

4 Reptiles

What You'll Learn:

List the characteristics of reptiles.

Determine how reptile adaptations enable them to live on land.

Explain the importance of the amniotic egg.

Reptile Characteristics

*Ectotherms with thick dry waterproof skin that is covered with scales.

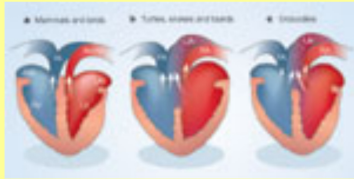
*Their skin prevents water loss.



Body Systems

*Breathe with lungs.

*Three chambered heart with a partial wall in the main chamber.



Amniotic Egg

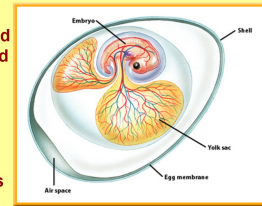
*Internal fertilization.

*Egg is covered by a tough leathery shell that prevents water loss.

*Membranes protect and cushion the embryo and rid it of waste.

*Yolk contains food for the embryo.

*Minute pores allow gas exchange.



Three Types of Modern Reptiles

1. Snakes and Lizards



*Jaw that unhinges to swallow prey whole.

*Lizards: moveable eyelids, external ears, legs with clawed toes.

*Snakes: poor hearing and eye sight.

*they hear by vibrations in the ground picked up by the lower jaw



2. Turtles

*Vertebrae and ribs are fused to the inside of a two part shell.

*Most turtles can retreat into their shell.

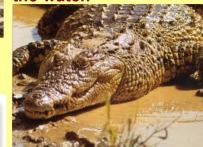


3. Crocodilians



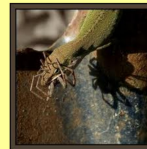
*They care for their young. Females guard the nest and carry their young to the water.

*Crocodiles have a narrow head with a triangle shaped snout.



*Alligators have a broad head with a rounded snout.

The Importance of Reptiles



*Control pest population, food source, and economically

