



Amazing Animals Fact sheets

Boas and Pythons

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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.



Spotted Python

Often referred to as Pygmy Pythons, Spotted Pythons belong to a group of snakes that grow to lengths of only 1.3 metres. They are one of Australia's smallest Pythons. Spotted Pythons are boldly patterned with a dark body and lateral blotches.

Habitat

The Spotted Python is a nocturnal species of snake found in woodlands and shrubs and often in the vicinity of rocky outcrops and caves of the coastal areas of Queensland and northern New South Wales.

Diet

Spotted Pythons feed on small mammals, birds and lizards. Despite their size, these small snakes still pack a powerful punch – just ask any insectivorous bat! The spotted python is best known for its ambush attacks at the entrance of caves as large groups of bats leave their roosts at dusk.

Breeding

A Spotted Python's mating activity commences in late April and continues through to mid August. Females will lay a clutch of between six to eighteen eggs. Like all pythons, the female stays coiled around her eggs for two to three months until they hatch. Once hatched the hatchlings must fend for themselves, there is no further parental care other than the incubation of the eggs.