CREATURE ATLAS

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

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