

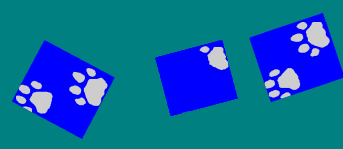
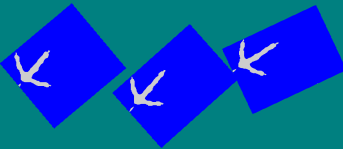


# Gopher Snake

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.

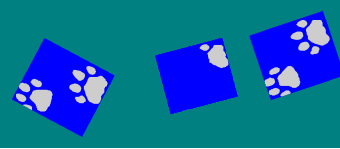
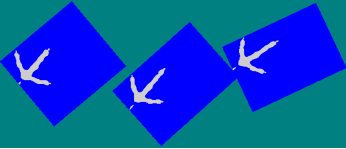
**Warning:** Even though Gopher snakes are non-venomous, **NEVER** attempt to touch or pick one up!



Scientific Name: *Crotalus viridis lutosus*

- Best identified by their blunt, rattle-tipped tail & thick, stocky bodies.
- Adult Great Basin rattlesnakes average 30-36 inches in length.
- Tan to yellow in color, with a series of darker oval blotches on their back.
- Found in a variety of habitats- greasewood/shadscale, sagebrush, pinyon/juniper, and fir/spruce. The unifying element of rattlesnake habitat is rock.
- Great Basin rattlesnakes hibernate in dens, southern exposed rock outcrops, during the winter, emerging in May to bask in the spring sun.
- They forage for mice, rats, ground squirrels, gophers, birds, and lizards.
- Their venomous bite, although rarely fatal, is used only for feeding and defense.

**Warning:** To avoid being bitten by a rattlesnake, do not put your hands where you cannot see, be aware of your surroundings, never kill or capture a rattlesnake, and give all rattlesnakes a wide berth, up to 6 feet, to allow for safe passage. If you are bitten, remain calm and seek help immediately.



# Northern Desert Horned Lizard



Scientific Name: *Phrynosoma platyrhinos platyrhinos*

- Very wide, flattened, toad-like bodies.
- The tail is short but broad at the base.
- The back of the head and temples are crowned with a prominent row of sharp, pointed horns.
- The squat form and head armor has given rise to the name "hornytoad," "horned toad" and "horned lizards."
- In the fall, they hibernate by burying themselves in the sand. They emerge in the spring when the sun's rays have reached a certain temperature.
- Ants seem to be their major food source, although they also feed on slow-moving, ground-dwelling insects, spiders, sow bugs, an occasional tick and even items as large as the butterfly and sphynx moth larvae.
- After feeding, when ground temperature becomes too hot, they seek the shade of a shrub, partially concealing themselves, where they spend the remainder of the day.
- Their defense mechanism is quite limited. When caught, they may distend their bodies by filling their lungs with air and twist their head in a futile attempt to scratch you with their horns. On occasion they spurt blood from the corners of their eyes.