake

*Lampropeltis pyromelana* Sonoran Mountain Kingsnake

*Lampropeltis triangulum* Milksnake (Marg.)

*Masticophis bilineatus* Sonoran Whipsnake

*Masticophis flagellum* Coachwhip

*Masticophis taeniatus* Striped Whipsnake

*Oxybelis aeneus* Brown Vine Snake

*Phyllorhynchus browni* Saddled Leaf-nosed Snake

*Phyllorhynchus decurtatus* Spotted Leaf-nosed Snake

## Desert Rosy Boa-Lichanura trivirgata

gracia

Heavy-bodied, medium-sized snake with head only slightly larger than neck.

Prominent stripes of brown/rose/tan over grey/beige background.

Rock dweller of desert slopes.

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## Sonoran Mountain Kingsnake-*Lampropeltis pyromelana*

Colorful diurnal snake of the mountain/higher altitudes reaching 41 inches. Characterized by red bands bordered by black. Although harmless they are sometimes confused with the venomous coral snake (whose red bands are bordered by yellow).

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Arizona Milk snake-***Lampropeltis triangulum***

Medium (2'-3') reclusive snake with alternating black, whitish/yellowish, red/orange bands.

Found in high altitude grasslands. Snout usually black.

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# The Herpetofauna of the 100-Mile Circle

## Reptiles-Snakes

### Family Colubrida-continued

*Tantilla hobartsmithi* Smith's Black-headed Snake

*Tantilla nigriceps* Plains Black-headed Snake

*Tantilla wilcoxi* Chihuahuan Black-headed Snake

*Tantilla yaquia* Yaqui Black-headed Snake

*Thamnophis cyrtopsis* Black-necked Gartersnake

*Thamnophis elegans* Terrestrial Gartersnake

*Thamnophis eques* Mexican Gartersnake

*Thamnophis marcianus* Checkered Gartersnake

*Thamnophis rufipunctatus* Narrow-headed Gartersnake

*Trimorphodon biscutatus* Western Lyresnake

*Pituophis catenifer* Gopher Snake

*Rhinocheilus lecontei* Long-nosed Snake

*Salvadora grahamiae* Eastern Patch-nosed Snake

*Salvadora hexalepis* Western Patch-nosed Snake

*Senticolis triaspis* Green Ratsnake

*Sonora semiannulata* Groundsnake

## Sonoran Gopher Snake-*Pituophis catenifer affinis*

One of Arizona's largest and most common snakes often reaching 4-6 feet in length. Often mistaken for rattlesnakes because of the blotched dorsal pattern and aggressive nature.

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SONORAN GOPHERSNAKE *Pituophis catenifer affinis*.

GREAT BASIN GOPHERSNAKE *Pituophis catenifer deserticola*.

## Black-necked Garter snake-*Thamnophis crytopsis*

Classic Garter snake striped, medium-sized snake with head larger than neck. Obvious black blotches on neck. Prominent lateral stripe of yellow/tan with black "checkered" blotches over grey/brown background. Often found around streams and lakes.

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# The Herpetofauna of the 100-Mile Circle

## Reptiles-Snakes

### **Family Elapidae**

*Micruroides euryxanthus* Sonoran Coralsnake

### **Family Leptotyphlopidae**

*Leptotyphlops dissectus* New Mexico Threadsnake

*Leptotyphlops humilis* Western Threadsnake

# Arizona Coral Snake *Micruroides euryxanthus*

Blunt-snouted glossy snake with wide red, wide black and narrow yellow or white alternating rings.

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# The Herpetofauna of the 100-Mile Circle

## Reptiles-Snakes

### Family Viperidae

*Crotalus atrox* Western Diamond-backed Rattlesnake

*Crotalus cerastes* Sidewinder

*Crotalus lepidus* Rock Rattlesnake

*Crotalus mitchelli* Speckled Rattlesnake

*Crotalus molossus* Black-tailed Rattlesnake

*Crotalus oreganus* Western Rattlesnake

*Crotalus pricei* Twin-spotted Rattlesnake

*Crotalus scutulatus* Mohave Rattlesnake

*Crotalus tigris* Tiger Rattlesnake

*Crotalus viridis* Prairie Rattlesnake

*Crotalus willardi* Ridge-nosed Rattlesnake

*Sistrurus catenatus* Massasauga

# Western Diamondback-Crotalus atrox

The Western Diamondback is the largest western rattlesnakes, is gray/brown, or pink with brown diamonds. Conspicuous "coon-tail" alternating equal black and white ringed tail. Arguably the most common large snake in AZ.

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# Speckled Rattlesnake-Crotalus mitchellii

The Speckled Rattlesnake color varies from cream, gray, yellowish, pink or brown and usually harmonizes with the color of the rocky terrain they are found in.

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## Sidewinder Rattlesnake-*Crotalus cerastes*

Sidewinders are known for their sideways locomotion, moving in an S-shaped curve.

They can be colored cream, tan, pink or gray without a conspicuous pattern.

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<http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/1/1c/Sidewindingtracks.gif>

## Massasauga Rattlesnake *Sistrurus catenatus*

The Massasauga has large rounded dark brown spots down the middle of the back, three rows of smaller usually fainter alternating spots on the sides. Found in desert-grassland and grassland habitats. **Protected species**

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