



Say hello to our cool scaly friend, the spiny-tailed lizard! These awesome creatures have tiny spiky scales covering their tails which add to their unique look. Their bodies are usually a blend of brown and grey, making them great at blending into their natural surroundings. And guess what? Some of them can even change their color subtly depending on their moods, just like a chameleon!



Carrying on from their unique look, let's talk about where these spiky pals like to hang out. Spiny-tailed lizards are usually found in the arid and semi-arid regions, which are places that are super dry and hot, like deserts! They love to live in rocky outcrops, burrows and even in trees, wherever they can find a good hideout. They are mostly found in North Africa and the Middle East, living the sunny life!

From their sunny homes, let's move to what our little friends like to munch on. Spiny-tailed lizards are omnivores, which means they eat both plants and other animals! Their diet mostly consists of small insects, spiders, and sometimes they even eat smaller lizards. But they also love to eat various plants, fruits, and even flowers when they get a chance.



Now that we know what they eat, let's see how they behave with other animals and humans. Spiny-tailed lizards are usually pretty shy and they like to keep to themselves. However, when they feel threatened, they use their spiky tails as a defense mechanism against predators. While they're not typically kept as pets, they're definitely a fascinating creature to learn about, wouldn't you agree?

**Solve each problem.****Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) What do the spiky scales on the spiny-tailed lizard's tail look like?
A. Round and colorful B. Soft and squishy
C. Big and smooth D. Tiny and spiky
- 2) What color is the blend that Spiny-tailed lizards usually have on their bodies?
A. Brown and grey B. Purple and pink
C. Orange and blue D. Yellow and green
- 3) Are the spiny-tailed lizards kept as pets generally?
A. Yes, they make good pets B. No, they're not typically kept as pets
C. Yes, they are very popular as pets D. Only when they are babies
- 4) Where are spiny-tailed lizards mostly found?
A. Australia and New Zealand B. South America and Antarctica
C. North Africa and the Middle East D. Europe and Asia
- 5) What kind of regions can we find spiny-tailed lizards in?
A. Cold and snowy regions B. Coastal areas and beaches
C. Rainforests and jungles D. Arid and semi-arid regions
- 6) What is the primary diet of spiny-tailed lizards?
A. Carrots and lettuce B. Pizza and hamburgers
C. Insects and spiders D. Apples and bananas
- 7) What type of diet do spiny-tailed lizards have?
A. They are omnivores B. They are herbivores
C. They are insectivores D. They are carnivores

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 8) "You will be surprised to know that I eat not only plants but also small insects and spiders. Yummy!"
- 9) "My body is covered in tiny spiky scales, especially on my tail!"
- 10) "When I am at home, I love to lounge around in rocky outcrops and sometimes even in trees."
- 11) "I can't climb trees. I'd rather stay on the ground all day."
- 12) "Usually, I'm pretty shy and like to be alone, but when I get scared I use my spiky tail as a defense."
- 13) "What's this tail for? Oh, just for show really. I never use it to defend myself."
- 14) "My fellow spiky lizards and I usually live in northern parts of Africa and the Middle East."
- 15) "I'm 100% carnivore. I don't touch plants, fruits or flowers!"
- 16) "Deserts are way too hot! We prefer living in chilly snowy mountain areas."
- 17) "Warm and dry places? Nah, I prefer a good damp forest."

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 18) Spiders, insects, and smaller lizards make up the diet of spiny-tailed lizards.



Spiny Tailed Lizard

Name: _____

- 19) Spiny-tailed lizards are the coolest because they have tiny spiky scales all over their bodies.
- 20) Spiny-tailed lizards can be found in various locations in Africa and the Middle East.
- 21) It's really cool that spiny-tailed lizards will eat both plants and other animals.
- 22) Some spiny-tailed lizards can change their color in response to their mood.
- 23) Spiny-tailed lizards' ability to change their color subtly depending on their moods is truly fascinating.
- 24) When attacked, spiny-tailed lizards can use their spiked tails for self-defense.
- 25) Spiny-tailed lizards are known to reside in dry and hot areas.
- 26) It is scary that spiny-tailed lizards use their spiky tails as a defense.
- 27) It is impressive that spiny-tailed lizards can live in trees as well as burrows.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 28) Spiny-tailed lizards will sometimes eat smaller lizards.
- 29) Spiny-tailed lizards are found all over the world.
- 30) Spiny-tailed lizards are found mostly in North Africa and the Middle East.
- 31) Spiny-tailed lizards do not have any defenses against predators.
- 32) Spiny-tailed lizards are usually found in arid and semi-arid regions.
- 33) Spiny-tailed lizards live in the snowy regions of Antarctica.
- 34) Spiny-tailed lizards are herbivores and eat only plants.
- 35) A spiny-tailed lizard's tail is covered in fur.
- 36) Spiny-tailed lizards use their spiky tails as a defense mechanism.
- 37) Spiny-tailed lizards can change their color depending on their moods.

Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 38) Spiny tailed lizards can change color to blend in with their surroundings.
- 39) How long do spiny tailed lizards live?
- 40) Spiny tailed lizards eat insects and plants.
- 41) Spiny tailed lizards can live in the desert.
- 42) Are spiny tailed lizards dangerous to humans?
- 43) How big do spiny tailed lizards get?



Spiny Tailed Lizard

Name: _____

1. _____ 26. _____
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1. **D** 26. **opinion**

2. **A** 27. **opinion**

3. **B** 28. **true**

4. **C** 29. **false**

5. **D** 30. **true**

6. **C** 31. **false**

7. **A** 32. **true**

8. **Would** 33. **false**

9. **Would** 34. **false**

10. **Would** 35. **false**

11. **Not** 36. **true**

12. **Would** 37. **true**

13. **Not** 38. **declarative**

14. **Would** 39. **interrogative**

15. **Not** 40. **declarative**

16. **Not** 41. **declarative**

17. **Not** 42. **interrogative**

18. **fact** 43. **interrogative**

19. **opinion**

20. **fact**

21. **opinion**

22. **fact**

23. **opinion**

24. **fact**

25. **fact**

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C. D. Tiny and spiky

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A. Brown and grey B. Purple and pink
C. D.

- 3) Are the spiny-tailed lizards kept as pets generally? (paragraph 4)
A. Yes, they make good pets B. No, they're not typically kept as pets
C. D.

- 4) Where are spiny-tailed lizards mostly found? (paragraph 2)
A. Australia and New Zealand B.
C. North Africa and the Middle East D.

- 5) What kind of regions can we find spiny-tailed lizards in? (paragraph 2)
A. Cold and snowy regions B. Coastal areas and beaches
C. D. Arid and semi-arid regions

- 6) What is the primary diet of spiny-tailed lizards? (paragraph 3)
A. B. Pizza and hamburgers
C. Insects and spiders D.

- 7) What type of diet do spiny-tailed lizards have? (paragraph 3)
A. They are omnivores B.
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- 11) "I can't climb trees. I'd rather stay on the ground all day." (paragraph 2)

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