

Just for Kids

SNAKES!

Connecticut is home to 14 different types of snakes. Ranging in size from 7 inches (eastern worm snake) to up to 68 inches (black rat snake), these reptiles are fascinating! They can swallow prey larger than their head, crawl without arms or legs, taste the air with their tongue and feel vibrations from the ground.



P. J. FUSCO (2)

The black rat snake can reach a length of almost six feet.

Shake, rattle and roll!

One of Connecticut's remarkable snakes is the eastern hognose snake. It gets its name from its upturned nose. If this snake is alarmed, it may hiss, inflate its "neck" like a cobra or roll over and play dead!



Scared of snakes?

Many people fear snakes. Snakes do not bite unless they feel threatened. If you see a snake, take a look at it and then walk away. Try to find out more about the snake when you get home. Maybe you can figure out what type of snake you saw, what it eats and other places that it lives. By learning about the snake, you will no longer be afraid of it. Guaranteed!!

For the record....

Only two Connecticut snakes, the northern copperhead and timber rattlesnake, are venomous and most people will never see them. Timber rattlesnakes are so rare in the state that they are on the endangered species list.

Myth or Reality?

1. Snakes make holes.
2. Snakes climb trees.
3. Eastern cottonmouths (water moccasins) live in Connecticut.
4. Milk snakes drink milk from cows.

Answers:

1. false; 2. true, some snakes do climb trees; 3. false, they are found in the southeastern U.S.; 4. false, may be found around barns where they search for mice to eat.