

## OXBOW AT HOME

# The Kings of Oxbow

## Wildlife Wednesday Reflection Questions

Premieres Live April 15<sup>th</sup> at Noon (EST) on Facebook @CSUOxbowMeadows

How do king snakes kill their prey?

King snakes are constrictors. They squeeze their prey before consuming it.

How does a snake eat their food?

A snake eats their food in one gulp, without chewing. Snakes push their food down their throat using muscles in their mouth and then use the muscles down their body to work it down into its stomach.

What adaptations do king snakes use to help them survive?

King snakes use their Jacobson's organ to smell or sense prey and predators, use their camouflage colors to blend in, swallow their food whole, use their vertebrae to support their bodies, have scales for covering, and so on.

Label the food items below. Circle the food that a snake may eat.



lizard



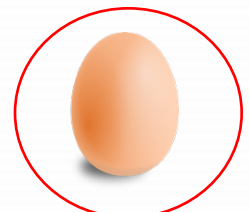
lettuce



mouse



mushroom



eggs

A snake is a(n) carnivore (meat eater). (herbivore, carnivore, omnivore)

What was the "superpower" that king snakes have you learned about from watching Wildlife Wednesday: Kings of Oxbow episode premiered April 15th?

King snakes can eat venomous snakes, like rattlesnakes without being hurt or harmed. They are not affected by the venom like many other animals would be.

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What does venomous mean?

**Biting, injecting or secreting venom, or toxin.**

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There are 42 species of snakes that are native to Georgia, or call Georgia home. Only six of those species are venomous species. What fraction (and/or percentage) of snake species that live in Georgia are venomous?

**Fraction:**

$$42 / 6 = 7$$

**Decimal:**

$$1 / 7 = 0.14$$

Therefore,  $\frac{6}{42} = \frac{1}{7}$

**Percentage:**

$$1 / 7 = 14\%$$

The venomous species in Georgia include Copperhead, Cottonmouth (or Water Moccasin), Coral, Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake, Timber Rattlesnake, and Pygmy Rattlesnake. Three of the species in Georgia are types of rattlesnakes. What fraction of total snake species in Georgia are rattlesnakes?

**Fraction:**

$$42 / 3 = 12$$

**Decimal:**

$$1 / 12 = 0.08$$

Therefore,  $\frac{3}{42} = \frac{1}{12}$

**Percentage:**

$$1 / 12 = 8\%$$

Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnakes can grow up to 7 feet long. How many inches long is that? How many centimeters long is that?

Hint: 1 foot = 12 inches  
1 inch = (about) 2.5 centimeters

$$12 \text{ inches} \times 7 \text{ feet} = 84 \text{ inches}$$

$$84 \text{ inches} \times 2.5 \text{ centimeters} = 210 \text{ centimeters}$$