



This edition of Shortcuts is sponsored by Rattle-touille.

I'm the head chef at the desert's fanciest restaurant.

There are about 30 different species of rattlesnakes.

A Striking Look At Shortcuts

by Jeff Harris

Rattlesnakes

Slightly Rattled
Can you spot all six differences between these two scenes?

Only Skin Deep
A rattlesnake's rattle is made of segments of old skin that are left behind each time the rattlesnake sheds its skin. A rattlesnake sheds its skin once or twice each year and gains a new segment on its rattle each time.

Rattlesnakes bear live young.

Word Search
Can you find the hidden words? Search carefully because some words are backward or diagonal.

SEGMENT	VIPER	CT	SCAN	IMAGING
RATTLE	FANG	LI	ENV	TINNOT
VENOM	HEAT	AP	GRA	IOKOTRAY
VICTIM	SHED	PS	MDK	PBSACTF
INJECT	PREY	SH	EEP	MEETBOIL
SNAKE	SKIN	CH	NGO	ODTRXUV
STRIKE	BITE	SU	REM	LAIRSHJ
TOXIC	BOB	GR	APREY	CKBEEN
WARN	PIT	HO	WLUV	NEE EACH
		BA	NA	ASTATETH

From The Ground Up
Rattlesnakes are found only in North, Central and South America. Most live in the United States and Mexico.

Rattlesnakes capture prey by inflicting a single bite and then following their victim until it dies from the effects of the venom.

If a rattlesnake loses or breaks a fang, it will grow another.

Captive rattlesnakes may live as long as 30 years.

Rattlesnakes are members of the pit viper family of snakes. Pit vipers have a special organ that allows them to detect the heat of a warm-blooded animal.

Not all rattlesnakes give a warning rattle before they strike.

What do you call two rattlesnakes on a car? Windshield vipers.

The Eastern diamondback is the largest species of rattlesnake. Some grow to measure nearly 2.4 m (8 ft.) in length and weigh nearly 15 kg (33 lbs.).

What type of snake can't keep a secret? A rattlesnake.

What type of building is made from old rattlesnake skins? A shed.

How do you make a baby rattlesnake cry? Take away his rattle.

Most rattlesnakes are rather shy and will not attack a human unless provoked.

Newborn rattlesnakes are capable of inflicting a venomous bite from the moment they are born.