VENOMOUS SNAKES AND NON-VENOMOUS SNAKES

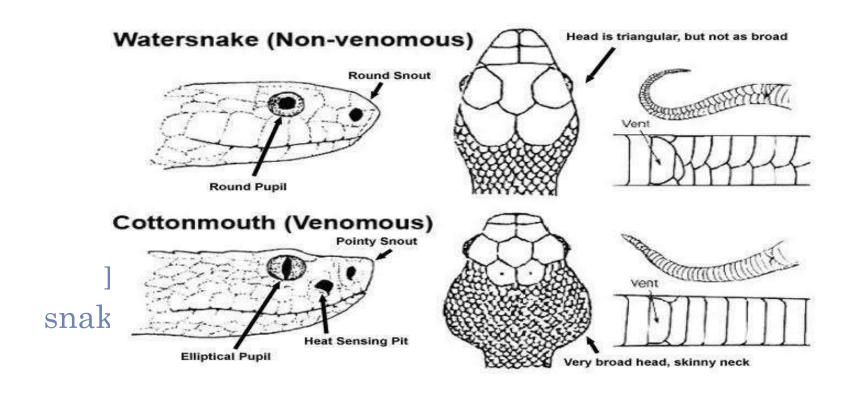




INTRODUCTION

- Most snakes are what are referred to as clinically nonvenomous.
- o non—venomous snakes have teeth and they bite just like venomous snakes. Even though most snakes are what are referred to as clinically non-venomous. no venom is injected as a result of a bite, medical care should be sought because any snakes carries a number of infections.
- A bite from a large snake, such as a python, can result in massive injuries.
- Many snakes carrying toxins are not dangerous for a human being. These includes Hognose snakes, Garter snakes, Rat snakes

• In conclusion just remember, not all snakes are bad. They are even helpful. So take a minute to identify the snake before it is sacked.



• It is very much important to note that snakes are never poisonous but their venom may be poisonous. Hence poisonous and non poisonous terms are misnomers. They should be called as venomous and non-venomous snakes.

S. NO	CHARACTER	VENOMOUS SNAKES	NON-VENOMOUS SNAKES
1.	Colour	Snakes are brightly coloured.	Snakes are not so bright.
2.	Shape of head	Snakes have long, triangular and wide head.	Snakes have narrow and elongated head

3. Teeth

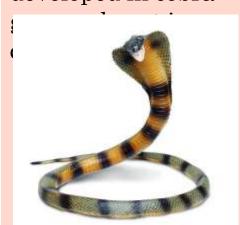


Snakes don't have fangs.



4. Hood

Present in majority of cases, highly developed in cobra

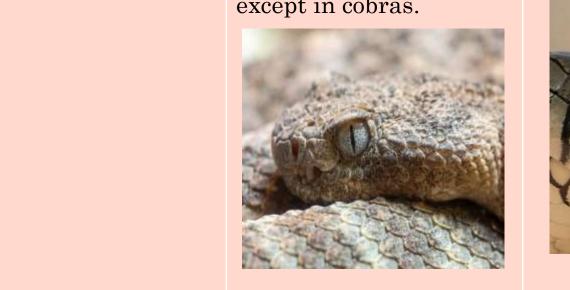


Hood is absent.



5.	Tail	Snakes usually have flat or cylindrical tail.	Snakes have short and blunt tail.
6.	Belly scales	Snakes have large belly scales.	Snakes have small belly scales.

7.	Head scales	Snakes have small scales on head.	Snakes have head shields on their head. Note: The state of the state
8.	Pupil	Snakes have thin, black, vertical pupil. Pupils except in cobras.	Snakes have round pupils.





9.	Poison gland	Snakes have two poison glands.	Snakes don't have poison glands.
10.	Neck	Clear constriction is seen between the head and the neck.	No constriction between the head and the neck.
11.	Loreal shield	Present and possess a heat sensitive loreal pit helping in identifying warm blooded food organisms like rats.	Absent.
12.	Muscular system	Less developed muscular system.	Well developed strong muscular system.

13.	Sub caudal scales	Mostly undivided except in coral snake and cobra where they are divid	Divided and appear in two rows posterior to the anus.
14.	Lungs	One of the lung is either reduced or absent.	Both lungs are present.
15.	Hypophysis	It is developed throughout the vertebral column.	It is absent but present on the posterior vertebrae.

16. Examples

All sea snakes, viper's, cobra's are highly venomous.



Pythons, bush snakes, rat snakes are common non venomous snakes.



DIFFERENT TYPES OF SNAKES



TYPHLOPS



GREEN WHIP SNAKE



RAT SNAKE



PYTHON



CORAL SNAKE



NAJA - NAJA



KING COBRA



PHOORSA



RUSSELS VIPER



SEA SNAKE



KRAIT

IDENTIFICATION OF POISONOUS SNAKES

- Presence of a heat sensitive loreal pit as seen in pit viper [Echis carinata]; a rattle on its tail [Rattle snake]; undivided sub-caudals except in cobra and viper [divided]; swimming with their entire body; one or two close-set puncture marks at the bitten area; flat leafy tail as seen in sea snakes.
- Hood may be conspicuous as in cobras and inconspicuous as in other venomous snakes.
- Head covered by large shield like plates except in viper having oval or oblong scales etc. Are the important features of identification of poisonous snakes.
- In non-poisonous snakes, the saliva may cause numbness, temporary unconscious state. First aid and proper nursing care bring back the bitten person to normalcy.

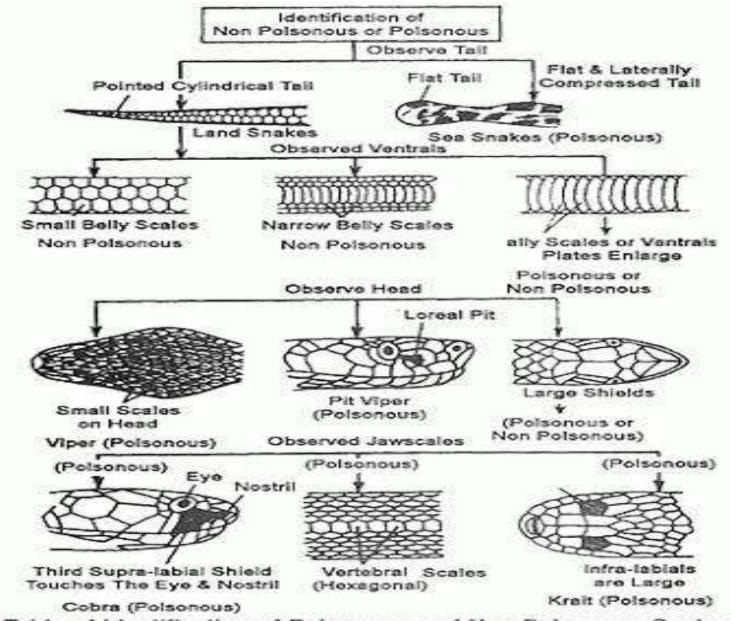


Table of identification of Poisonous and Non Poisonous Snakes

