

Shingleback Lizard

Tiliqua rugosa



WHO AM I?

Shingleback Lizards are a type of **reptile**. They are covered in large rough **scales** that are usually dark brown.

They have very large heads with short stumpy tails and small reddish-brown eyes and a bright blue tongue. They have a short, stumpy tail that looks like their head.

They move very slowly due to their short legs, small claws and long bodies. They have large teeth and very strong jaw muscles.

BEHAVING LIKE A SHINGLEBACK

Shingleback lizards are **omnivores**, which means they eat both plants and animals. Shingleback lizards are experts at **camouflaging**. This means they blend into their surroundings and are very difficult to see.

Although Shingleback lizards are reptiles, they do not lay **eggs**. In fact, they give birth to live young which is very special for a reptile.

They will only have one partner for their whole lives.

If a Shingleback lizard feels frightened by a predator, they will stick out their bright blue tongue in an attempt to scare them off.

My name is Gramps (short for Grandpa because I am very slow moving and am quite old).

I love warming up my body under the sun or a heat lamp.

FAST FACTS

Shingleback lizards have many names, such as, Stumpy-tailed lizard, Pinecone lizard, Sleepy lizard, Bobtail lizard and the Two-headed lizard.

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Females grow bigger than males and have a slightly pointed tail, males have a much more rounded tail.

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They can survive without water for two whole weeks.

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A new born is already half the size of it Mum when it is born.

FINDING A SHINGLEBACK

The Shingleback lizard is found only in **Australia**.

They like to live in cool to mild **environments**.

Their **habitat** must have lots of grass, shrubs and trees. They like to spend the night time and cooler parts of the day sheltered under fallen logs, rocks and leaf litter.

They love to spend time soaking up the sun to warm up their bodies.