

# Science Olympiad 2019: Herpetology

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Burgess-Shadbush Nature Center

# Event Description

Assessment of knowledge of the field of “herpetology”  
(the study of reptiles and amphibians)

Approx. test time: 50 minutes

Team Size: 1-2 students

# Competition Parameters

- Each TEAM gets *one resource binder (2" or smaller)* and *one copy of the 2019 Official State Herpetology List*.
- Resources in the binder must be attached/ secured by the rings EXCEPT the 2019 State List.
- Materials must stay secured in the binder AT ALL TIMES during competition and may not be removed.

# Things to Know

- Questions will be distributed between reptiles and amphibians.
- Basic identification/ taxonomy as indicated on the 2019 Michigan Herpetology List
  - ✓ Anatomy & physiology
  - ✓ Behavior
  - ✓ Reproduction
  - ✓ Conservation
  - ✓ Habitat characteristics
  - ✓ Taxonomy
  - ✓ Ecology
  - ✓ Sounds
  - ✓ Diet
  - ✓ Biogeography

# Things to Know

- No more than 50% of competition will require giving common or scientific names (class, order, suborder, family, or genus as indicated on the State List)

# Example Questions



# Example Questions

What specialized body part does this specimen have for capturing its primary type of prey?



NICK SCOBEL 2012

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# Example Questions

The study of herpetology is important to our understanding of the environment. The sensitivity of these species to changes in their environment mean that they are great \_\_\_\_\_ for scientists to study.





# Example Questions

This specimen has a mid-life/ juvenile developmental stage where it is terrestrial. What is the specimen called when it is in this stage?



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