

Chameleons!



Chameleons are reptiles. These lizards live in warm habitats like rainforests or deserts. They mostly prefer to live in trees and bushes, but a few live on the ground. They can be $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch to 27 inches long.

Special color pigment cells under the skin allow some chameleon species to change their skin color to bright colors. They change colors because of temperature changes and their mood. If one turns dark, it is not happy.

Their unique eyes bulge out from their heads. Each eye can rotate 180 degrees. A chameleon can look for its lunch with one eye, while the other eye looks out for predators.

Another amazing feature of this animal is its enormous tongue, almost twice as long as its body. The reptile fires its tongue like a weapon at its prey, catches it, and then zaps it back into its mouth.

Different chameleon species also have different decorations on their heads. Some have little horns, while others might have crests.

Chameleons eat mostly large insects like grasshoppers, crickets, walking sticks and locusts.

Larger chameleons might eat small birds.



Star Words

bulge
deserts
rainforests
reptiles
rotate
unique



1. Why might a chameleon change color?

2. Why are chameleon's eyes unique?

3. Describe the chameleon's tongue.

** Color the black and white picture.
** Highlight the "star" words in the writing.