

## Name of Exhibit: Snakes

Description: HSC Snakes come in a variety of sizes from the size of a pencil to more than seven feet in length. HSC snakes eat mice and rats, which are shipped frozen to HSC but thawed to room temperature and heated to normal body temperature just before feeding them to the snakes on HSC Snake Feeding Day. In the wild, HSC snakes eat small mammals, birds, amphibians, fish and other reptiles.

For all ages.

### MN SCIENCE Grad Stand/Strand/Sub-strand: Number####:

0L 1.2.1.2, 0L 2.1.1.3, 0L 3.1.1.1  
1L 1.1.1.1, 1L 3.1.1.1, 1L 3.2.2.2  
2L 4.1.1.1  
3L 3.1.1.2, 3L 3.2.1.1, 3L 4.1.1.1, 3L 4.2.1.1  
4L 4.2.1.2  
5L 4.1.2.1  
7L 2.1.1.1, 7L 3.2.1.1, 7L 4.1.1.2, 7L 4.1.2.2

**Grade Level(s):** Kindergarten through 7th Grades

**Content Area(s):** Life Science

### Learning Target(s):

1. I can ask questions from observations about the similarities and differences found in snakes and other living things.
2. I can explain how patterns in the behavior of adult/parent snakes and their offspring help offspring survive.
3. I can explain, using evidence, how variations in characteristics among snakes (same species) may provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, and reproducing.
4. I can apply my knowledge about specific HSC snakes to explain the strategies a variety of animals use to survive.
5. I can obtain information from resources to determine that snakes have traits inherited from parents and that variations of these traits exist in a group of similar organisms.

### Essential Question(s):

6. What differences can you see between two snakes and other animals? What similarities can you see between two snakes and other animals?
7. What human invention mimics snake characteristics?
8. What do snakes do to protect themselves from enemies (raptors, bears, cats, skunks, etc.)?
9. How do variations in characteristics among snakes (same species) provide advantages?
10. What are strategies snakes use to survive? Why are the strategies successful? Why aren't some strategies successful?
11. What variations are the result of inherited traits from parents of snakes?

**Key Vocabulary in Demo:** Biome, Camouflage, Cold-Blooded, Habitat, Invertebrates, Predator, Prey, Reptiles, Vertebrates, Warm-Blooded

**Prerequisite Terms:** Adaptation, Advantage, Behavior, Characteristics, Differences, Function, Lineage, Mimic, Model, Observation, Patterns, Protect, Range, Relationship, Similarities, Strategies, Structure, Traits, Variation