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Sneaky Snakes

Directions

Read the passage. Then complete the diagram on page 9.

If you live in the South or in certain parts of the West, chances are you have encountered a coral snake. Or have you? Could you say with any certainty that what you happened upon was not a scarlet snake or a scarlet king snake?

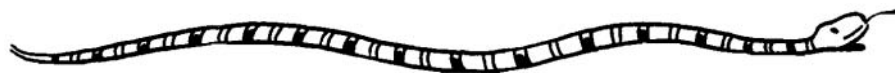
At first glance, all three of these colorful snakes might look the same. Each has alternating bands of black, red, and yellow. Each measures about 18 inches in length, although the common coral snake of the South may be twice that length. And unlike larger, broader snakes, the coral, scarlet, and scarlet king snakes all have slender bodies.

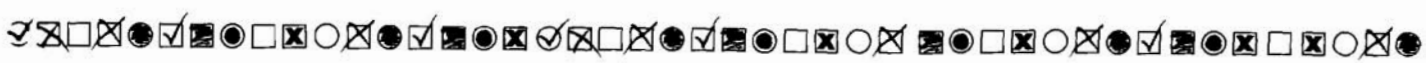
So, how do you tell them apart? First, the scarlet snake is extremely rare and docile, and is found only in the southeast. It is different from the coral snake and the scarlet king snake in that its colored bands do not encircle its belly. The underside of a scarlet snake is yellow.

The poisonous coral snake and the scarlet king snake are more common. But they are just as easy to identify as the scarlet snake. The red bands of the coral snake are always bordered by yellow, while the red bands of the scarlet king snake are bordered by black. But there is a quicker, easier way to distinguish between the two snakes. Look at their snouts or heads. The snout of the scarlet king snake is always red, followed by yellow and black. The snout of the coral snake is always black. For the common coral, it's black-yellow-black. For the western coral, it's black-yellow-red.

Although coral snakes are highly poisonous, few people are bitten by them. They are extremely shy and are seldom seen. The only way to be bitten by a coral snake is to step on it or handle it.

A wise rule to follow regarding snakes is not to pick up any of them. Most snakes will bite if bothered, and even a harmless snake can give you a nasty infection.

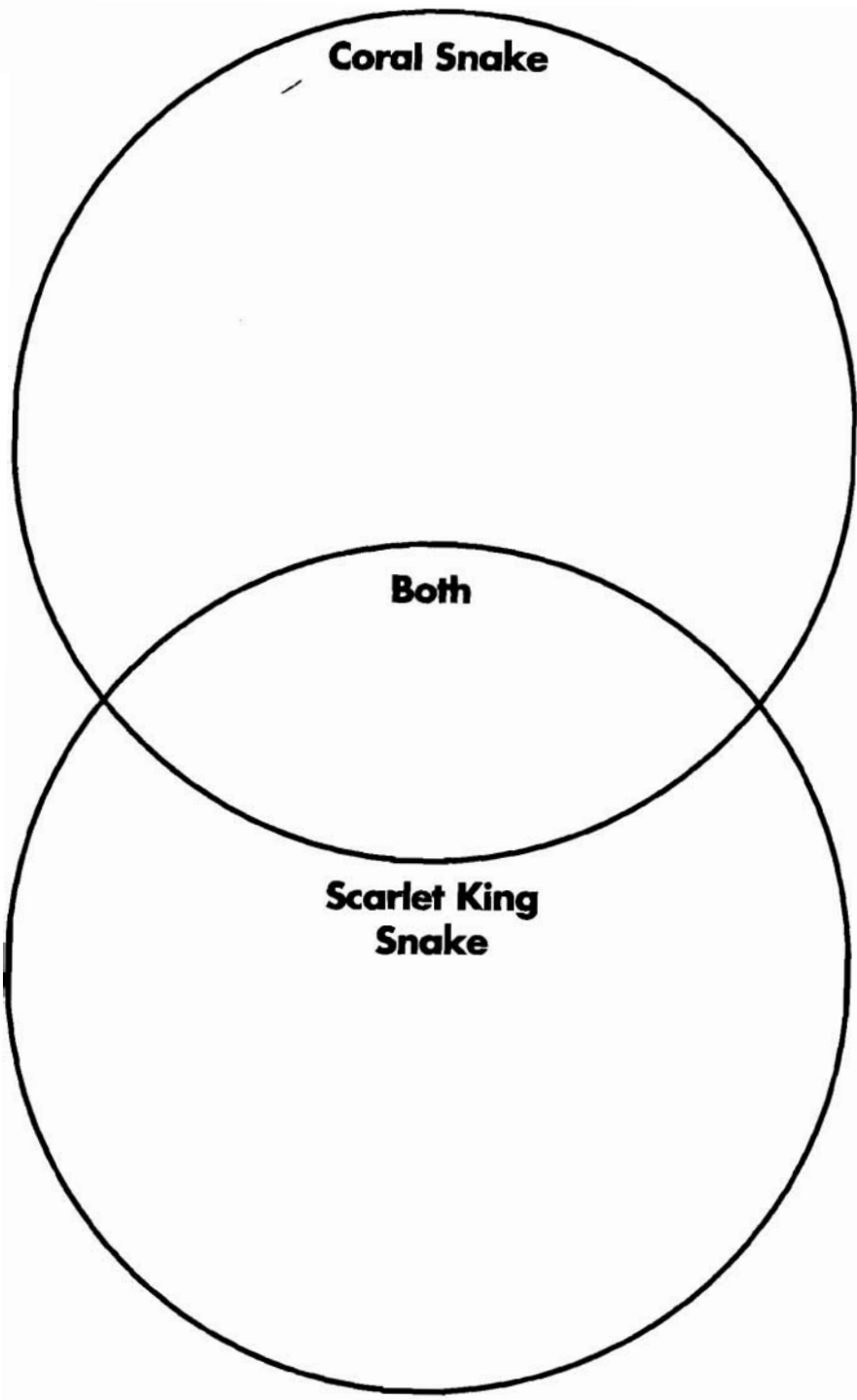




Sneaky Snakes, continued



The story on page 8 discusses three snakes. However, complete the diagram to compare only the coral and scarlet king snakes.



Answer Key

GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

Pages 8–9—Sneaky Snakes

Venn diagrams will vary. Answers may include the following.
 Coral Snake: red bands bordered by yellow or white, snouts are black, highly poisonous

Both: measure about 18 inches in length, have slender bodies, alternating bands of black, red, or yellow

Scarlet King Snake: red bands bordered by black, snouts are red

Pages 10–11—Attackers of Ants

Venn diagrams will vary. Answers may include the following.
 Tiger Beetle: has hooks on its back enabling it to cling to the top of its burrow, uses somersault motion to catch prey, larva lives on as a mature beetle

Both: eat ants and other insects, dig tunnels to trap their prey, live in sandy places such as dunes and deserts

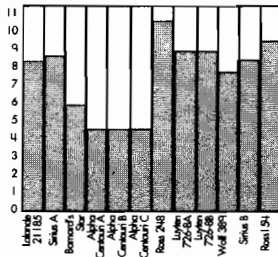
Ant Lion: larva changes into an insect resembling a damselfly; adult lives only long enough to mate and lay eggs; covers tunnel with layer of sand, causing insects to tumble in

Pages 12–13—Stuart and James

Webs will vary.

- 22
- uniforms from all the schools
- since early March (3 months)
- May
- warm, sunny
- 16

Pages 14–15—Where Is It?



Pages 16–17—The Jam Mystery

- missing jam
- jam and bread
- Daniel
 - He saw the knife first.
 - He noticed the footprints.
 - He saw the footprint by the shed.

| Clue | Conclusions |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Finding the knife on the deck steps | The thief had gone down the steps. |
| The knife they found was clean. | The thief had not used it yet. |
| ★ Small footprints in the flower bed | The thief was young and small. |
| A muddy footprint on the shed step | The thief was inside the shed. |

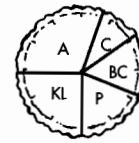
- Nancy; she has small footprints.
- Kay; she reassures Daniel about a break-in. She talks about giving Nancy a bath.

Page 18—A Population Pictograph

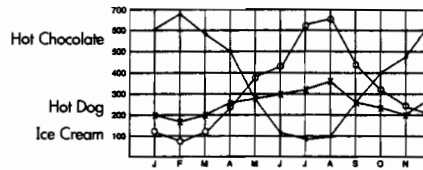
| | |
|-------------|----|
| Tokyo | 20 |
| Mexico City | 15 |
| New York | 15 |
| Bombay | 15 |
| São Paulo | 10 |
| Los Angeles | 10 |
| Calcutta | 5 |
| Jakarta | 5 |
| Shanghai | 5 |
| Beijing | 5 |

Page 19—Slicing a Pie

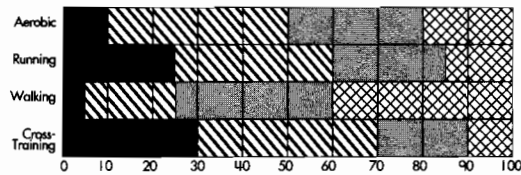
- $500 \times 0.25 = 125$
- $100 \times 0.1 = 10$



Page 20—Shelby's Snack Shed

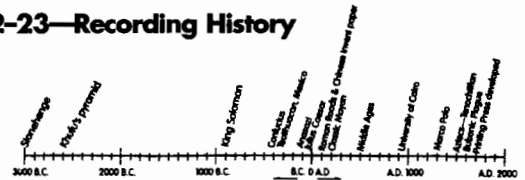


Page 21—A Shoe Survey



- 95%
- 60%
- 100
- 50

Pages 22–23—Recording History



- 5,000 years
- The Chinese invented paper.
- Answers will vary but should reflect information given.

Page 24—Awesome Africa!

