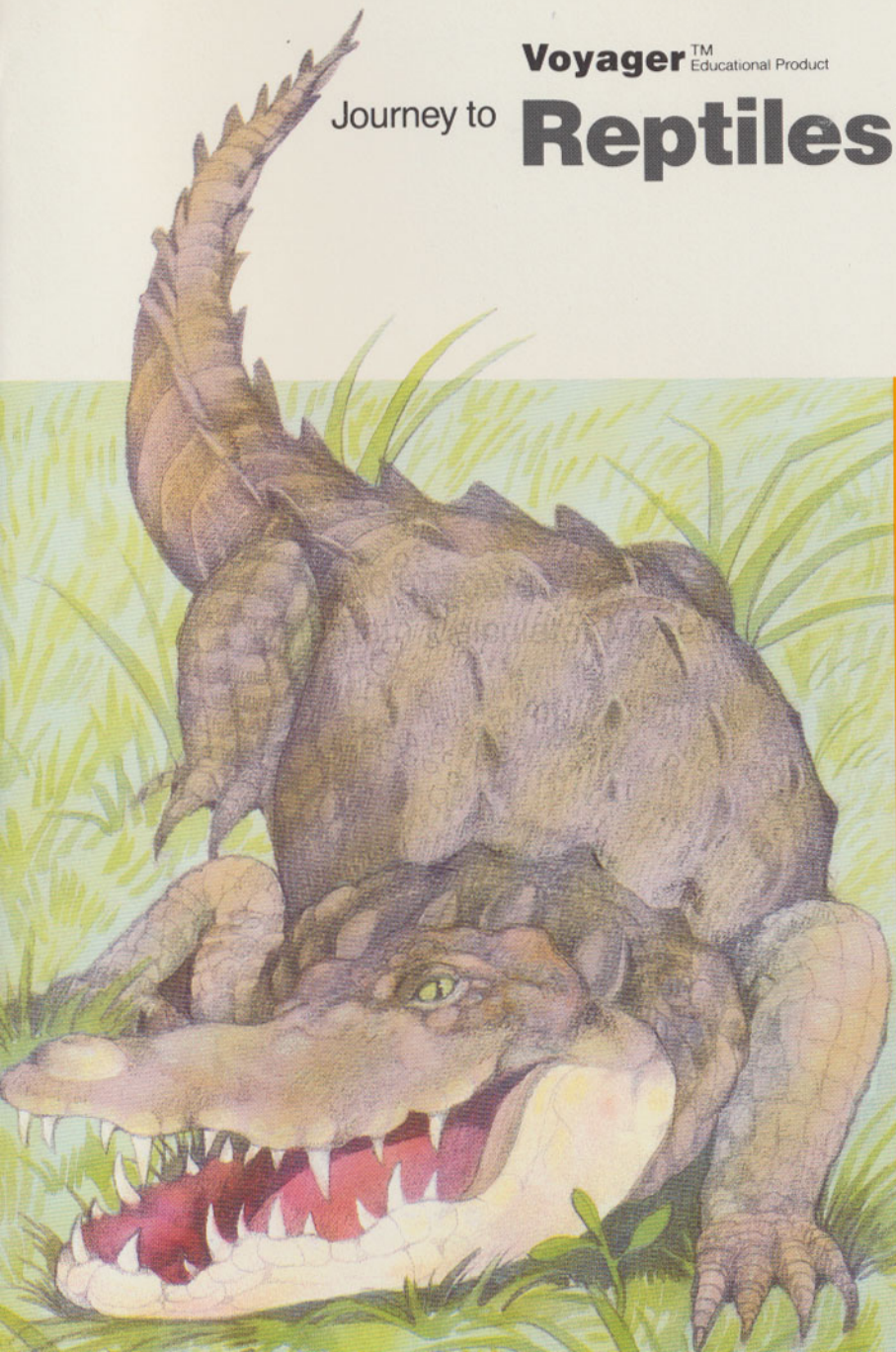


TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

**Voyager**<sup>TM</sup> Educational Product

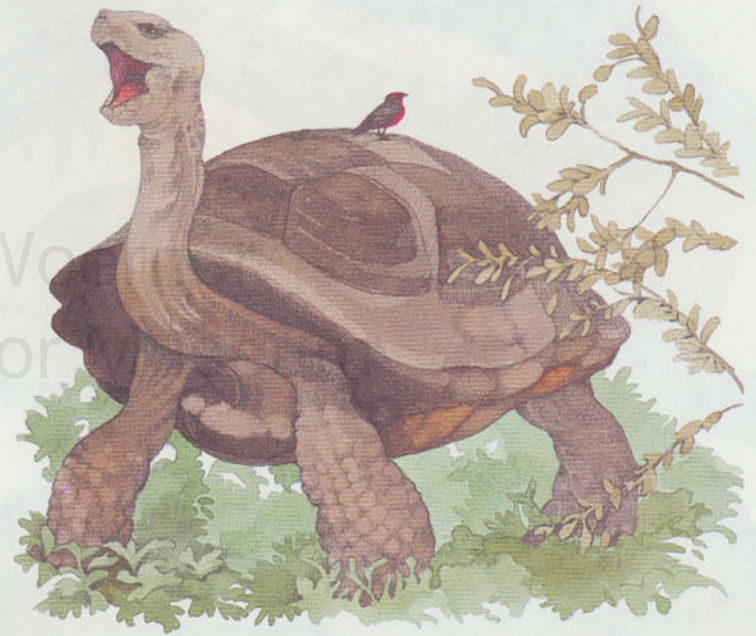
Journey to

# Reptiles<sup>TM</sup>



**Voyager**<sup>TM</sup>  
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**1** Crocodile

**2** Python



**3** Giant Tortoise

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**4** Komodo Dragon



**6** Marine Iguana



**5** Chameleon



**7** Garter Snake

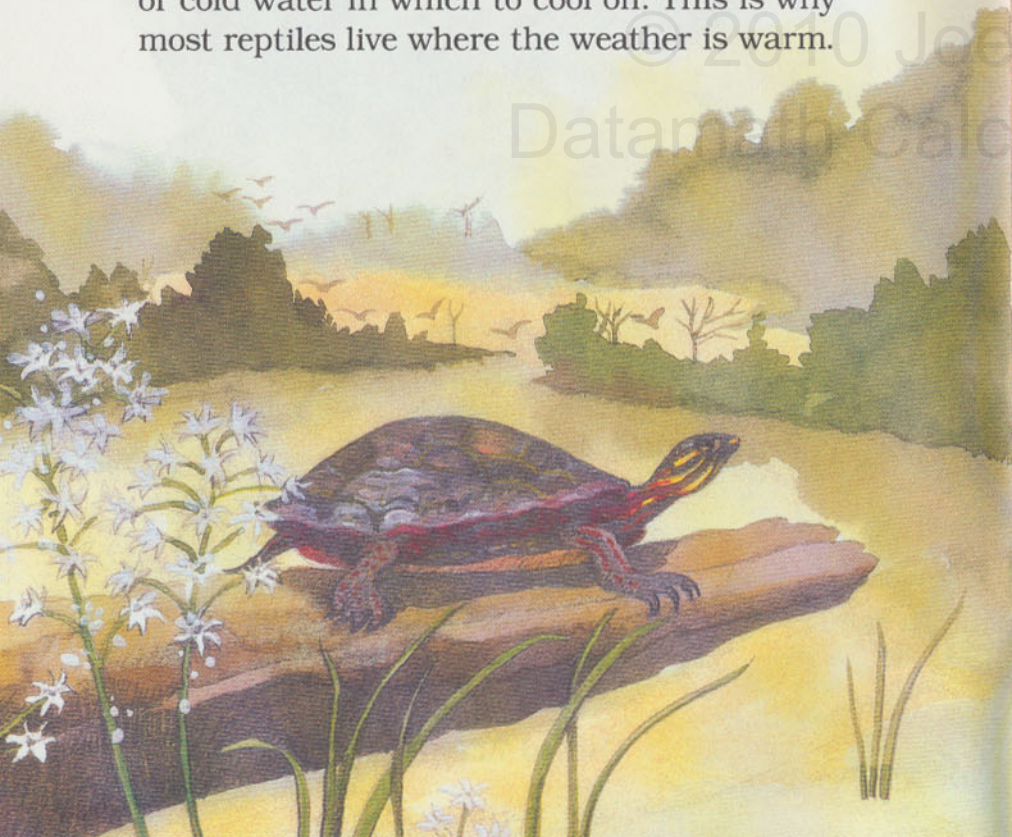


**8** Painted Turtle

## Reptiles

Reptiles are animals with bodies that are covered with scales. Reptiles never have fur or feathers. Some reptiles, like snakes, move by crawling on their bellies. Others, like lizards and crocodiles, move on small short legs. All of these animals have backbones. Reptiles come in many different sizes and colors and shapes. The reptiles living today include crocodiles and alligators, turtles, lizards and snakes.

Reptiles are cold-blooded animals. These animals must get their warmth from outside their own bodies. They use the world around them to control their temperatures. If a cold-blooded animal feels cold, it must find a warm place in the sun. If it is hot, it must find shade or cold water in which to cool off. This is why most reptiles live where the weather is warm.



Reptiles that live in cool areas often **hibernate** when the weather gets very cold. These reptiles burrow into an area that doesn't freeze, like the mud in a pond, and sleep until the temperature gets warm enough for them to be comfortable. When the weather is too hot they move around as little as possible.

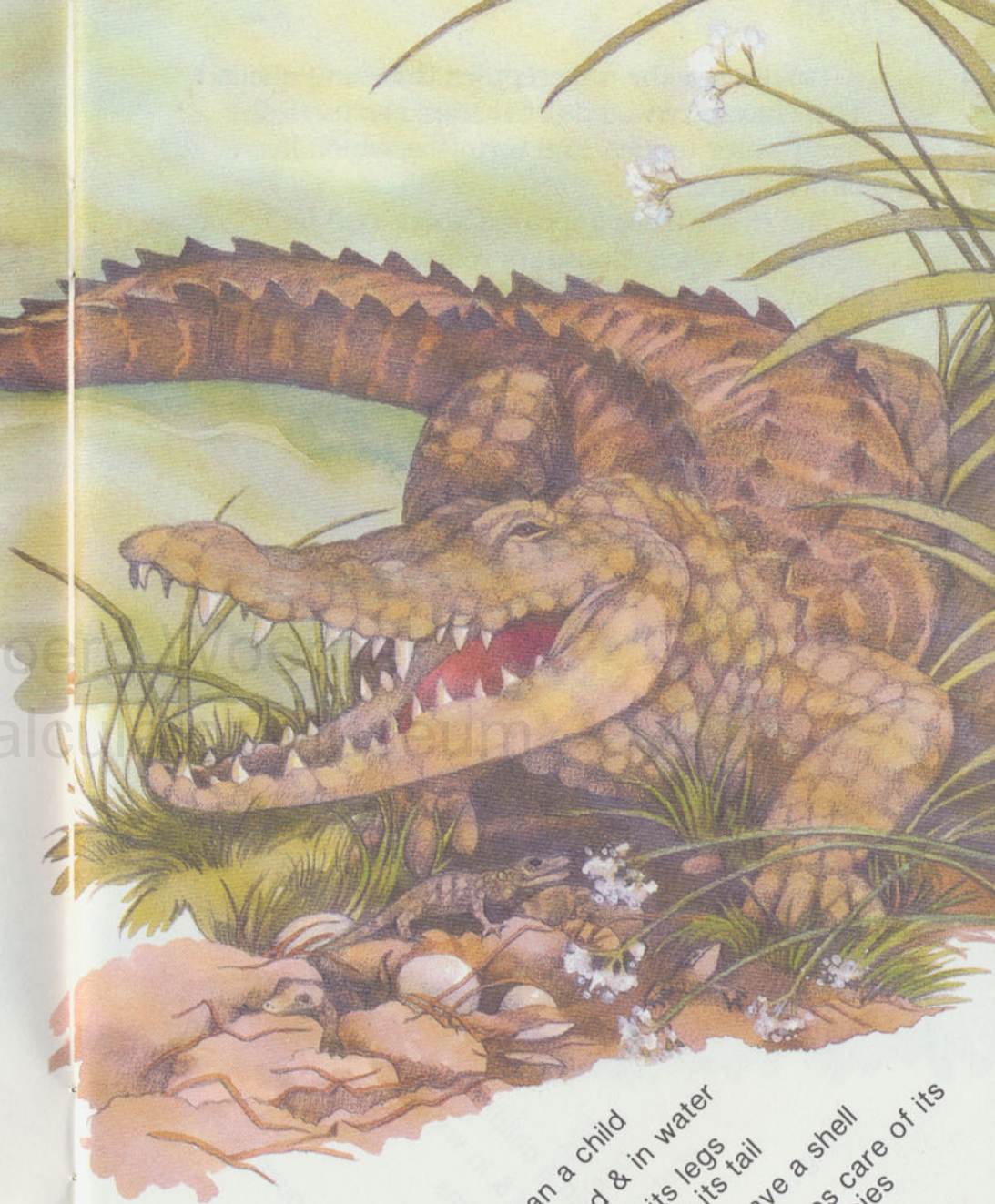




**Crocodiles** and alligators are very much alike. Both have long narrow bodies with tough hides, long snouts and very sharp teeth. Most crocodiles have pointy snouts, while alligators' are rounded.

Alligators and crocodiles live in warm, shallow water and swamps. Alligators live only in the United States and China. Crocodiles live in many different parts of the world. Both have eyes and nostrils on the tops of their heads so they can see and breathe while they float in the water.

Mother crocodiles take care of their eggs before they are hatched and watch over their babies after they are born.



### **Crocodile**

- is bigger than a child
- lives on land & in water
- walks with its legs & swims with its tail
- does not have a shell
- mother takes care of its eggs and babies

Turtles are the only reptiles that have shells. There are three kinds of turtles: sea turtles, fresh water turtles, and tortoises, which live only on land.

The first turtles appeared about 200 million years ago when dinosaurs roamed the earth. Today there are about 340 different kinds of turtles. Some are as small as three inches across; others, like the **giant tortoise**, can grow as large as four feet and weigh as much as 500 pounds, while others, like some giant sea turtles, grow even larger.

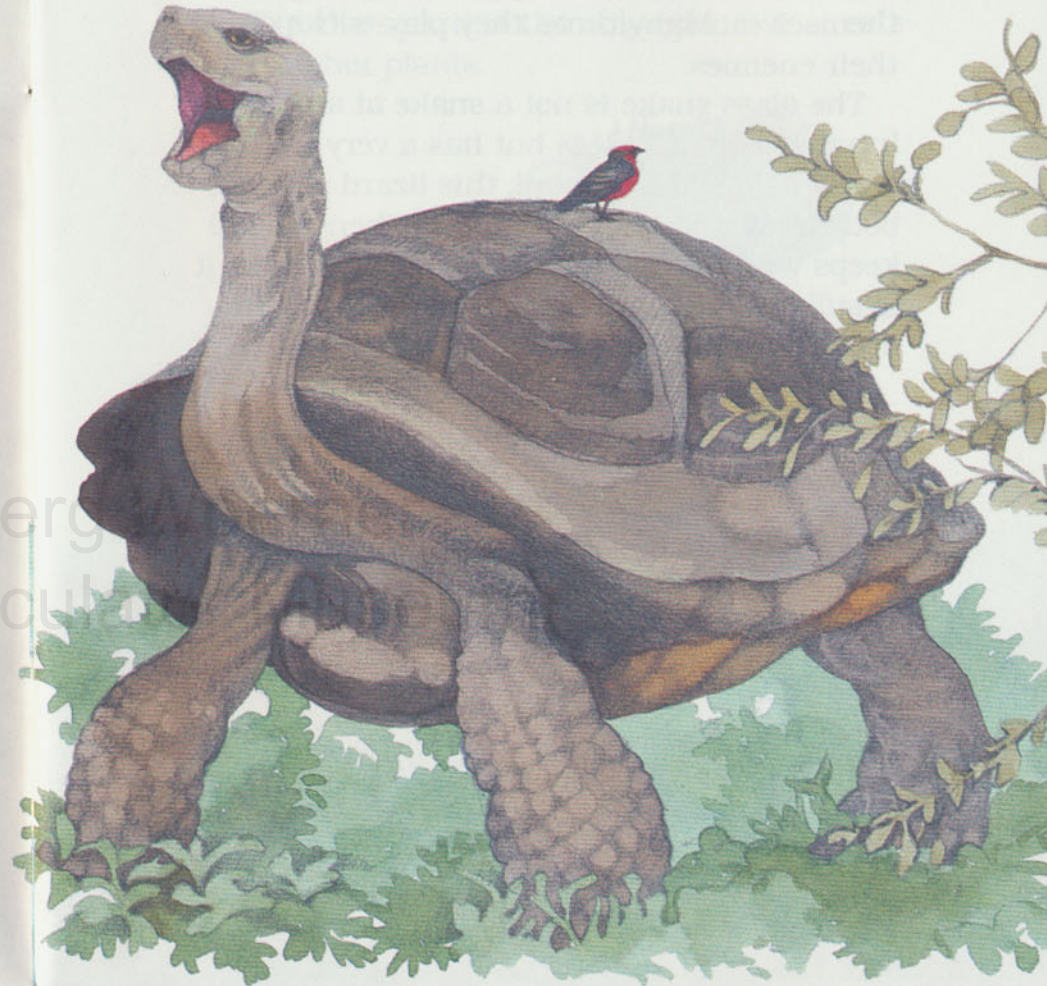
Both the **painted turtle** and the giant tortoise use their shells for protection. Each will pull its head, legs and tail back into its shell for safety.



### **Painted Turtle**

- is smaller than a child
- lives on land & in water
- walks & swims with its feet
- has a shell
- carries its house with it

Turtles live longer than any other type of animal. The oldest turtle known to man lived over 100 years.



### **Giant Tortoise**

- is bigger than a child
- lives only on land
- walks with its legs
- has a shell
- can be big enough to ride on

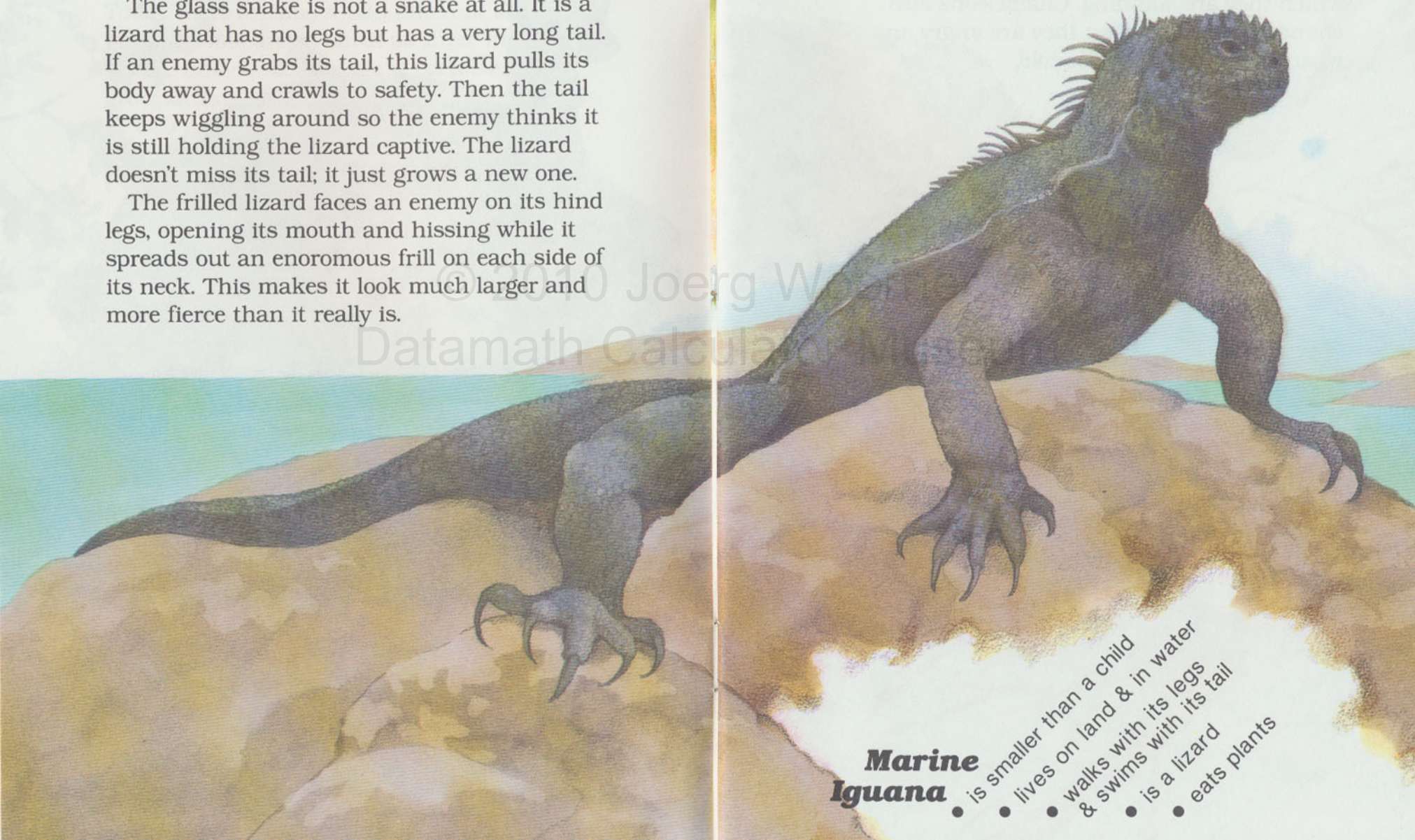
There are almost 3,000 different kinds of lizards. Some are so small they can fit in the palm of your hand; others are as big as cows.

Lizards have clever ways of defending themselves. Many times they play tricks on their enemies.

The glass snake is not a snake at all. It is a lizard that has no legs but has a very long tail. If an enemy grabs its tail, this lizard pulls its body away and crawls to safety. Then the tail keeps wiggling around so the enemy thinks it is still holding the lizard captive. The lizard doesn't miss its tail; it just grows a new one.

The frilled lizard faces an enemy on its hind legs, opening its mouth and hissing while it spreads out an enormous frill on each side of its neck. This makes it look much larger and more fierce than it really is.

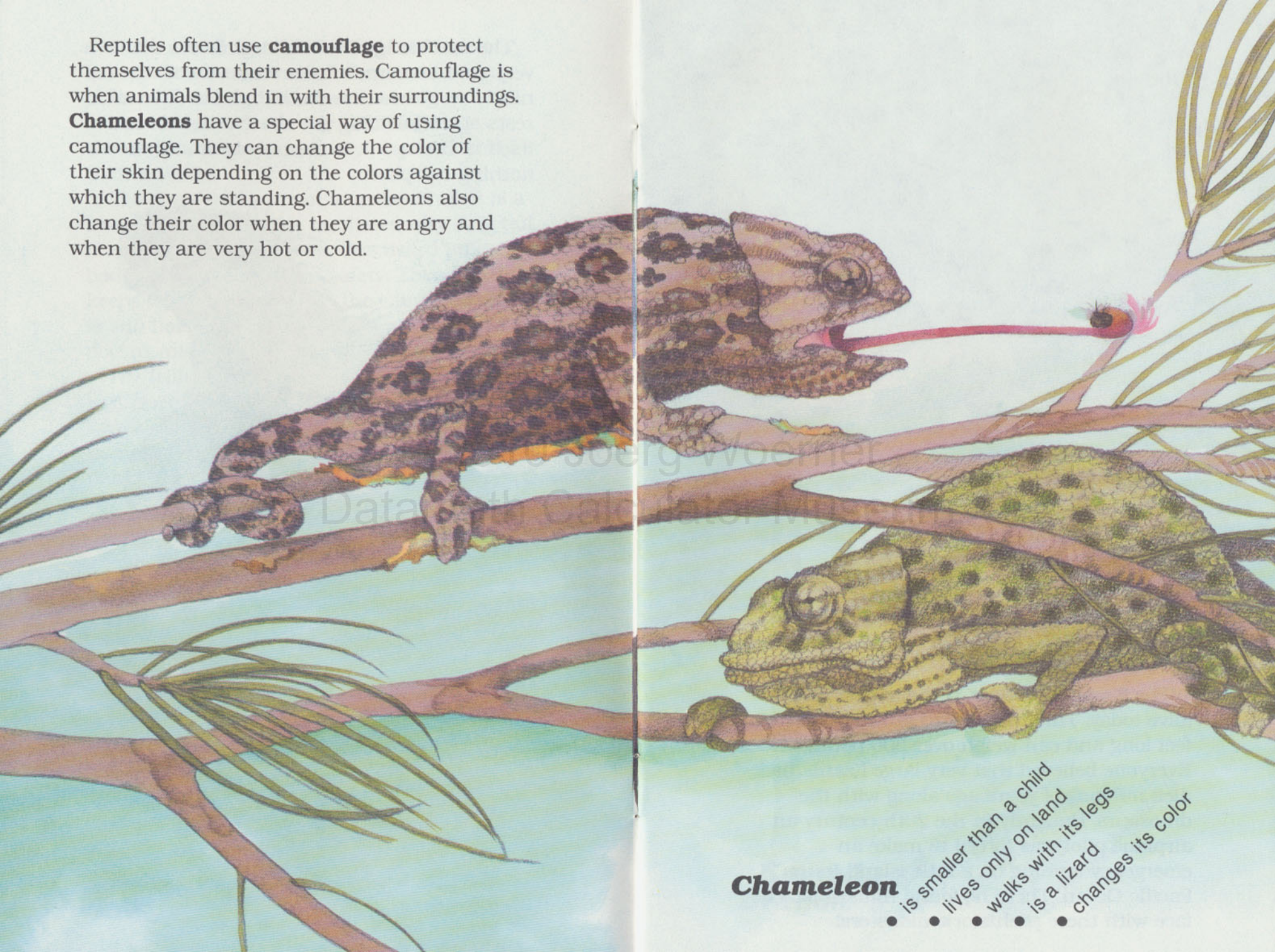
The **marine iguana** is a large lizard that is a very good swimmer. It dives into the water to nibble on seaweed and other plants. Then it rests on rocks along the shore and warms itself in the sun. It is the only iguana that eats nothing but plants.



### **Marine Iguana**

- is smaller than a child
- lives on land & in water
- walks with its legs & swims with its tail
- is a lizard
- eats plants

Reptiles often use **camouflage** to protect themselves from their enemies. Camouflage is when animals blend in with their surroundings. **Chameleons** have a special way of using camouflage. They can change the color of their skin depending on the colors against which they are standing. Chameleons also change their color when they are angry and when they are very hot or cold.



### **Chameleon**

- is smaller than a child
- lives only on land
- walks with its legs
- is a lizard
- changes its color



The **Komodo dragon** is the largest lizard alive today. This huge lizard grows to 9 or 10 feet long and can weigh over 300 pounds. Everyone believed that very large lizards had died millions of years ago along with the dinosaurs. But early in the 20th century an airplane pilot was forced to make an emergency landing on a little island in the Pacific Ocean. There he found himself face to face with these prehistoric monsters!

**Komodo Dragon**

- is bigger than a child
- lives only on land
- walks with its legs
- is a lizard
- is the biggest lizard

One of the most interesting things about snakes is the way that they eat. The teeth in a snake's mouth are sharp like needles, but these teeth are not good for chewing food. Snakes swallow their food whole. A snake's top jaw and bottom jaw are attached by a ligament which stretches like a rubber band. This allows the snake to open its mouth very wide and swallow food two or three times as wide as its head.

A snake's skin is made up of layers. New skin grows underneath the old. As the baby snakes grow they become too big for their outer layer of skin. When this happens, the snake breaks a hole in its skin near its nose and wriggles out, leaving the old skin behind.



### **Garter Snake**

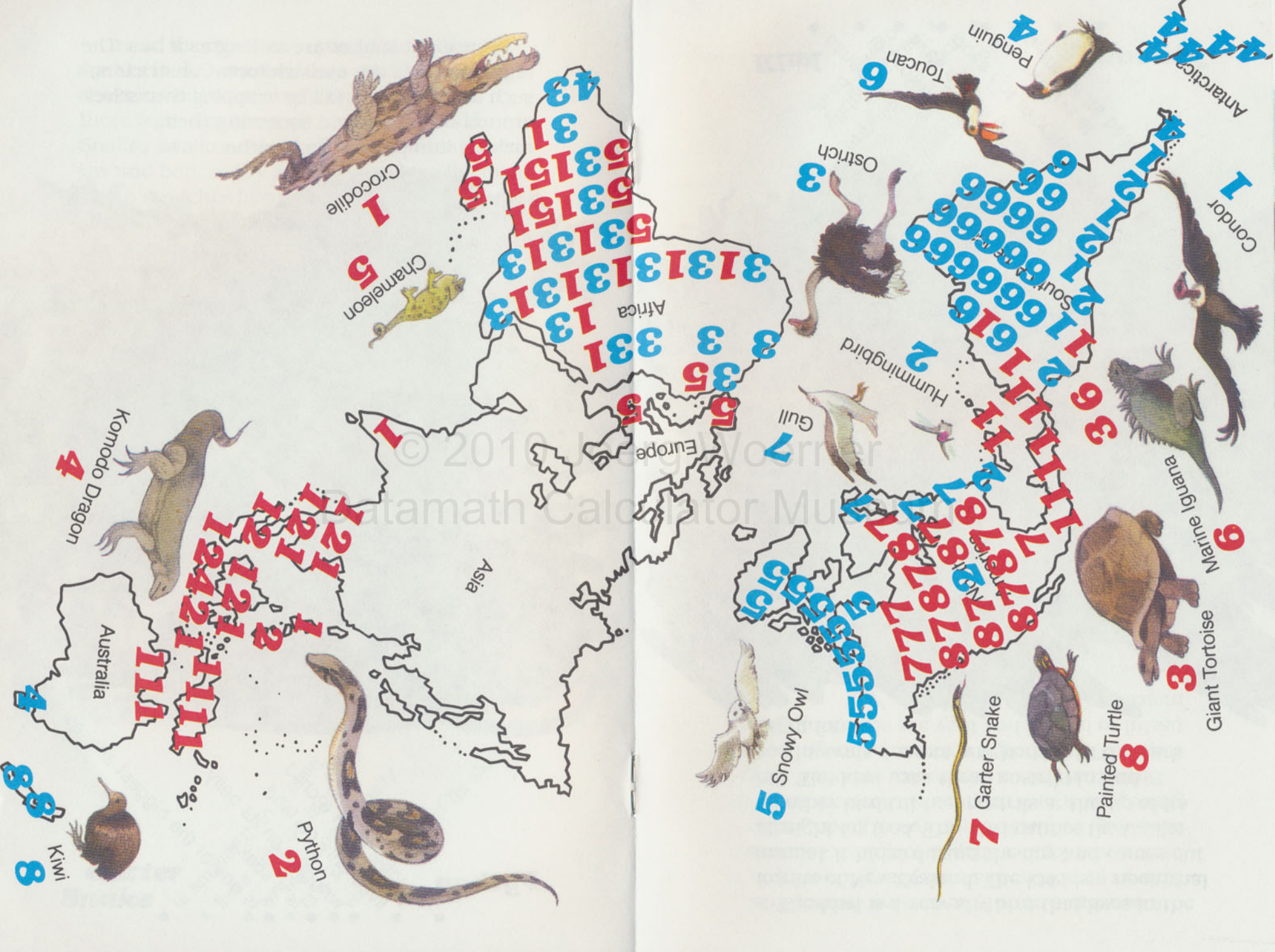
- is smaller than a child
- lives only on land
- wriggles on its belly
- is a snake
- wriggles out of its skin

Some giant snakes are as long as a bus. The biggest snakes are **constrictors**. Constrictors, such as the **python**, kill by wrapping themselves around their prey and squeezing them, making it impossible to breathe.



### **Python**

- is bigger than a child
- lives only on land
- wriggles on its belly
- is a snake
- is one of the biggest snakes



Antarctica 4 4 4 4 4

Condor 1



Marine Iguana 6



Giant Tortoise 3



Painted Turtle 8



Garter Snake 7



Penguin 4



Toucan 6



Ostrich 3



Hummingbird 2



Gull 7



Snowy Owl 5



Africa

Europe

Asia

Australia

Crocodile 1



Chameleon 5



Komodo Dragon 4



Python 2



Kiwi 8

