



Hey kids, let's take a journey into the world of speckled racer snakes! These fascinating creatures are known for their unique, speckled appearance, which gives them their name. With a slim, sleek body, and a gorgeous pattern of black, white and brown speckles, they are truly a sight to behold. Their eyes are like sparkling jewels, shining brightly against their beautiful, speckled skin.



Carrying on from their stunning appearance, let's dig into where these speckled wonders like to hang out. Speckled racers are native to Central and South America, living in habitats ranging from forests to grasslands to marshes. They're real adventurers, aren't they? You can also find them slithering around your gardens or even in your homes, if you live in those areas!

From their homes, let's slither into the speckled racer's diet and their relationship with other animals. These clever snakes are carnivorous, which means they eat meat, and their diet mainly consists of small rodents, frogs, and lizards. They're not picky eaters and will even dine on insects and bird eggs if they get the chance. However, these snakes are also on the menu for larger predators like birds of prey and bigger snakes.



Now that we've learned about their diet, let's wrap up with some cool facts and their relationship with us, humans. Unlike many snake species, speckled racers are active during the day, which is called being diurnal. While they can bite if threatened, they're generally not dangerous to humans and prefer to escape rather than fight. So, the next time you see a speckled racer, remember they're just as scared of you as you might be of them, and they're an important part of our wonderful ecosystem.



**Solve each problem.**

**Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) What gives the speckled racer snakes their name?
  - A. Their ability to race quickly gives them their name.
  - B. Their venomous bite gives them their name.
  - C. Their large size compared to other racer snakes gives them their name.
  - D. Their speckled appearance gives them their name.
  
- 2) What is one of the main predators of speckled racer snakes?
  - A. Coyotes
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- 3) What kind of diet do speckled racer snakes have?
  - A. Omnivorous, they eat both plants and meat
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- 4) What is the speckled racer's diet?
  - A. Their diet mainly consists of small rodents, frogs, and lizards.
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  - C. They eat only insects and other tiny critters.
  - D. They primarily feed on fruits and plant matter.
  
- 5) What is the relationship between speckled racer snakes and humans?
  - A. They are known to attack humans on sight
  - B. They are friendly and like to play with humans
  - C. They carry deadly diseases and should be avoided
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- 6) When are the speckled racers usually active?
  - A. They are randomly active throughout day and night.
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  - D. They are only active during the twilight hours.
  
- 7) What's the speckled racer's skin pattern like?
  - A. Their skin is transparent
  - B. They have a pattern of black, white and brown speckles
  - C. They have dark or light solid color skin
  - D. They have colorful strips on their skin
  
- 8) What kinds of places do speckled racers like to live in?
  - A. Deserts, mountains and cities
  - B. Prairies, beaches and caves
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- 9) Where can we find the speckled racer snake in their natural habitats?
- A. Central and South America                      B. Asia and North America  
C. Australia and New Zealand                      D. Europe and Africa

**Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).**

- 10) "You can spot me not only in forests, I'm also known to visit gardens and even houses at times!"
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- 14) "I'm a carnivorous snake, which means I only eat meat!"
- 15) "I only live in North America."
- 16) "I do have a few predators, like other bigger snakes and birds of prey, but I'm generally not dangerous to humans."
- 17) "Who needs sunshine? I'm a creature of the night and love to hunt when the world is asleep."
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**Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.**

- 20) Speckled racer snakes are active during the day.
- 21) It's scary to think that speckled racer snakes can be found slithering around your gardens or even inside your homes.
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- 23) It's amazing that despite their slim body shape, speckled racer snakes can eat eggs and insects.
- 24) Speckled racer snakes are indigenous to Central and South America.
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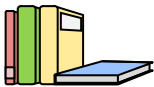
- 33) Speckled racer snakes are native to Europe and Asia.
- 34) Speckled racer snakes are carnivorous.
- 35) Speckled racer snakes' diet mostly consists of large non-flying birds.
- 36) Speckled racer snakes have a poisonous bite that can kill any living being instantly.
- 37) Speckled racer snakes are herbivores.
- 38) Speckled racer snakes are usually not dangerous to humans.
- 39) Speckled racer snakes are native to Central and South America.

**Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.**

- 40) Speckled racer snakes aren't poisonous.
  - A. can not
  - B. are not
  - C. will not
  - D. are able
- 41) Speckled racer snakes don't normally attack humans.
  - A. do not
  - B. are not
  - C. do no
  - D. cannot
- 42) Speckled racer snakes don't have venom.
  - A. does not
  - B. will not
  - C. cannot
  - D. do not
- 43) Speckled racer snakes aren't just cool; they're helpful, too!
  - A. are not
  - B. are
  - C. will not
  - D. can not
- 44) They're known for their shiny, speckled scales.
  - A. They do
  - B. They were
  - C. They are
  - D. They is

**Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).**

- 45) Speckled racer snakes feed on small animals like rodents and lizards.
- 46) Do speckled racer snakes have venom?
- 47) Speckled racer snakes are found in various habitats, from grasslands to forests.
- 48) Speckled racer snakes are usually harmless to humans.
- 49) How fast can a speckled racer snake slither?
- 50) How long can a speckled racer snake grow?



- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u>    <b>D</b>    </u>        | 26. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>          |
| 2. <u>    <b>D</b>    </u>        | 27. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>          |
| 3. <u>    <b>C</b>    </u>        | 28. <u>    <b>opinion</b>    </u>       |
| 4. <u>    <b>A</b>    </u>        | 29. <u>    <b>opinion</b>    </u>       |
| 5. <u>    <b>D</b>    </u>        | 30. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>          |
| 6. <u>    <b>B</b>    </u>        | 31. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>         |
| 7. <u>    <b>B</b>    </u>        | 32. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>          |
| 8. <u>    <b>C</b>    </u>        | 33. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>         |
| 9. <u>    <b>A</b>    </u>        | 34. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>          |
| 10. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>    | 35. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>         |
| 11. <u>    <b>true</b>    </u>    | 36. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>         |
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| 19. <u>    <b>false</b>    </u>   | 44. <u>    <b>C</b>    </u>             |
| 20. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>    | 45. <u>    <b>declarative</b>    </u>   |
| 21. <u>    <b>opinion</b>    </u> | 46. <u>    <b>interrogative</b>    </u> |
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| 24. <u>    <b>fact</b>    </u>    | 49. <u>    <b>interrogative</b>    </u> |
| 25. <u>    <b>opinion</b>    </u> | 50. <u>    <b>interrogative</b>    </u> |



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