

A royal king ... Lizard!?



Australia is home to many popular animals but none as incredible as the smart, ferocious, Monitor Lizard. Lets take you on a journey to find an example of an ordinary Monitor Lizard life.

BURIED BEFORE BORN

You creep up and see a pregnant female Monitor Lizard digging a hole and after she lays up to 10 eggs. A few days later a little nose pokes out of a leathery shell. Suddenly they all pop out as fast as popcorn, then they dig upwards. They need to, this depends on their lives. A few of them make it and rush to a nearby hiding place because adults may eat them. When they grow up they will be eating: eggs, fish, small reptiles, and even small mammals. Lets focus on one

male baby. He munches on his egg. His sister may be munching on a leaf depending on her habitat.

GENIUS LIZARD

The little monitor will live up to 30 years. He will spend that time hunting and making his home into a labyrinth to confuse creatures who are after him. Lets take our mind off of him for a second. What happens to Monitor Lizards in captivity? Experts like the Lizard Man study him. Experts test Monitor Lizards on how smart they are. One Monitor always plays with a white ball. Experts tested him by putting a black ball in the cage. He went to the white one. According to experts Monitors in captivity can also count to 6. Even not in captivity, Monitor Lizards are the smartest lizard.

ONE STYLISH LIZARD

Wait a second, did I even tell you what a Monitor Lizard is? Well they are big lizards, 310 cm long though they can be as small 12 cm their long necks and powerful tails sway as they walk. Anyway the young lizard just caught prey and is swallowing it whole because he doesn't have teeth. His scales are green but they could be gray, brown, and tan. He finishes his lunch and continues. If he eats his prey, who eats him? Nobody! His skin is so thick that animals can't bite into it. He walks for hours trying to sense enemies with his forked tongue.

SEARCHING FOR A SNACK

A big element that all predators do is, you name it hunting. Let's take a look at how Monitors hunt. They flick their tongue sensing a poisonous snake that could make a tasty snack. This monitor plans that he will go behind the snake and attack. The snake slithered underground. The lucky thing is that Monitors can also track underground. The bad thing is someone beat him to it. Another

Monitor using its powerful thighs pounced on the snake. Don't you think eating poison poisons the lizard? Well you're wrong they are immune to it so it is like a crunchy snake snack to them.

FINALLY THE END

You might think that monitors are like alligators, but once in awhile they enjoy a hug or two.

