Snakes
By Mariah Deitrick

A snake can glide from side to side. They’re really long and like to hide.

They have long backbones, but no hair.

They taste your scent if you are near, and hiss a threat for you to hear.

It’s wise of you to clear their way, so you don’t have an awful day!
1. When does a snake hiss?
   a. when it is eating
   b. when it hunts for food
   c. when it is threatened
   d. when it uses its tongue

2. What body part do snakes use to taste the air?
   ____________________________

3. Do snakes have bones? ____________________________

4. Do snakes have hair? ____________________________

5. The poet thinks people should...
   a. stay away from snakes
   b. pick up snakes
   c. wear boots when you walk by snakes
   d. keep snakes as pets
Read each sentence from the poem, “Snakes.” Then, choose the best meaning for the underlined word in each sentence.

1. A snake can **glide**, from side to side.
   a. slide  
   b. roll  
   c. jump  
   d. hide

2. They have long **backbones**, but no hair.
   a. rattles  
   b. heads  
   c. spines  
   d. spots

3. They use their **tongue** to taste the air.
   a. body part for seeing  
   b. body part for tasting  
   c. body part for hearing  
   d. body part for moving

4. They taste your **scent** if you are near.
   a. skin  
   b. shoes  
   c. body  
   d. smell

5. It’s **wise** of you to clear the way.
   a. smart  
   b. quick  
   c. bad  
   d. kind
The poem, “Snakes” has several interesting facts about snakes in it.

Write three facts about snakes that you learned in the poem.

1. __________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
2. __________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
3. __________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
ANSWER KEY

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   a. when it is eating
   b. when it hunts for food
   c. when it is threatened
   d. when it uses its tongue

2. What body part do snakes use to taste the air?  tongue

3. Do snakes have bones?  yes

4. Do snakes have hair?  no

5. The pet thinks people should...  a
   a. stay away from snakes
   b. pick up snakes
   c. wear boots when you walk by snakes
   d. keep snakes as pets

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Read each sentence from the poem, “Snakes.”
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   a. slide  
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   a. skin  
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   a. smart  
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The poem, “Snakes” has several interesting facts about snakes in it.

Write three facts about snakes that you learned in the poem.

1. Snakes have backbones.
2. Snakes have no hair.
3. Snakes use their tongues to taste the air.

Also accept:

- Snakes are long.
- Snakes like to hide.
- Snakes can glide.