

Reptiles are heat-loving animals



Reptiles

Reptiles are cold-blooded animals, whose body temperature depends largely on that of their surroundings. They regulate the temperature of their body through their behaviour, sunbathing if they need to warm up or seeking the shade if they need to cool down. Species of reptile native to Germany include lizards, snakes and tortoises.

Photos:

- 1** With its diverse formations of stones, the Alpinum provides an ideal habitat for reptiles. They use the warm stones to sunbathe, whilst crevices and gaps between the stones provide a cool, shady refuge. Photo: L. Köhler
- 2** A survey was carried out to find out which species of reptiles occur in the Experimental and Forest Botanical Garden (I. Schmersow, unpublished). In addition to the sand lizard (picture on the right), also the slightly smaller common lizard was found. Photo: I. Schmersow
- 3** The smooth snake pictured here is a well-camouflaged snake that could occur in the Alpinum, but has not yet been observed. Slow worms can, however, be found here: despite their snake-like appearance they are actually lizards. Photo: I. Schmersow



Experimental Botanical Garden

More information

