

The Bullsnake



What Does The Bullsnake Look Like?

The Bullsnake is one of Missouri's longest snakes. It reaches a length of 50 – 72 inches. The dorsal (top) side has dark brown to tan square blotches on a yellow to light yellow background. The blotches get darker near the tail and head. The sides have alternating blotches that are smaller than the ones on top. The head is mostly yellow with dark bands. The young are pale gray colored with black splotches.

What Is the Bullsnake's Habitat?

Bullsnaakes range from the central plains of the United States to the dry regions of the Southwest.

Bullsnaakes live in grassland areas and old fields in former prairies. They can be found in clumps of grass or brush and in other animal

burrows that have been abandoned. They could even be found living around a barn where farmers appreciate their mouse and rat catching abilities.

What Does the Bullsnake Eat?

The bullsnake eats small mammals, especially rodents, birds and eggs. They generally hunt in the morning or evening. When killing their prey they wrap their body tightly around the prey and squeeze. Once the snake is finished constricting it eats its prey.

Bullsnares are able to climb trees in search of eggs and small birds because of their ability to constrict and relax individual muscles.

Cool Facts about the Bullsnake

When frightened the Bullsnake imitates a rattlesnake. It flattens its head out, hisses, puffs out its body, shakes its tail and strikes repeatedly.

