Imagine meeting a snake with a mouth as white as cotton that's the cottonmouth snake for you! Also known as water moccasins, these snakes sport a dark, thick body that can grow up to 4 feet long. Their heads are broad and triangular, and when they open their mouths, they display a white, cotton-like interior, hence



the name cottonmouth. But don't let their appearance scare you, they're fascinating creatures!

Speaking of fascinating, let's dive into their interesting habitat and diet. Cottonmouth snakes are found in the southeastern United States, often near freshwater bodies like swamps, marshes, and streams. In terms of food, they're not picky eaters at all, munching on everything from fish and frogs, to small mammals and birds! Sometimes, they even eat other snakes, talk about a unique diet!

From their unique diet, let's slither to their life cycle and relationship with other animals. Cottonmouths have an interesting life cycle, starting as eggs inside their mother, they're then born live, which is a bit different from many other snakes that lay eggs. They prefer to keep to themselves and are usually not aggressive unless provoked. However, they play an important role in the ecosystem by controlling the population of their prey.



Now that we know about their life and role, how do they interact with us humans? Well, cottonmouths are known to be the only venomous water snake in North America, so it's best to admire them from a distance. While they're not usually aggressive, they will defend themselves if they feel threatened, often by displaying their namesake cotton-white mouth as a warning before striking. So, remember kids, if you see a cottonmouth, admire its beauty from afar, and let it continue its important role in nature!



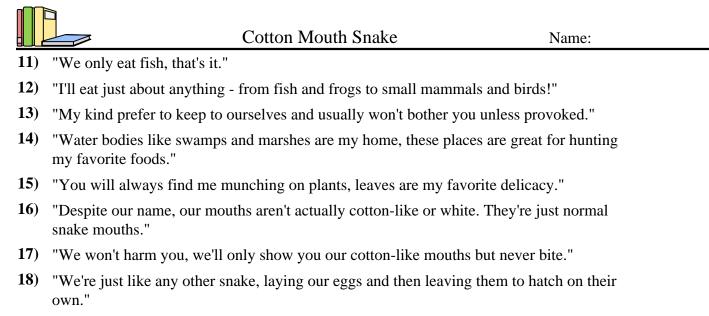
Cotton Mouth Snake

Solve each problem.

	the article to answer the question.		
1)	What is the length of a cottonmouth snake?		
	A. Up to 4 feet long	3. Around 2 feet long	
	C. Up to 10 feet long	D. Less than a foot long	
2)	Are cottonmouth snakes aggressive?		
	A. Only when they are hungry	3. Only during the winter season	
	C. Not usually	D. Yes, all the time	
3)	Where can you find the cottonmouth snakes?		
,	A. In the northwestern United States	3. In the southeastern United Stat	tes
	C. In the northeastern United States	D. In the southwestern United Sta	ites
4)	How do cottonmouth snakes play a role in the	acosystam?	
4)	A. They control the population of their	3. They provide shelter for other	
	prey	animals	
	C. They clean the water in freshwater	D. They help pollinate flowers	
	bodies		
5)	What is unique about the life cycle of cottonn	outh snakes?	
- /	A. They can breathe underwater	3. They never shed their skin	
	C. They are born live, unlike most snakes that lay eggs	D. They hibernate during winter	
6)	What does the inside of a cottonmouth snake'	mouth look like?	
0)	A. As white as cotton	B. As red as a cherry	
	C. As black as coal	D. As green as grass	
-			
7)	What type of bodies of water do cottonmouth		
	A. Hot springs and geysers	3. Desert oasis	
	C. Oceans and seas	D. Swamps, marshes, and streams)
8)	What is the nickname for a cottonmouth snak		
	A. Grassy cobra	3. Muddy python	
	C. Water moccasins	D. Cotton bear	
9)	How do cottonmouth snakes defend themselv	s when they feel threatened?	
	A. By suddenly slithering away at high	B. By displaying their cotton-whi	te
	speed	mouth as a warning before the	y strike
	C. By shooting venom from their mouths	D. By playing dead	
10)	Where are cottonmouth snakes often found?		
	A. In the Arctic	3. Near deserts	
	C. Near freshwater bodies	D. In the mountains	

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

1-10										
11-20	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0



- **19)** "My mouth is as dark as the starry night sky."
- **20)** "We cottonmouth snakes are a bit different from other snakes because we're born alive instead of hatching from eggs."
- 21) "We're not fond of water. In fact, we avoid it and instead, live in the dry sandy deserts."
- **22)** "I'm called a cottonmouth snake because when I open my mouth, it looks like there's cotton in there!"

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 23) Cottonmouth snakes are the only venomous water snake in North America.
- 24) Cottonmouths have a more interesting diet than other snakes.
- **25)** Cottonmouth snakes can grow up to 4 feet long.
- **26)** Cottonmouths are really scary because they are the only venomous water snake in North America.
- 27) Cottonmouth snakes are commonly found in the southeastern United States.
- **28)** The fact Cottonmouth snake will eat other snakes is quite disgusting.
- **29**) Cottonmouth snakes eat fish, frogs, small mammals, birds, and sometimes other snakes.
- **30)** Cottonmouth snakes generally make their homes near freshwater bodies, such as swamps and marshes.
- **31**) It is fascinating to see cottonmouth snakes coming out of their mother instead of hatching from eggs.
- **32)** It is really scary to see the white inside of a cottonmouth snake's mouth.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **33**) Cottonmouth snakes have a white, cotton-like interior in their mouth.
- 34) When they feel threatened, cottonmouths inflate their bodies to scare away predators.
- **35)** Cottonmouth snakes can grow up to 4 feet long.
- **36)** Cottonmouth snakes are only found in the desert.
- **37)** Cottonmouths are found in the southeastern United States.
- **38**) Cottonmouth snakes are only found in South Carolina.



- **39**) Cottonmouth snakes are herbivores.
- **40**) Cottonmouth snakes are not venomous.
- 41) Cottonmouth snakes are the only venomous water snake in North America.
- 42) Cottonmouths are also known as water moccasins.

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

- **43**) Cottonmouth snakes are semi-aquatic and are often found near bodies of water.
- 44) What are the warning signs of a cotton mouth snake bite?
- **45**) Cottonmouth snakes are found in the southeastern United States.
- 46) Cottonmouth snakes are also known as water moccasins.
- **47)** How do cotton mouth snakes defend themselves?
- **48)** How venomous are cotton mouth snakes?

	Cotton Mouth Snake	Name:
1	26.	
2.	27.	
3.	28.	
4.	29.	
5.	30.	
6.	31.	
7.	32.	
8.	33.	
9.	34	
10.	35	
11.	36	
12.	37.	
13.	38	
14.	39.	
15.	40.	
16	41	
17	42.	
18.	43.	
19.	44.	
20.	45.	
21.	46.	
22.	47	
23.	48.	
24.		
25.		
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Imagine meeting a snake with a mouth as white as cotton that's the cottonmouth snake for you! Also known as water moccasins, these snakes sport a dark, thick body that can grow up to 4 feet long. Their heads are broad and triangular, and when they open their mouths, they display a white, cotton-like interior, hence



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From their unique diet, let's slither to their life cycle and relationship with other animals. Cottonmouths have an interesting life cycle, starting as eggs inside their mother, they're then born live, which is a bit different from many other snakes that lay eggs. They prefer to keep to themselves and are usually not aggressive unless provoked. However, they play an important role in the ecosystem by controlling the population of their prey.



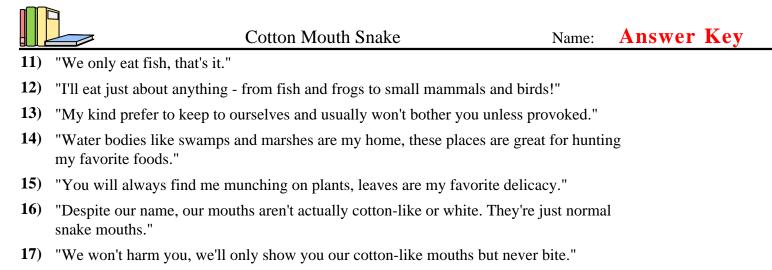
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3)	Where can you find the cottonmouth snakes?		
- /	A. In the northwestern United States		In the southeastern United States
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Δ	Here de contraction de contraction de la contraction de		
4)	How do cottonmouth snakes play a role in the		-
	A. They control the population of their prey	D.	They provide shelter for other animals
	C. They clean the water in freshwater	D.	They help pollinate flowers
	bodies		
5)	What is writing about the life such of actions		
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	C. Oceans and seas		Swamps, marshes, and streams
•			
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	A. By suddenly slithering away at high	В.	By displaying their cotton-white
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	A. In the Arctic	В.	Near deserts
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-			

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



- **18)** "We're just like any other snake, laying our eggs and then leaving them to hatch on their own."
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- **20)** "We cottonmouth snakes are a bit different from other snakes because we're born alive instead of hatching from eggs."
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		(Cotton Mouth Snake		Name:	Answer Key		
1.	Α	26.	opinion					
2.	С	27.	fact					
3.	В	28.	opinion					
4.	Α	29.	fact					
5.	C	30.	fact					
6.	A	31.	opinion					
7.	D	32.	opinion					
8.	С	33.	true					
9.	B	34.	false					
10.	<u> </u>	35.	true					
11.	false	36.	false					
12.	true	37.	true					
13.	true	38.	false					
14.	true	39.	false					
15.	false	40.	false					
16.	false	41.	true					
17.	false	42.	true					
18.	false	43.	declarative					
19.	false	44.	interrogative					
20.	true	45.	declarative					
21.	false	46.	declarative					
22.	true	47.	interrogative					
23.	fact	48.	interrogative					
24.	opinion							
25.	fact							
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Solve each problem. Use the article to answer the question. 1) What is the length of a cottonmouth snake? (paragraph 1) A. Up to 4 feet long Β. C. D. 2) Are cottonmouth snakes aggressive? (paragraph 4) A. B. Only during the winter season D. C. Not usually 3) Where can you find the cottonmouth snakes? (paragraph 2) B. In the southeastern United States A. C. D. 4) How do cottonmouth snakes play a role in the ecosystem? (paragraph 3) A. They control the population of their B. They provide shelter for other animals prey C. D. 5) What is unique about the life cycle of cottonmouth snakes? (paragraph 3) A. They can breathe underwater B. They never shed their skin C. They are born live, unlike most D. snakes that lay eggs

6) What does the inside of a cottonmouth snake's mouth look like? (paragraph 1) A. As white as cotton B. As red as a cherry C. D.

7) What type of bodies of water do cottonmouth snakes often live near? (paragraph 2) A. Hot springs and geysers Β.

C. D. Swamps, marshes, and streams

8) What is the nickname for a cottonmouth snake? (paragraph 1)

A. B. Muddy python C. Water moccasins D.

9) How do cottonmouth snakes defend themselves when they feel threatened? (paragraph 4)

A. By suddenly slithering away at high B. By displaying their cotton-white speed mouth as a warning before they strike C. D.

10) Where are cottonmouth snakes often found? (paragraph 2) A. B. Near deserts

C. Near freshwater bodies D.

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



Cotton Mouth Snake

- 11) "We only eat fish, that's it." (paragraph 2)
- 12) "I'll eat just about anything from fish and frogs to small mammals and birds!" (paragraph 2)

