

# SCALY, NOT SCARY!

PRE-SHOW RESOURCE

**RANGER  
BUDDIES**



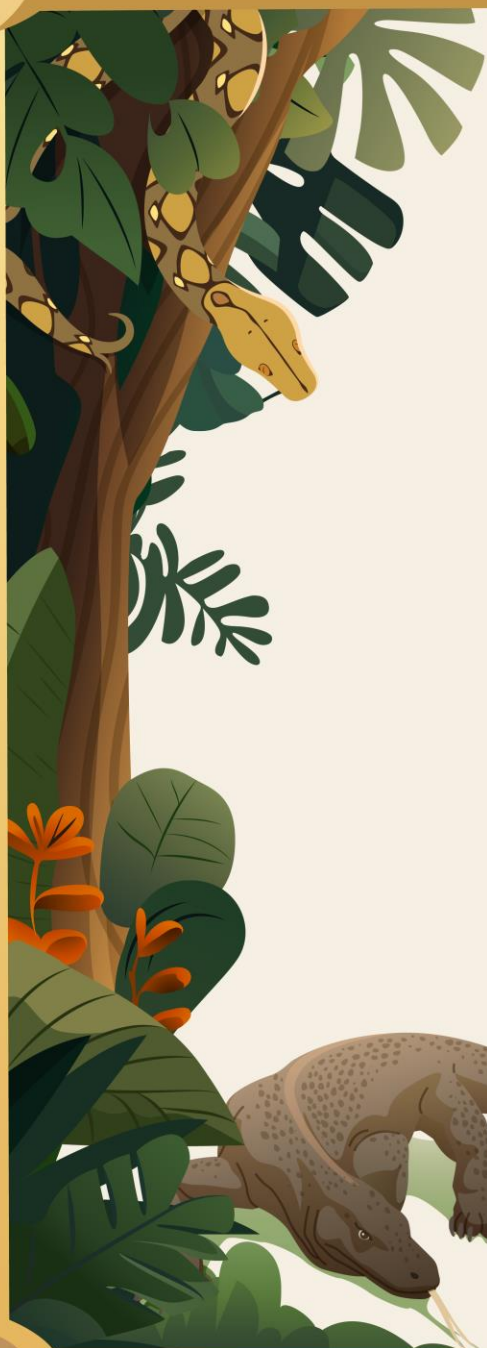
# SCALY, NOT SCARY!

This resource provides activity suggestions to help you facilitate discussions about reptiles with your students about what makes them unique.

## In this resource pack, you will find:

1. Activity 1: What Is A Reptile?
2. Reptile Factsheets:
  - Discover Their Unique Traits!
  - Scale Up Your Curiosity
3. Activity 2: Reptile Puppets - Exploring Texture And Creativity

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## Activity 1

# WHAT IS A REPTILE?



In this activity, students will discover the characteristics that make reptiles unique.

## Class Discussion

Begin the discussion with the following questions:

What do you think makes an animal a reptile?

Can you name some reptiles you've seen before?



After the discussion, introduce key reptile characteristics found on page 4 & 5.

# WHAT IS A REPTILE? DISCOVER THEIR UNIQUE TRAITS!



## Scales

Reptiles are covered in scales. Crocodiles, turtles and tortoises have special scales called scutes that provide extra protection.

Find out more about reptile scales on the next page.



## Ectothermic

Reptiles cannot create their own body heat. They rely on their surroundings to warm up or cool down.

Basking under the sun warms them up and gives them the energy to move around and find food.



## Did You Know?

Although most reptiles reproduce by laying eggs, there are a few lizards and snakes that can give birth to live young.

# WHAT MAKES A REPTILE? DISCOVER THEIR UNIQUE TRAITS!



## What are scales made of?

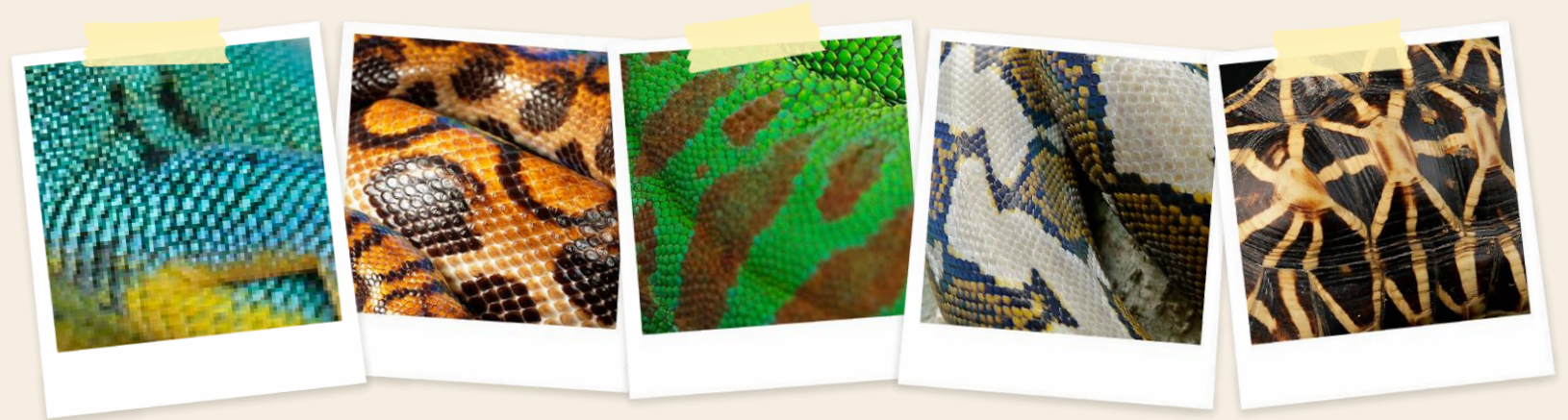
Scales are made of a tough material called keratin, the same material that our hair and nails are made of.

Scales act as an armour to protect reptiles from predators and their surroundings.



## Colours and Patterns

Scales come in many colours and patterns. They help reptiles camouflage (blend into their surroundings), warn predators that the reptile might be dangerous, and act as signals to other reptiles.



Patterns are designs made up of shapes or colors that repeat. Educators can lead a discussion by encouraging students to look around the classroom for patterns, like stripes on a shirt or spots on a rug and compare them to scaly patterns found on reptiles.

# REPTILE PUPPETS - EXPLORING TEXTURE AND CREATIVITY

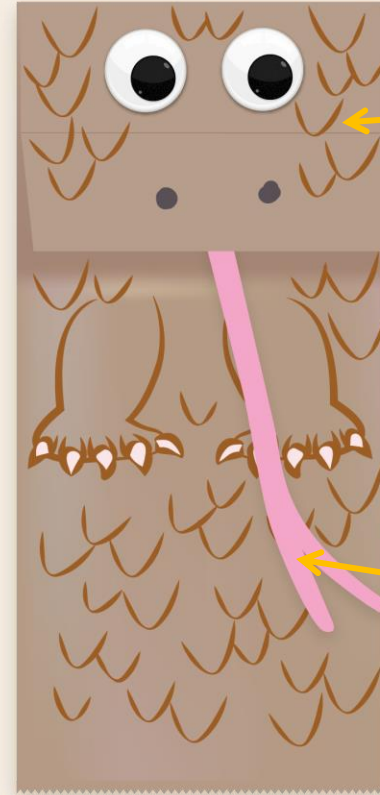
## Activity 2

### Materials to prepare:

1. Paper bag
2. Googly eyes
3. Colouring materials
4. Optional: materials of different textures



- 1** Encourage students to select a reptile that interests them. Talk about its unique features, like its colors, patterns, and habitat, and inspire them to include those details in their puppet designs.



**2**

Choose different materials with various textures, like bubble wrap or textured paper to create their own unique scales on paper bags.



**3**

Highlight the reptile's colors, patterns, and traits, like a Komodo dragon's long tongue, and have students include these details in their puppet designs.



Have the students bring their handmade puppets to the show, where they'll get a chance to showcase their creations and join in on the fun!