Although reptiles and amphibians are both cold-blooded animals, there are many differences between the two. Answer the questions below with “R” for reptile or “A” for amphibian. Use the table to help you.

Am I a reptile (R) or an amphibian (A)?

1. I like to eat eggs. _____________________________
2. I don’t look like my parents when I am born. ________________
3. I started out in a jelly-surfaced egg. ________________
4. I like to live in warmer climates because I don’t maintain body heat well. ________________
5. I lay my eggs in the water. ________________
6. I am cold-blooded. ________________

COLD-BLOODED ANIMALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Reptiles</th>
<th>Amphibians</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Types</td>
<td>Turtles, tortoises, snakes, lizards, crocodilians, and tuatars.</td>
<td>Salamanders, frogs, and toads.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bodies</td>
<td>Their body temperature changes with their surroundings, so they live in warmer climates to stay warm.</td>
<td>They breathe through their smooth, bare skin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babies</td>
<td>Young are born on land. They either hatch from shelled eggs or are born live. Baby reptiles look like their parents.</td>
<td>Young hatch from jelly-surfaced eggs in the water. They’re born as larva that metamorphose, or change, into adults.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Reptiles eat the flesh of another animal, eggs, or insects.</td>
<td>Amphibians eat worms, insects, or small animals like snakes, turtles, and birds.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The designs that a reptile’s scales make can be beautiful. Some of them are symmetrical. That means that the design is reflected exactly the same on both sides of an imaginary line that runs down the middle of it. Other designs are asymmetrical, which means that they don’t reflect exactly the same on both sides of that imaginary line.

Look at the reptile scale patterns below, and note the dotted line that divides each pattern in half. Write “S” for symmetrical designs or “A” for asymmetrical designs. The first two have been completed for you.


Reptiles can be scary looking creatures. Perhaps that’s why there are so many myths, or made-up stories, about them:

- Medusa is one Greek mythological character to avoid. According to myth, her hair is writhing snakes, and anyone who looks at her would turn to stone.
- The multi-headed hydra (mythical serpent) is an evil character in Greek mythology that grew back two heads whenever one was cut off.

Create a story that is based on one of the reptiles you learned about from this chart. Be sure to include details about its size, shape, and characteristics, as well as the adventures it encounters. If you need more space, use the back of this page.
While reptiles can be found all over the world (except for cold climates), many enjoy the warm and damp climate that the rain forests provide. Unfortunately, we are losing our rain forests to destruction. People are cutting down trees to make furniture and paper and to use the land for farming. The two maps below show how much of the rain forests we have lost so far. Use them to answer the questions below. You may also want to use an atlas for help.

1. How many continents currently have rain forests? __________
   Which ones? _____________________________

2. Are most of the rain forests currently located near the equator, near the north pole, or near the south pole? _____________________________

3. What continent has lost most of its rain forests? __________

4. What continent has preserved its rain forests? __________

5. What are some things you can do to help preserve the rain forests? __________

Answers: 1. Five: North America, South America, Africa, Asia, and Australia
2. The equator
3. Africa
4. South America

For more information on rain forests, consider contacting these organizations:
- The Nature Conservancy
- National Wildlife Federation
- The Chico Mendes Fund
- Environmental Defense Fund

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