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Amazing Animals
Fact sheets

Boas and Pythons

Boas and Pythons are non-venomous snakes that constrict their prey (ie. wrap it in tight coils). Pythons kill their prey by squeezing (constricting) them in tight coils. Their diet mainly consists of birds and mammals. The Reticulated Python is one of the largest snakes in the world, and can reach lengths of over 8m. They are common throughout parts of South-east Asia.

Water Python

The Water Python's scales are an iridescent dark grey colour which reflects the colours of the rainbow. An aboriginal myth tells the story of the Rainbow Serpent (Water Python) which created the rivers and valleys of northern Australia with it's brightly coloured body.

Habitat

Water Pythons inhabit freshwater swamps, lagoons, creeks and rivers across the tropical north of Australia. Water Pythons have also been found in the Torres Straits and Papua New Guinea. They are very fond of water and in the wild frequently use water as an escape route.

Diet

Water Pythons feed on rats, bandicoots, wallabies, water birds (and their eggs) and has also be seen feeding on small Freshwater Crocodiles. Their prey is usually ambushed when it comes to drink. A juvenile Water Python’s diet consists of frogs, fish and lizards.

Breeding

Breeding tends to commence with a flurry of mating activity in February/March with eggs being laid some weeks later. The female Water Python will usually lay between 11 and 19 eggs.

Australia Zoo Water Python profiles

Yellow

Yellow was born here at Australia Zoo in 1986 and when he was smaller he used to participate in the daily shows in the Crocoseum. Now that he has reached a length of 1.85 metres, he has been put on display with his best mate, Little Guy, for all of our guests to enjoy.
Yellow absolutely loves a meal and has, to date, never missed one. His favourite are rats and he would eat them for breakfast, lunch and dinner if he could!
Yellow is a fairly lazy snake and apart from eating, his next favorite thing to do is lounge around basking under his heat light.

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