



Student Worksheet

Tarantula Level

Name: _____

Find the answers to all of these questions by exploring the dome and watching the snake show!

SAFARI ROOM (located in the center of the Sky Dome)

1. There is a vine covering an archway over the path called Bougainvillea. Where is it native to? _____
2. What mineral comprises the large pink boulders in the waterfall? _____
3. Compare and contrast the tortoises vs. the turtles in this room. What's different or the same about their shells, legs, and heads? _____

4. An adaptation is a characteristic that helps an organism to be better suited for its environment. Describe 2 adaptations of the parrots: _____

MEZZANINE (upstairs level of the Sky Dome)

5. List 3 native South Dakota snakes that are on display: _____

6. The Black Mamba is the second-longest venomous snake in the world. How long can they get? _____ What is the longest venomous snake? _____
7. If you needed Boomslang skin for a polyjuice potion, where in the world would you go to look for some? _____
8. List 2 differences between alligators and crocodiles: _____

9. What shape are the pupils on the Asian Vine Snakes? _____
10. Why is the Snorkel-nosed Viper sometimes called the "hundred pacer?" _____

LOWER RING (downstairs level of the Sky Dome)

11. What color do Flat Rock Scorpions turn under black light? _____
12. Is a tarantula an herbivore, omnivore, or carnivore? _____
13. What is the main threat to the Fiji Island Banded Iguana? _____
14. How many people have died from Gila Monster bites? _____
15. How does the Mata Mata turtle eat? _____
16. Our curator Ken Earnest hatched the world's first captive born animals of this species of critically endangered crocodile in 1978. Which species is it? _____

SNAKE SHOW

17. Why are reptiles called "cold-blooded?" _____
18. How do snakes like pythons kill their prey? _____

19. What is the difference between a viper (like a rattlesnake) and an elapid (like a cobra)?

20. TRUE OR FALSE?

- a. All snakes are carnivores.
- b. The number of segments on a rattlesnake's rattle tells you how old it is.
- c. Prairie rattlesnakes can get up to 12 feet long.
- d. The Inland Taipan, or Fierce Snake, has the most toxic venom yet discovered.
- e. Cobras have excellent hearing.

BONUS QUESTION: VERY HARD!!!

What is a snake's favorite subject in school? _____