Reptile Scavenger Hunt Activity

Materials:
18 reptile fact cards (pages 2-6)
Reptile questions worksheet (pages 7-8)
Tape and scissors

Preparation
Print the reptile fact cards on card stock or brightly-colored paper and cut them apart along the dotted lines.

Make copies of the reptile questions worksheet (2-sided). Each student will need his or her own copy.

Hide all 18 reptile fact cards around your classroom where students will be able to find them. You can put them on the back of your classroom door, on chairs, on the computer keyboard, on the sides of student desks, or wherever you like.

Activity
Students receive copies of the question worksheet. They have to search the classroom to find the fact cards to answer the questions.

After they have completed the question sheet, you can go over the answers together with the class.

Management tips
You may want to make this a silent activity so students don't share answers with each other.

You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.

Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.

Examples of good hiding spots might include:
- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
- the back of the classroom door
- laying flat on the bookshelf
- on the back of the teacher's chair
- on the side of your computer monitor

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.
Fact Card 1

Reptile

The smallest snake in the world is the Thread Snake, found in the West Indies. When it is full-grown, it is about 3 inches long.

Fact Card 2

Reptile

Galapagos tortoises are some of the oldest living animals on Earth. One tortoise is known to be over 150 years old.

Fact Card 3

Reptile

A horned lizard can squirt blood out of its eyes when it feels threatened.

Fact Card 4

Reptile

The heaviest type of snake in the world is the green anaconda. It can grow to over 300 pounds!
The Komodo dragon is the largest species of lizard on Earth. It has been known to eat birds, monkeys, goats, deer, and even horses!

Some species of snakes can see through their eyelids.

A turtle's shell has over 60 bones inside of it.

Turtles live on every continent, except Antarctica.
Alligators have about 80 teeth.

Female sea turtles lay up to 150 eggs at a time. They bury their eggs on a sandy beach and return to the ocean.

When a female alligator is ready to lay eggs, she digs a nest in the mud. She lays her eggs in the nest and guards it carefully until her babies have hatched.

Do you know the difference between an alligator and a crocodile? Alligators have wide, U-shaped snouts with a rounded end. Crocodiles have a V-shaped snout with a pointed end.
When a lizard loses its tail, it can grow a new one. This is one way it can protect itself from predators.

A chameleon is a lizard that can change its skin color to blend in with its surroundings.

Reptiles are usually more active in warm temperatures. When the temperature cools, most reptiles slow down or become totally inactive.

Snakes use their tongues to smell their environment.
In Southeast Asia, there are actually flying lizards! They don't fly exactly like birds though. They can flatten their bodies and glide from tree to tree in the forest.

Most reptiles shed their old skin several times each year. They usually leave the old skin laying on the ground. You'll never find a gecko's skin though. A gecko eats its skin when it falls from its body.
Reptile Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: What is the smallest species of snake in the world?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 2: What species of reptile can live to be over 150 years old?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 3: In what unusual way does a horned lizard protect itself?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 4: What is the heaviest species of snake in the world?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 5: Name five animals that a Komodo dragon can eat.
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 6: What is unusual about the eyelids of some snakes?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 7: How many bones are in a turtle’s shell?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 8: Name all of the continents that turtles do not live on.
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 9: How many teeth does an alligator have?
__________________________________________________________________
Fact Card 10: Where do female sea turtles lay their eggs?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 11: Where do female alligators lay their eggs?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 12: How is a crocodile’s snout different from an alligator’s snout?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 13: What happens to a lizard if it loses its tail?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 16: What do snakes use their tongues for?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 17: Where might you find a flying lizard?

__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 18: What does a gecko do when it sheds its skin?

__________________________________________________________________
**Reptile Scavenger Hunt**

**Fact Card 1:** What is the smallest species of snake in the world?
- thread snake

**Fact Card 2:** What species of reptile can live to be over 150 years old?
- Galapagos tortoise

**Fact Card 3:** In what unusual way does a horned lizard protect itself?
- squirts blood from its eyes

**Fact Card 4:** What is the heaviest species of snake in the world?
- green anaconda

**Fact Card 7:** How many bones are in a turtle’s shell?
- over 60

**Fact Card 8:** Name all of the continents that turtles do not live on.
- Antarctica

**Fact Card 9:** How many teeth does an alligator have?
- about 80
Fact Card 10: Where do female sea turtles lay their eggs?
in the sand on a beach

Fact Card 11: Where do female alligators lay their eggs?
in a nest made of mud

Fact Card 12: How is a crocodile's snout different from an alligator's snout?
An alligator has a U-shaped snout. A crocodile has a V-shaped snout.

Fact Card 13: What happens to a lizard if it loses its tail?
It grows a new one.

Fact Card 16: What do snakes use their tongues for?
smelling

Fact Card 17: Where might you find a flying lizard?
Southeast Asia

Fact Card 18: What does a gecko do when it sheds its skin?
Geckos eat their skin when they shed it.