



BLACK ROCK DESERT
HIGH ROCK CANYON
EMIGRANT TRAILS



NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

Desert Horned Lizard



Richard-seaman.com

Desert Horned Lizard

Scientific Name:

*Phrynosoma
platyrhinos*

- ◆ Has a “dragon-like” appearance
- ◆ Wide, flattened body
- ◆ Short tail with a broad base
- ◆ Back of the head and temples are crowned with sharp, pointed horns
- ◆ Tails and sides are fringed with sharp spikes
- ◆ Color is gray and pastel shades of tan, brown, red, and yellow.
- ◆ Found in the Western portions of the United States
- ◆ Prefer to live in desert climates; dry, hot and sandy
- ◆ Feeds on spiders and ants.



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Desert Spiny Lizard



www.death-valley.us/article71.html

Desert Spiny Lizard

Scientific Name:

Sceloporus magister magister

- ◆ Large, rough scaled lizard
- ◆ Approximately 7 to 12 inches in length
- ◆ Skin is yellow to brown with some crossbanding and a black triangular mark with light rear edge on each shoulder.
- ◆ Throat is blue and it has blue patches on sides of belly; absent in females and young, who show more prominent crossbanding
- ◆ Live in dry areas at low elevation where vegetation and rocks provide adequate cover
- ◆ Feeds on insects; ants, beetles, flies, grasshoppers; other lizards and some plant material.





Dave Hildebrand

Gopher Snake

Scientific Name:

Pituophis melanoleucus

- ◆ 36-96 inches long
- ◆ Colors range from cream-yellow to green-gray to tan; with large red, black, and brown blotched on their backs.
- ◆ They have a dark line between their eyes and one that runs behind their eyes.
- ◆ They live in the desert flats, but prefer grasslands and open brush areas
- ◆ Feed on small rodents, young rabbits, lizards, birds, and other snakes.
- ◆ They are non-venomous.
- ◆ The common name for the Gopher snake is a Bull snake.



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Great Basin Collared Lizard



www.enature.com

Great Basin Collared Lizard

Scientific Name:

Crotaphytus bicinctores

- ◆ Large head with pale unpatterned area on top
- ◆ Conspicuous black and white collar across back of neck
- ◆ Brown above with white spotting, tan to yellow crossbands
- ◆ Inside of mouth is light colored
- ◆ Tail is flattened laterally
- ◆ Mature males have blue-gray throats with a black center and large dark spots in the groin
- ◆ Gravid females show red-orange spots on sides.
- ◆ Young usually have vivid crossbanding, lack dark throat coloring and groin blotches.
- ◆ Live in rocky terrain where vegetation is sparse.
- ◆ Feed on insects and will eat other lizards



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Leopard Lizard



www.sdnhm.org

Leopard Lizard

Scientific Name:

*Gambelia
wislizenii*

- ◆ Relatively large with a large, long snout, and long, round tail. Females measure about 5.8 inches and small males about 4.8 inches
- ◆ Have white, cream, or gray ground color with irregular brown or dark gray spots covering the head and body, and occasionally dark dorsal bars cross the back
- ◆ Tail has dark transverse bars giving the appearance of banding
- ◆ This species is found in desert flats and lower foothills with sparse vegetation
- ◆ Often seen basking on small rocks along the roadside. When threatened, it exhibits "freeze" behavior: it runs underneath a bush, flattens its body against the ground, and remains motionless



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Shorthorned Lizard



geocities.com/rainforests/vines/7951/hrndlzrd.html

Shorthorned Lizard

Scientific Name:

Phrynosoma douglassi

- ◆ Flat bodied lizard with short spines crowning their heads.
- ◆ Their trunk is fringed by one row of pointed scales
- ◆ They are gray, yellowish, or reddish-brown.
- ◆ Eat spiders and ants. They will not pursue their prey, they instead poise above it, and using a toad-like method, scoop it up with their sticky tongue.
- ◆ Live in the desert, Great Basin region. Like dry, sandy, arid environment.
- ◆ They bask during the first few hours of the day to warm their bodies, and at night, they burrow into the sand to stay warm.
- ◆ They are sometimes referred to a “horned toads”, but they are lizards.



Speckled Rattlesnake



Wilderness Survival

Speckled Rattlesnake

Scientific Name:

Crotalus mitchellii

- ◆ Grow to be 24 to 30 inches long, though some measuring almost 36 inches have been found
- ◆ Vary in color, but often match the earth tones of rocks and soil
- ◆ Can often be found on granite rocks where its coloration (camouflage) makes it difficult to see
- ◆ Most abundant in rocky habitats
- ◆ Feeds on small mammals, lizards and sometimes birds
- ◆ Normally and aggressive and irritable species



Western Banded Gecko



Western Banded Gecko

Scientific Name:

Coleonyx variegatus

www.sdnhm.org

- ◆ Medium-sized gecko with soft skin, short limbs, a pointed snout, large eyes, and functional eyelids
- ◆ Adults are approximately 6 inches long, females measure about 2.8 inches
- ◆ Adults are typically pale-yellow or light-gray in color. Red-brown spots cover the top of the head, and red-brown spots or bands cross the back



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Zebra Tailed Lizard



Chris Brown, USGS

Zebra Tailed Lizard

Scientific Name:

Callisaurus draconoides

- ◆ 6-9 inches long
- ◆ Has external ears and granular scales
- ◆ Coloring is gray with paired dusky spots down the back, crossbars on white underside of flattened tail and blue blotches on the belly.
- ◆ Eats beetles, grasshoppers, crickets, flies, ants, bees, wasps, moths, and spiders.
- ◆ Lives in sandy, gravelly desert flats with little vegetation.
- ◆ Burrows into fine sand for retreat at night and seeks shelter in the shade during the day.
- ◆ This is one of the fastest lizards in the desert, and it can jump up to several body lengths off the ground to capture flying insects.

