

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Garter Snake

Thamnophis sirtalis

The garter snake is a common, non-venomous snake widely distributed across North America. Recognizable by the distinctive stripes running lengthwise along its body, garter snakes display a variety of...

Quick facts

Classification: Reptile

Family: Colubridae

Habitat: Wetlands, grasslands, forests, and near freshwater sources

Diet: Carnivore

Conservation status: Least Concern

Lifespan: 4-6 years in the wild, up to 10 years in captivity

Weight: 80-150 grams

Scientific name: *Thamnophis sirtalis*

Did you know?

- Despite being harmless to humans, some garter snakes can eat toxic newts and become mildly toxic themselves, deterring predators.
- Garter snakes can secrete a mildly toxic saliva to subdue small prey. They are among the few snakes in North America that give birth to live young ra...

What I learned
