



## Student Worksheet ANSWERS Tortoise Level

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Find the answers to all of these questions by exploring the dome and watching the snake show!*

### **SAFARI ROOM** (located in the center of the Skydome)

1. Name one type of habitat in the Safari Room: Desert, jungle/rainforest, stream/pond
2. Most of the small lizards in this room are green or brown. Why do you think that is? The colors help them camouflage from predators when they are climbing trees
3. Look at the beaks on the parrots. What do you think they eat? Hard-shelled nuts, fruits
4. Which reptiles prefer to live in the water, the turtles or the tortoises? Turtles

### **MEZZANINE** (upstairs level of the Skydome)

5. There is a big snake skeleton in a glass case. What kind of snake is it? Burmese Python
6. List 3 native South Dakota reptiles that are on display: Our display may include the Prairie Rattlesnake, Bull Snake, Eastern Yellow-bellied Racer, Wandering Garter Snake, Plains Garter Snake, Smooth Green Snake, and Pale Milk Snake
7. Find the King Cobra! What is the record length for this snake? 18 feet long
8. Find and identify a monitor lizard that likes to eat cockroaches: Blue/Black/Green Tree Monitors
9. What kind of background would the Gaboon Viper blend into? Fallen leaves, shadows, dry grasses

### **LOWER RING** (downstairs level of the Skydome)

10. Find the critically endangered Cuban Crocodiles. What do you think endangered means? Answers may vary; an explicit definition might not currently be on display, but can be inferred by context. An "endangered" animal is a species at risk of extinction.
11. What is the scientific name of the American Alligator? Alligator mississippiensis
12. How many people have died from Gila Monster bites? Zero. There are no fatalities on record.
13. What gives the Blue Death Feigning Beetles their blue color? Waxy secretion that prevents moisture loss
14. What do the Amazon Milk Frogs eat? Insects and anything else they can swallow
15. How toxic is the venom of the black widow compared to the venom of most rattlesnakes? 15 times as toxic

## **SNAKE SHOW**

16. Are snakes slimy? No
17. How do snakes like pythons kill their prey? They constrict it. They wrap themselves around their prey and squeeze it until it can no longer breathe
18. If you see a rattlesnake outside, what should you do? Stop, figure out where the rattlesnake is, and walk slowly in the opposite direction.
19. Draw your favorite animal at Reptile Gardens, and where it would live: Answers vary

### **BONUS QUESTION: VERY HARD!!!**

What do you get if you cross a snake with a pie? A pie-thon!