



Get ready to meet a super cool reptile, the Scarlet King Snake! This sleek animal is a real beauty with its shiny black, red, and yellow bands that spiral around its body. It's not very big, only about 20 inches long, which is about as long as two rulers lined up end to end. By the way, those bright colors aren't just for show, they're also a warning to other creatures to stay away.



Speaking of other creatures, let's see what our striped friend likes to munch on. Scarlet King Snakes are carnivores, which means they eat meat. Their menu mainly consists of other small animals like lizards, rodents, and especially other snakes! They are constrictors, which means they wrap their bodies around their prey to catch them.

After lunch, these snakes like to chill in their homes, which are mostly in the southeastern United States. They love hanging out in pine and hardwood forests, under rocks, or in leaf litter. When it's time to have babies, female Scarlet King Snakes lay eggs and the babies are on their own once they hatch. These little snakes grow up to live for about 20 years!



While these snakes might seem scary, they're actually pretty harmless to humans. In fact, they're often mistaken for the venomous coral snake, but you can tell them apart because the red bands on a Scarlet King Snake touch the black bands, not the yellow ones! They also play an important role in our ecosystem by controlling the population of rodents and other pests. So, next time you see a Scarlet King Snake, remember, it's just doing its part to keep nature in balance.



**Solve each problem.**

**Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) What does a Scarlet King Snake eat?
  - A. Fish and turtles
  - B. Small animals
  - C. Plants and fruits
  - D. Birds and their eggs
- 2) Why are Scarlet King Snakes often mistaken for coral snakes?
  - A. Because they have similar markings on their heads
  - B. Because of their size
  - C. Because of the similar red, black, and yellow bands
  - D. Because they live in similar areas
- 3) Which place would you be most likely to find a Scarlet King Snake?
  - A. Deserts
  - B. Rivers
  - C. Forests
  - D. Lakes
- 4) How long do Scarlet King Snakes usually live?
  - A. About 50 years
  - B. About 100 years
  - C. About 20 years
  - D. About 5 years
- 5) How do Scarlet King Snakes catch their prey?
  - A. By chasing them at high speed
  - B. By wrapping their bodies around them
  - C. By stalking them silently
  - D. By swooping down from trees
- 6) Where are the homes of the Scarlet King Snakes mostly located in the U.S?
  - A. In the northwestern United States
  - B. In the northeastern United States
  - C. In the southeastern United States
  - D. In the southwestern United States
- 7) What happens when baby Scarlet King Snakes hatch?
  - A. They are on their own
  - B. They hibernate immediately after hatching
  - C. They are taken care of by their parents
  - D. They live in nests with other baby snakes
- 8) How long is a scarlet king snake?
  - A. About 20 inches
  - B. About 2 feet
  - C. About 10 inches
  - D. About 3.5 feet
- 9) What is the role of Scarlet King Snakes in the ecosystem?
  - A. Cleaning the environment
  - B. Spreading seeds
  - C. Controlling the population of rodents and other pests
  - D. Pollinating flowers
- 10) What kind of diet do Scarlet King Snakes have?
  - A. Insectivores
  - B. Carnivores
  - C. Herbivores
  - D. Omnivores



**Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).**

- 11) "I'm so tiny, about the size of your thumb."
- 12) "My home is mainly in the southeastern United States. I like to hang out in pine and hardwood forests, under rocks, or in leaf litter."
- 13) "I do not lay eggs. I give birth to live babies."
- 14) "I am a vegetarian. I just love to munch on leaves and branches."
- 15) "You might think I'm scary, but I'm actually harmless to humans."
- 16) "You know, my main diet consists of fruits and vegetables."
- 17) "I like to wrap around my prey, tightening my body like a rope, until my dinner is all mine."
- 18) "Guess what? I'm a carnivore, which means I eat meat. Other small animals like lizards, rodents, and even other snakes are on my menu."
- 19) "You'll find me basking in the snow on top of mountains."
- 20) "I'm a venomous snake. You won't want to mess with me."
- 21) "These bright colors on my body are like a warning sign to other animals, they know not to mess with me!"

**Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.**

- 22) The Scarlet King Snake generally lives in the southeastern parts of the United States.
- 23) It is astonishing how similar the pattern is of a Scarlet King Snakes to the venomous coral snake.
- 24) The Scarlet King Snake is often confused with the venomous coral snake as both have similar color patterns.
- 25) It's surprising that a snake as small as the Scarlet King Snake can eat other snakes.
- 26) The Scarlet King Snake is a carnivore and mainly feeds on other small animals and sometimes, other snakes.
- 27) It is surprising that Scarlet King Snakes can live for about 20 years.
- 28) Young scarlet king snakes are on their own as soon as they hatch.
- 29) The Scarlet King Snake lives for an average of 20 years.
- 30) Scarlet King Snakes are the most beautiful of all snake species because of their shiny black, red, and yellow bands.
- 31) Watching Scarlet King Snakes eat their prey is a bit scary, but also fascinating.

**Determine if the statement is true or false.**

- 32) Scarlet King Snakes lay eggs.
- 33) Scarlet King Snakes only live for about 5 years.
- 34) Scarlet King Snakes are not venomous.
- 35) Female Scarlet King Snakes do not lay eggs.
- 36) Scarlet King Snakes will eat other snakes.
- 37) The Scarlet King Snake's bright colors are for attracting mates.



- 38) Scarlet King Snakes are herbivores.
- 39) Scarlet King Snakes are venomous.
- 40) Scarlet King Snakes are usually found in forests.
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**Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).**

- 42) Scarlet king snakes are often confused with coral snakes, but they have different patterns and colors.
- 43) What colors are scarlet king snakes?
- 44) Scarlet king snakes can be found in the southeastern United States.
- 45) Scarlet king snakes have red, black, and yellow bands on their bodies.
- 46) Are scarlet king snakes venomous?
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|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____  | 26. _____ |
| 2. _____  | 27. _____ |
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- |                                   |                                         |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1. <u>    <b>B</b>    </u>        | 26. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>          |
| 2. <u>    <b>C</b>    </u>        | 27. <u>    <b>opinion</b>    </u>       |
| 3. <u>    <b>C</b>    </u>        | 28. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>          |
| 4. <u>    <b>C</b>    </u>        | 29. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>          |
| 5. <u>    <b>B</b>    </u>        | 30. <u>    <b>opinion</b>    </u>       |
| 6. <u>    <b>C</b>    </u>        | 31. <u>    <b>opinion</b>    </u>       |
| 7. <u>    <b>A</b>    </u>        | 32. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>          |
| 8. <u>    <b>A</b>    </u>        | 33. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>         |
| 9. <u>    <b>C</b>    </u>        | 34. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>          |
| 10. <u>    <b>B</b>    </u>       | 35. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>         |
| 11. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>   | 36. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>          |
| 12. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>    | 37. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>         |
| 13. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>   | 38. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>         |
| 14. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>   | 39. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>         |
| 15. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>    | 40. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>          |
| 16. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>   | 41. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>          |
| 17. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>    | 42. <u>    <b>declarative</b>    </u>   |
| 18. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>    | 43. <u>    <b>interrogative</b>    </u> |
| 19. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>   | 44. <u>    <b>declarative</b>    </u>   |
| 20. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>   | 45. <u>    <b>declarative</b>    </u>   |
| 21. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>    | 46. <u>    <b>interrogative</b>    </u> |
| 22. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>    | 47. <u>    <b>interrogative</b>    </u> |
| 23. <u>    <b>opinion</b>    </u> |                                         |
| 24. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>    |                                         |
| 25. <u>    <b>opinion</b>    </u> |                                         |



**Solve each problem.**

**Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) What does a Scarlet King Snake eat? (paragraph 2)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_ B. Small animals  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ D. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Why are Scarlet King Snakes often mistaken for coral snakes? (paragraph 4)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_ B. Because of their size  
C. Because of the similar red, black, and yellow bands D. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Which place would you be most likely to find a Scarlet King Snake? (paragraph 3)  
A. Deserts B. Rivers  
C. Forests D. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) How long do Scarlet King Snakes usually live? (paragraph 3)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_ B. About 100 years  
C. About 20 years D. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) How do Scarlet King Snakes catch their prey? (paragraph 2)  
A. By chasing them at high speed B. By wrapping their bodies around them  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ D. \_\_\_\_\_
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A. In the northwestern United States B. In the northeastern United States  
C. In the southeastern United States D. \_\_\_\_\_
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A. They are on their own B. They hibernate immediately after hatching  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ D. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) How long is a scarlet king snake? (paragraph 1)  
A. About 20 inches B. About 2 feet  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ D. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) What is the role of Scarlet King Snakes in the ecosystem? (paragraph 4)  
A. Cleaning the environment B. \_\_\_\_\_  
C. Controlling the population of rodents and other pests D. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) What kind of diet do Scarlet King Snakes have? (paragraph 2)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_ B. Carnivores  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ D. \_\_\_\_\_

**Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).**



- 11) "I'm so tiny, about the size of your thumb." (paragraph 1)
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