

Reptile and Amphibian Study

Merit Badge Workbook



This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.

This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor. You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information. You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed, and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.

If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show", "tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.

	•		e official requirements four issued or revised in <u>2018</u>	 This workbook was updated in <u>February 2018</u>. 		
Sc	out's Name:			· — —		
	Diagon		w.USScouts.Org •	http://www.MeritBadge.Org		
				ns about this workbook to: Workbooks@USScouts.Org he merit badge should be sent to: Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org		
1.	For any four of the	ese, make sketches	from your own observat it in the identification of e	es and four species of amphibians found in the United States. ions or take photographs. Show markings, color patterns, or each of the four species. Discuss the habits and habitats of all		
	Species					
	ldentifyir Habits:	ng Characteristics				
	Habitat:					

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Reptile and Amphibian Study	Scout's Name:
Species	
Identifying Characteristics	
,	
Habits:	
Habitat:	
Species	
Identifying Characteristics	
Habits:	
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Reptile and Amphibian Study	Scout's Name:			
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Identifying Characteristics				
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Identifying Characteristics				
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<u>Amphibians</u>				
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Reptile and Amphibian Study	Scout's Name:
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Identifying Characteristics	
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Habitat:	
Species	
Identifying Characteristics	
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Habits:	
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Species	ı
Identifying Characteristics	
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For any four of these, make sketches from your own observations or take photographs. Show markings, color patterns, or other characteristics that are important in the identification of each of the four species.

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		4

2. Discuss with your merit badge counselor the approximate number of species and general geographic distribution of reptiles and amphibians in the United States.



Prepare a list of the most common species found in your local area or state.

Reptiles	Amphibians
+	

eptile and Amphibian Study	Scout's Name:
	officially protected by the federal government or state you live in, and tell why each is protected. es and three species of amphibians found in your local area that are not protected. Discuss the ies.
1. Species	
Why protected?	
Food habits:	
2. Species	
Why protected?	
Food habits:	
-	

3. Species

Why protected?

Food habits:

Reptile	and Amphibi	an Study	Scout's Name:
4.	Species		
	<u> </u>	otected?	
	Food ha	abits:	
	protected Re	eptiles	
1.	L	alaita.	
	Food ha	adits:	
2.	Species		
	Food ha	abits:	
3.	Species		
	Food ha	abits:	
Un	protected Ar	nphibians	i
1.			
	Food ha	abits:	
			i de la companya de

Reptile and Amphi	ibian Study	Scout's Name:
	•	
2. Species		
Food	habits:	
-		
3. Species		
Food	habits:	
5. Describe how	reptiles and amphibians reproduce.	
Reptiles		
Amphibians		
6. From observa	Ltion, describe how snakes move forward.	
o. Hom observa	tion, describe now shakes move forward.	
Describe the f	functions of the muscles, ribs, and belly plates.	

geographic range.	venomous snakes and the one venomous lizard found in the United States. Describe their habits and
Venomous Snake 1	
Description:	
Habits:	
Range:	
range.	
Venomous Snake 2	
Description:	
Habits:	
Range:	
90.	
Venomous Snake 3	
Description:	
Habits:	
Range:	
9	
	1

Scout's Name: __

Reptile and Amphibian Study

Reptile and Amphibian Stu	udy	Scout's Name:	
Venomous Snake 4			
Description:			
Habits:			
Range:			
Venomous Snake 5			
Description:			
Habits:			
Range:			
Venomous Snake 6			
Description:			
Habits:			
Range:			
	i		

Reptile and Amphibian Study			Scout's Name:					
Venom	nous Lizai	rd						
De	escription	:						
Ha	abits:							
5								
Ka	ange:							
Tell wh	at vou sh	ould do in case of a b	ite hy a ven	omous sn	ecies			
TON WITH	at you on		nic by a ven	omous sp				
8. Do ONI		•	or omphibi	ana far at	locat a month Da	oord the	food accepted a	ating mathods, abangos ir
∐ а.	colorati	on, shedding of skins	, and genera	al habits; c	or keep the eggs o	f a reptil	e from the time of	ating methods, changes ir laying until hatching; or
	keep the eggs of an amphibian from (salamanders).			time of lay	ing until their trans	sformation of the contract of	on into tadpoles (fi	rogs) or larvae ling this requirement.)
		(s) or Amphibian(s) M	laintained:		10001	10 11010	on page to regard	ing the requirement,
	Dates:	(-) - [(-)						
	Day	Food Accepted	Eating M	lethods	Color Change	s	Skin Shedding	General Habits
	1							
	2							
	3							
	4							
	5							
	6							
	7							
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30							
31							
Choose a reptile or amphibian that you can observe at a local zoo, aquarium, nature center, or other such exhibit (such as your classroom or school). Study the specimen weekly for a period of three months. At each visit, sketch the specimen in its captive habitat and note any changes in its coloration, shedding of skins, and general habits and behavior. Find out, either from information you locate on your own or by talking to the caretaker, what this species eats and what are its native habitat and home range, preferred climate, average life expectancy, and natural predators. Also identify any human caused threats to its population and any laws that protect the species and its habitat. After the observation period, share what you have learned with your counselor. (Note: Make your sketches on separate pages and attach them to the workbook.)							
	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 Choose (such a sthe special surpredator ar predator ar predator ar predator ar surpredator ar	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 Choose a reptile or amphibia (such as your classroom or s the specimen in its captive habehavior. Find out, either froeats and what are its native hardened behavior. Also identify any had been as the specimen in the captive habehavior. Find out, either froeats and what are its native habehavior. Also identify any had been as the specimen in the captive habehavior. Find out, either froeats and what are its native habehavior. Also identify any habehavior. Also identify any habehavior.	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 Choose a reptile or amphibian that you can observ (such as your classroom or school). Study the spethe specimen in its captive habitat and note any che behavior. Find out, either from information you loce eats and what are its native habitat and home rang predators. Also identify any human caused threats habitat. After the observation period, share what y	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 Choose a reptile or amphibian that you can observe at a local zoo, aquar (such as your classroom or school). Study the specimen weekly for a per the specimen in its captive habitat and note any changes in its coloration behavior. Find out, either from information you locate on your own or by eats and what are its native habitat and home range, preferred climate, a predators. Also identify any human caused threats to its population and habitat. After the observation period, share what you have learned with you have learned wit	11		

Reptile and Amphibian Study

Scout's Name:

Reptile and Amphibian Study					Scout's Name:		
9. Do	TWC	of the	following:				
□ a.	Identif with a	y at night th flashlight a	nree kinds of toad and discover how	ds or frogs by their voices. Imitate the song of each for your counselor. Stalk each v each sings and from where.			
			1.				
			2.				
			3.				
	b.	Identif		ight species of re	reptiles or amphibians.		
	•		1.	<u> </u>			
			2.				
			3.				
			4.				
			5.				
			6.				
			7.				
			8.				
	c.	Using		give a brief talk	to a small group on three different reptiles and amphibians.		
ш			-				
10. Giv	ve five	super	stitions abo	out reptiles and ar	amphibians and a correct explanation for each.		
		•	Superst		Explanation		
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.	4.						
5.							

Reptile and Amphibian Study	Scout's Name:
Give seven examples of unusual behavior or ot	ther true facts about reptiles and amphibians.
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	

NOTE: Scouts must not use venomous reptiles in fulfilling requirement 8a. Species listed by federal or state law as endangered, protected, or threatened must not be used as live specimens in completing requirement 8a. When you decide keeping your specimen is no longer possible or desired, be sure to find another appropriate home for it or return it to the wild at the location of capture. Check with your merit badge counselor for those instances where the return of these specimens would not be appropriate.

Under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, some plants and animals are, or may be, protected by federal law. The same ones and/or others may be protected by state law. Be sure that you do not collect protected species.

Your state may require that you purchase and carry a license to collect certain species. Check with the wildlife and fish and game officials in your state regarding species regulations before you begin to collect.

When working on merit badges, Scouts and Scouters should be aware of some vital information in the current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* (BSA publication 33088).Important excerpts from that publication can be downloaded from http://usscouts.org/advance/docs/GTA-Excerpts-meritbadges.pdf.

You can download a complete copy of the Guide to Advancement from http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf.