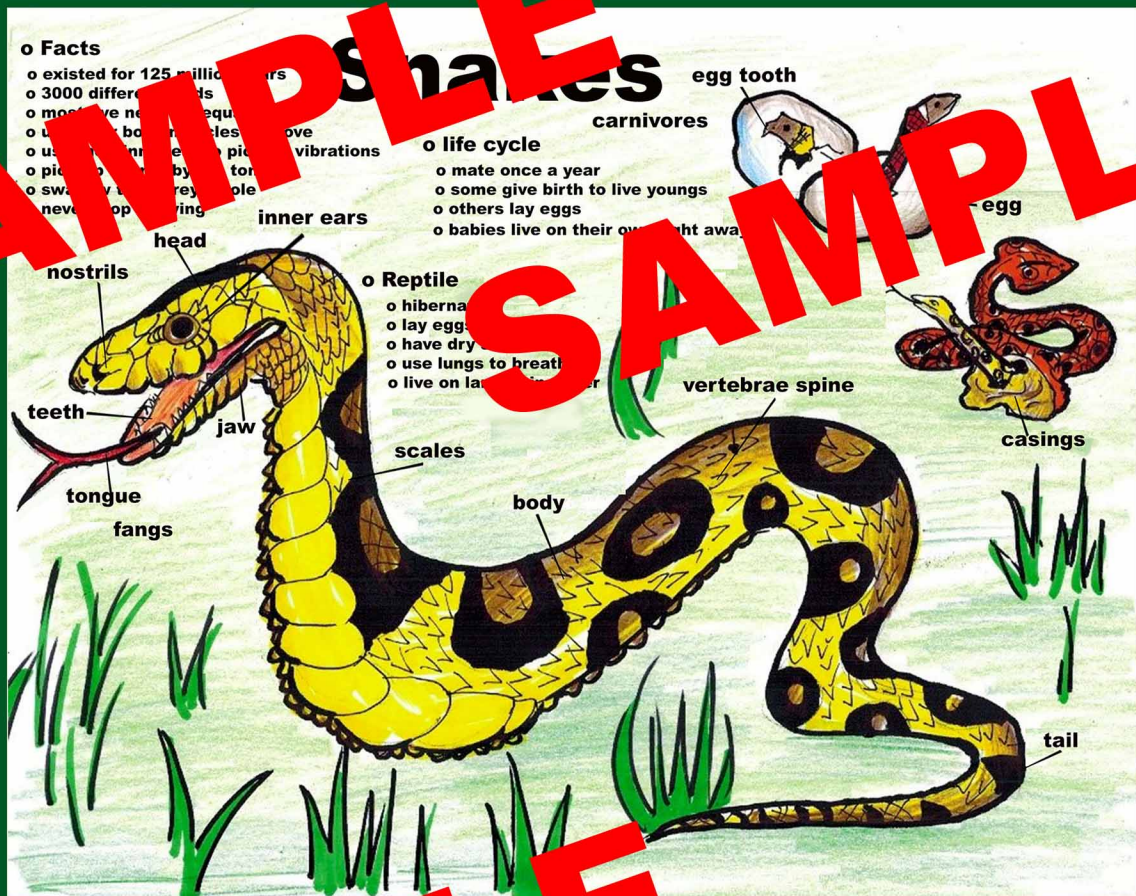


Close Reading

Plus Writing Activities

Snakes By Gail Gibbons



Teaching Animal Science through
Reading, Comprehension, Vocabulary,
Posters, and Reflection

Qiang Ma

o Facts

- o existed for 125 million years
- o 3000 different kinds
- o most live near the equator
- o use their body muscles to move
- o use their inner ear to pick up vibrations
- o pick up scents by the tongue
- o swallow their prey whole
- o never stop growing

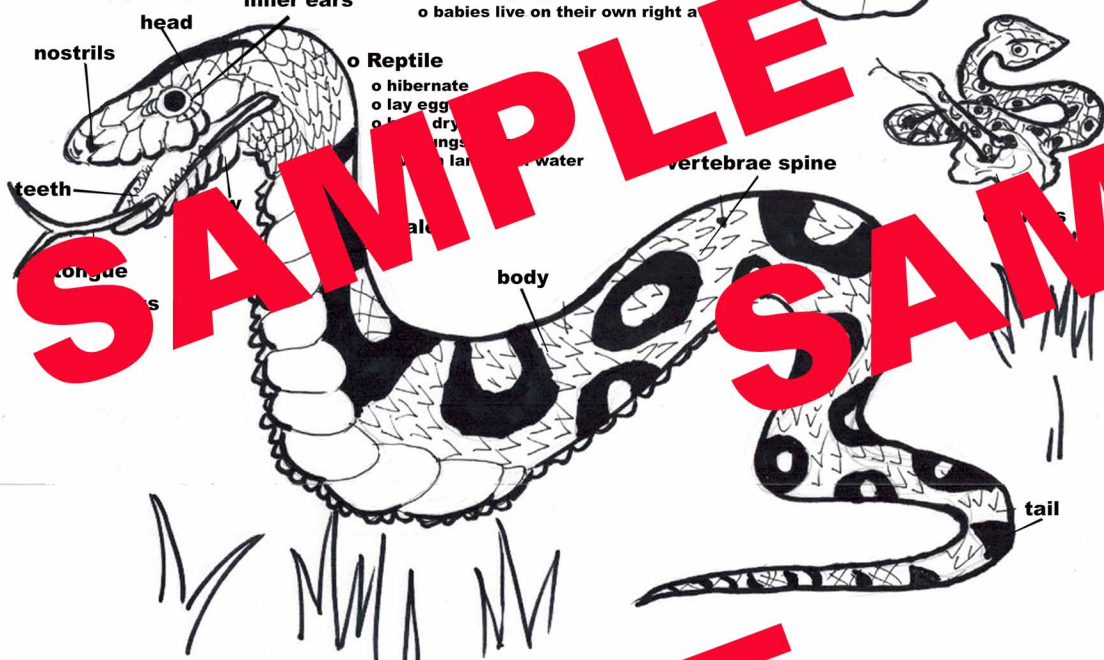
Snakes

egg tooth

carnivores

o life cycle

- o mate once a year
- o some give birth to live youngs
- o others lay eggs
- o babies live on their own right a



o Facts

- o existed for 125 million years
- o 3000 different kinds
- o most live near the equator
- o use their body muscles to move
- o use their inner ear to pick up vibrations
- o pick up scents by the tongue
- o swallow their prey whole
- o never stop growing

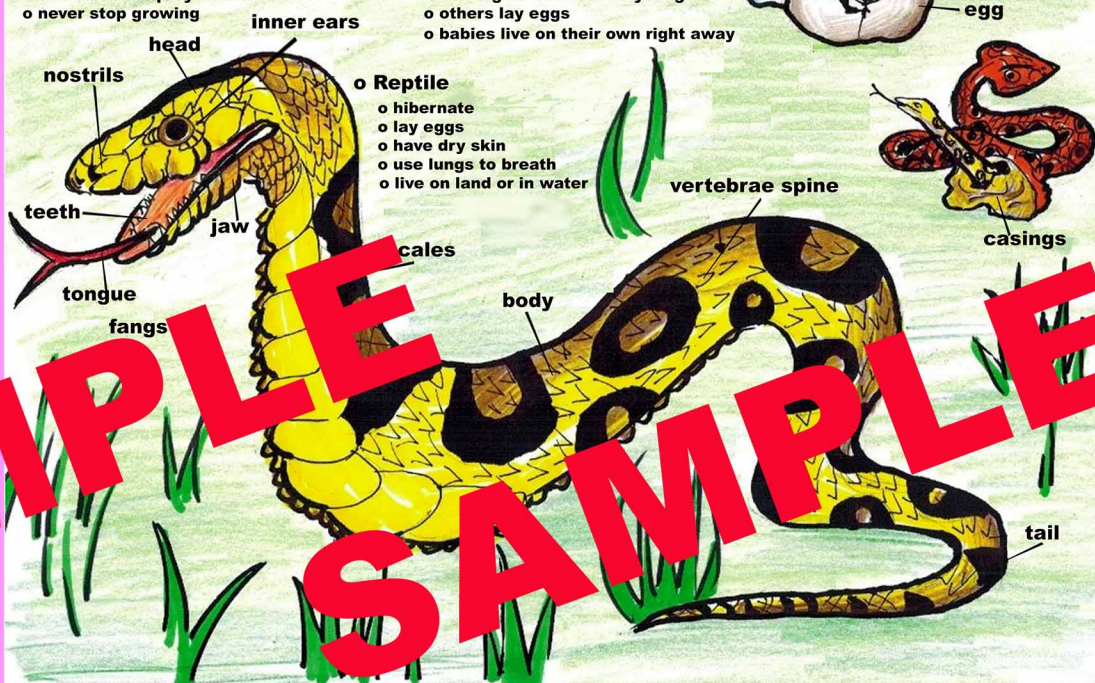
Snakes

egg tooth

carnivores

o life cycle

- o mate once a year
- o some give birth to live youngs
- o others lay eggs
- o babies live on their own right away



Snakes by Gail Gibbons Close Reading ©Qiang Ma

Name: _____ Date: _____

Snakes Close Reading Organizer

Title: _____

Things to remember
Colors to mark the passage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlight the title in yellow. Underline topic sentence in green. Circle the important words in red. Use close reading symbols throughout text.
CLOSE reading symbols: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check Mark (✓) – understands story Star (*) – something is important Exclamation mark (!) – something new, something that is surprising Question mark (?) – unsure, don't understand it

The main idea of this passage is to _____

What have you learned about _____?

Snakes by Gail Gibbons Close Reading ©Qiang Ma

Snakes Close Reading Organizer

Title: Snakes

Things to remember
Colors to mark the passage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlight the title in yellow. Underline topic sentence in green. Circle the important words in red. Use close reading symbols throughout text.
CLOSE reading symbols: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check Mark (✓) – understands story Star (*) – something is important Exclamation mark (!) – something new, something that is surprising Question mark (?) – unsure, don't understand it

The main idea of this passage is to introduce the basic info about snakes.

What have you learned about _____?

I learned that some snakes give birth to live young and some lay eggs.

Snakes by Gail Gibbons Close Reading ©Qiang Ma

Snakes

Snakes live throughout most of the world. Most kinds of snakes live in warm climates near the equator, where it is warm enough to survive. In colder climates snakes hibernate underground through the winter months so they won't freeze. Most snakes live on land. Some live in trees. Others live underground, and still others live in water.

Snakes are reptiles. Unlike other reptiles, such as turtles, lizards and alligators, snakes have no arms or legs. Their skins are dry and flexible, and have scales. Some snakes have fangs.

Snakes use their strong body muscles to move in different ways. Many snakes move forward in a straight line by gripping the ground as they go. Others bunch their bodies together, straighten them out and then pull themselves forward. This is called bunching. Some snakes move by throwing and looping their bodies forward over and over again. Freshwater snakes and sea snakes use their muscles to wiggle from side to side in order to glide through the water. Sea snakes have paddle-shaped tails to help them swim.

Snakes are carnivores. That means they only eat other animals. They only attack when hungry.

Snakes have several ways to find food. They do not have outer ears, but they have inner ears that can pick up vibrations. They use their tongues to pick up scents. The tip of the tongue is forked. The tongue is able to move in and out of the mouth. The tongue is still and only sticks out when the snake is hunting for food.

Snakes usually eat their prey whole. Some kill their prey first. Others do not. A snake's jaw is much larger than its own head because its rigid jawbones are loosely connected and its jaw can expand. The snake's body also expands as it takes in its prey.

Usually snakes mate once a year. Most snakes lay eggs. Two or three months after mating, the eggs are laid in a warm place and are usually left unattended. When the snakes are ready to hatch, they each use a special sharp egg tooth to slit open their leathery shells. Now they are hatchlings and are able to live on their own right away.

Some snakes give birth to live young about seven months after mating. Before being born, the snakes are in casings, which are also called sacs. They leave their sacs almost immediately after they are born. These snakes are also able to live on their own right away.

Snakes by Gail Gibbons Close Reading ©Qiang Ma

Snakes

Snakes live throughout most of the world. Most kinds of snakes live in warm climates near the equator, where it is warm enough to survive. In colder climates snakes hibernate underground through the winter months so they won't freeze. Most snakes live on land. Some live in trees. Others live underground, and still others live in water.

Snakes are reptiles. Unlike other reptiles, such as turtles, lizards and alligators, snakes have no arms or legs. Their skins are dry and flexible, and have scales. Some snakes have fangs.

Snakes use their strong body muscles to move in different ways. Many snakes move forward in a straight line by gripping the ground as they go. Others bunch their bodies together, straighten them out and then pull themselves forward. This is called bunching. Some snakes move by throwing and looping their bodies forward over and over again. Freshwater snakes and sea snakes use their muscles to wiggle from side to side in order to glide through the water. Sea snakes have paddle-shaped tails to help them swim.

Snakes are carnivores. That means they only feed on other animals. They only attack when hungry.

Snakes have special ways to get their food. They do not have outer ears, but they have inner ears that can pick up vibrations. They use their tongues to pick up scents. The tip of the tongue is forked. The tongue is able to move in and out of the mouth. The tongue is still and only sticks out when the snake is hunting for food.

All snakes usually eat their prey whole. Some kill their prey first. Others do not. A snake's jaw is much larger than its own head because its rigid jawbones are loosely connected and its jaw can expand. The snake's body also expands as it takes in its prey.

Usually snakes mate once a year. Most snakes lay eggs. Two or three months after mating, the eggs are laid in a warm place and are usually left unattended. When the snakes are ready to hatch, they each use a special sharp egg tooth to slit open their leathery shells. Now they are hatchlings and are able to live on their own right away.

Some snakes give birth to live young about seven months after mating. Before being born, the snakes are in casings, which are also called sacs. They leave their sacs almost immediately after they are born. These snakes are also able to live on their own right away.

✓ ☆ ! ?

Snakes by Gail Gibbons Close Reading ©Qiang Ma

Text Dependent Questions

What makes snakes different from other reptiles?	
How do snakes use their body muscles to move?	
Explain how snakes locate their food.	
How do snakes reproduce?	

Snakes by Gail Gibbons Close Reading ©Qiang Ma

Text Dependent Questions

What makes snakes different from other reptiles?	Unlike other reptiles, snakes have no arms or legs.
How do snakes use their body muscles to move?	Snakes use their strong body muscles to move by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> gripping the ground bunching throwing and looping wiggling from side to side using their paddle-shaped tails
Explain how snakes locate their food.	Snakes use their special ways to get their food: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> using their inner ears to pick up vibrations using their tongue to pick up scents using its Jacobson's organ to identify the smelling
How do snakes reproduce?	Snakes reproduce by mating once a year. Most snakes lay eggs. It takes 2 to 3 months for the eggs to hatch. Some snakes give birth to live young about 7 months after mating.

Snakes by Gail Gibbons Close Reading ©Qiang Ma

Vocabulary

hibernate	
reptile	
bunching	
carnivore	
vibration	
casings	

Snakes by Gail Gibbons Close Reading ©Qiang Ma

Vocabulary

hibernate	Animals spend the winter sleeping and resting.
reptile	An animal that has cold blood, that lays eggs, and has a body covered with scales or hard parts.
bunching	The movement of a snake that bunches its body together, straightens it out and then pull it forward.
carnivore	An animal that eats meat.
vibration	Continuous quick, slight shaking movement.
casings	Sacs. Protective coverings.

Snakes by Gail Gibbons Close Reading ©Qiang Ma

Getting Started: Snake Close Reading

1. It is suggested to get the following items ready.

Items needed	Teacher	Student
The Book Snakes, by Gail Gibbons	✓	
Lesson Plan	✓	
1 Vocab Poster	✓	
1 Info Organizer	✓	✓
1 Blank Paper for Drawing on Day 1	✓	✓
1 Reading Passage	✓	✓
1 Text Dependent Questions Set	✓	✓
Vocabulary	✓	✓
1 Snake Black and White Drawing	✓	✓
1 Snake Black and White Drawing with labels	✓	✓
1 Snake Color Drawing Poster	✓	✓
1 Snake Color Drawing Poster with labels	✓	✓

Teacher Finished Sample Package:

- 1 Snake Color Drawing with labels
- 1 Vocab Poster with labels
- 1 Info Organizer
- 1 Reading Passage
- 1 Text Dependent Questions Set
- 1 Vocab Poster

Teacher can blow the original sheet and make a sample into a poster and a student can use it.

Students may create their own sample by using the teacher's sample.

2. The lesson is designed as cross curriculum among ELA, Science/Animal/Reptile/Snake, and Fine Arts using close reading and GLAD strategies.

Getting Started: Snake Close Reading

1. It is suggested to put the following items ready.

Item	Teacher	Student
The book Snake by Gail Gibbons	V	
Lesson Plan	V	
Vocab Poster	V	
	* Teacher can blow the original black and white sample into a poster.	
1 Info Organizer	V	V
1 Blank Paper for Drawing on Day 1	V	V
1 Reading Passage	V	V
1 Text Dependent Questions Set	V	V
Vocabulary	V	V
1 Snake Black and White Drawing	V	
1 Snake Black and White Drawing with labels		
1 Snake Color Drawing Poster	*	*
1 Snake Color Drawing Poster with labels	Teacher can blow the original black and white sample into a poster and color it.	Students may create the poster in groups by using teacher's sample.
Teacher's sample Package: • 1 Snake Color Drawing with labels • 1 Vocab Poster with Post-it notes • 1 Info Organizer completed • 1 Reading Passage with marked answers • 1 Text Dependent Questions Set with answers • 1 Vocab Sheet with answers	* I tried to type as much as possible into the original sample. In the end, I had to write to model for your students.	
Sharpie	V	V
Crayon/Markers	V	V
Post-It	*	

V: must, *: optional

2. Read the lesson plan.
3. Look at the finished sample works included.
4. Photocopy 5 page package (1 Empty page, 1 Info Organizer, 1 Reading Passage, 1 Text Dependent Questions Set, and 1 Vocab Sheet) for students. Make an extra set for the teacher to use.
5. The lesson is designed to cross curriculum in Language Arts, Science/Animal/Reptile/Snake, and Fine Arts using close reading and GLAD strategies.

Term of Use

Copyright © Qiang Ma

All rights reserved by the author.

Credits

I draw all the clipart myself for all the products in my store.

Thank you so much and I hope you enjoy this lesson.

