

I am a FAT-TAILED GECKO

I'm an endangered, nocturnal, terrestrial, egg-laying reptile

Look at me !

I am very small and I have a fat tail and toe pads. I have lots of tiny teeth for crunching up insects.
 I use my fat tail to plug up the holes where I hide, and for storing food.
 I use my long tongue to lick my eyes to keep them moist.
 I need big, round eyes to see at night.

What do I eat ?

I eat termites and insects.



DID YOU KNOW?

I store fat in my tail for when food supplies are low!

Where do I live ?

Dry desert scrublands with rocks, leaf litter and holes for me to shelter.

How do I reproduce?

I lay 2 eggs, 3-5 times every year.

Things I do !

I hide in underground places like trap-door spider holes, then plug up the hole with my fat tail to keep out predators and keep in moisture.

My predators

Feral cats and foxes.

Why am I an endangered species?

I am endangered because of trampling by livestock which disturbs the soil, cracks, holes and leaf litter that I hide in.



MY SPECIAL ADAPTATIONS (use the text)

I have a long tongue for _____

I have big eyes for _____

I have a fat tail for _____

I have tiny teeth for _____

What is my body covering?

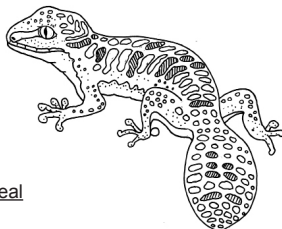
How does it help to protect me?

COLOUR YES OR NO

- | | | | |
|---|--------|---|--------|
| 1. Does a Fat-tailed Gecko lay eggs? | YES NO | 5. Does a Fat-tailed Gecko live in trees? | YES NO |
| 2. Is a Fat-tailed Gecko <u>herbivorous</u> ? | YES NO | 6. Do Fat-tailed Geckoes swim? | YES NO |
| 3. Do Fat-tailed Geckoes have lungs? | YES NO | 7. Do they live in the rainforest? | YES NO |
| 4. Does a Fat-tailed Gecko have teeth? | YES NO | 8. Do they hide in holes for protection? | YES NO |

FIND THE WORD MEANINGS, THEN CIRCLE THE WORDS THAT DESCRIBE ME

- diurnal warm-blooded migratory herbivorous terrestrial
- carnivorous marine lizard cold-blooded
- camouflaged reptile endangered nocturnal viviparous
- arboreal aquatic alpine

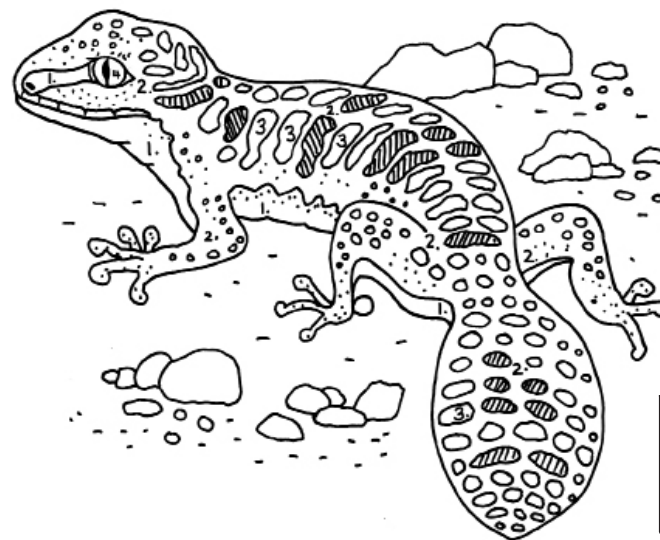


Find out more at

www.bie.ala.org.au/species/Fat-tailed+Gecko
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/determinations/FatTailedDiplodactylusEndSpListing.htm

FAT-TAILED GECKO

Hemiteconyx caudicinctus



Maximum size
7cm
long

Sharp, quality coloured pencils are recommended for a better result. Use a field guide or the coloured photos on the disc to check colours.

I am found in these parts of Australia



Colour by number

- White
- Pale reddish brown
- Orange brown spots
- Tan

Draw some more rocks and holes in the picture for me to hide in.

Draw a line below that is only 7 cm long to show how tiny I really am. Use a ruler.

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS IN MY HABITAT?
 WHAT DO I DO TO SURVIVE IN HARSH, DRY CONDITIONS?