

外研社·DK 英汉对照百科读物

ELEMENTARY A 初级 A

蛇

SNAKE!

Maureen Haughton (英) 著



外语教学与研究出版社



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致读者

欢迎阅读外研社·DK英汉对照百科读物！这是第一套专门为非英语国家学习者编写的非小说类读物。这些缤纷多彩的读物揭示了我们周围世界的各个侧面：历史、地理、科技、体育……还有许许多多其他的事情。它们还为我们展示了现在和过去人们各种各样的生活方式。

外研社·DK英汉对照百科读物为您提供了从中获取知识及享受阅读之乐的材料，使您体会到学习英语的真正意义所在。书中插图会帮助您理解与书的主题相关的特殊词汇：奥林匹克运动、时光之旅、特洛伊战争等等。选择您感兴趣的主题，在提高英语水平的同时学到知识，实在是一举两得的事情。

本套丛书按语言难度分为5个级别：入门级、初级A、初级B、中级、中高级，词汇量分别为300词、600词、800词、1300词和2000词，非常适合中学生、大学生和剑桥考试参加者使用。

丛书的编排也颇具特色，书中图文穿插，彩色印刷，逼真的视觉效果将使您拥有更加美妙的阅读感受。

希望本丛书能令您读得开心！

外研社 · DK 英汉对照百科读物(第三辑)

书 名	级 别	词 汇 量
Icarus 伊卡洛斯	初级 A	600
Bugs! 虫子	初级 A	600
Snake! 蛇	初级 A	600
Animals Look! 动物奇观	初级 A	600
Animals in Winter 冬天的动物	初级 A	600
Trees 树	初级 B	800
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The Story of Troy 特洛伊传说	中高级	2000

Wait and see 等着瞧



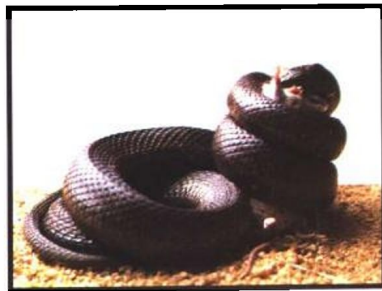
Long-lost legs 丢失很久的腿



Soft shell 软壳



Tight squeeze 紧紧挤压



Big eaters 大食客



Born to kill 天生杀手



Collecting venom 收集毒液

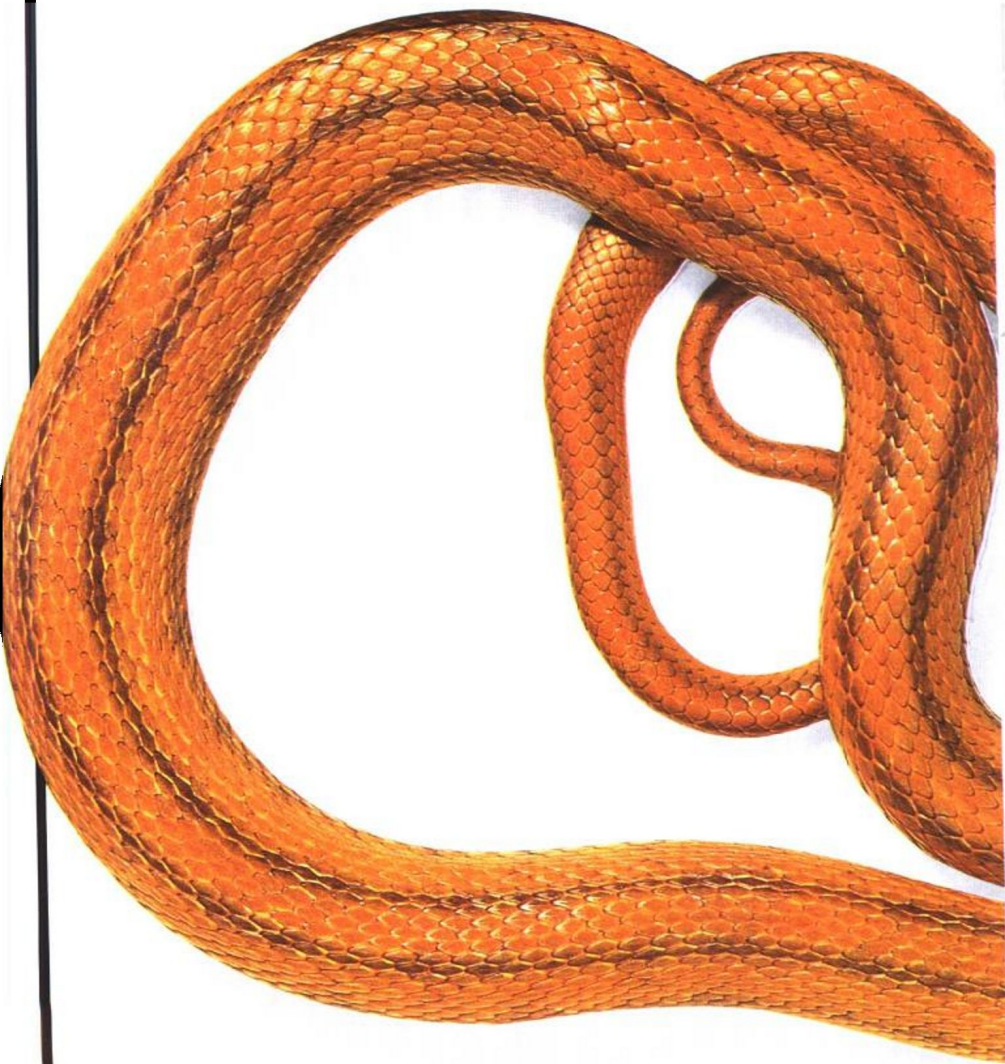


Snakes have no legs!

They have to slide along the ground to get from one place to another. But they can move quite quickly. They slide over the ground and appear and disappear in a minute. They can hide easily.

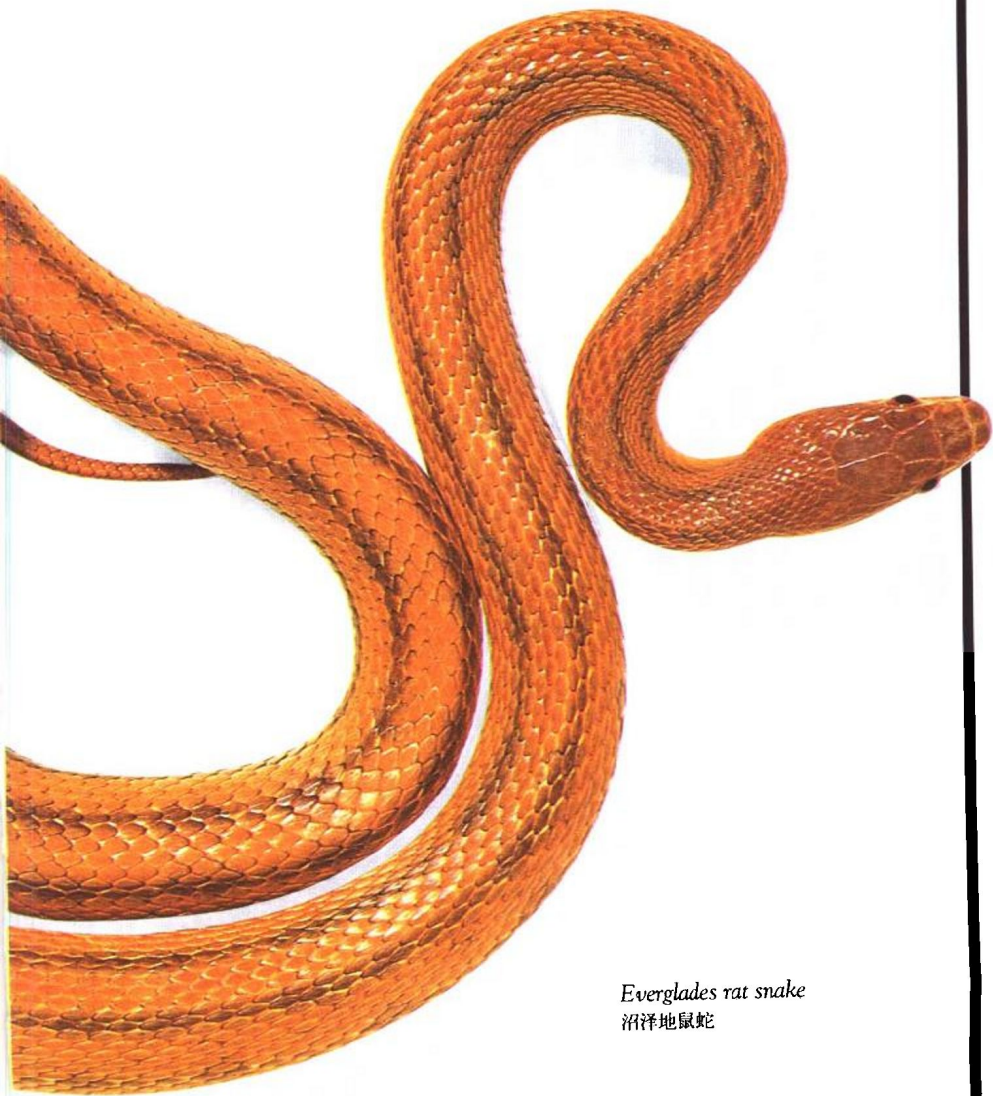
蛇没有腿!

要从一个地方到另一个地方去,它们得贴着地面滑行。但它们可以移动得很快。它们在地面上游走,一会儿出现,一会儿消失。它们善于躲藏。



Their eyes are very bright. They never close their eyes, because they have no eyelids! The pupils change in bright light. Snakes often live in hot countries with bright sun. They go in and out of the sun. They can see in the sun and in the dark shadow.

它们的眼睛很亮，从不闭眼，因为它们没有眼睑！瞳孔在亮光下发生变化。蛇常常在日照充足的热带国家生活。它们在阳光中出没。它们在阳光和黑影中都能看见东西。



Everglades rat snake
沼泽地鼠蛇



The skin of a snake is very shiny, and it reflects light.

Very often, the skin looks wet, even in a dry environment.

When you touch it, you feel that the skin isn't wet. It is dry and smooth. It feels like soft leather or silk. It's nice to touch a snake! Lots of people think that snakes are wet and horrible, but they are warm and dry. They are good to touch!

蛇皮很光亮，还反光。

蛇皮看上去总是潮湿的，甚至在干燥的环境里也是这样。

当你触摸它时，你会感到蛇皮并不是潮湿的，而是干燥光滑的。摸起来像柔软的皮革或丝绸。摸蛇的感觉真好！很多人认为蛇是潮湿和可怕的，但它们是温暖干燥的。摸它们的感觉真不错！



Rattlesnake

响尾蛇

Scales, which are hard and strong like human fingernails, cover every part of a snake's body. It is difficult for birds and other animals to attack the snake, because of the scales. The scales are a good protection for the snake.

You can see these scales in the picture on this page. They are even around the snake's mouth and eyes.

蛇的鳞片像人的指甲一样坚硬，覆盖着蛇的全身。因为蛇有鳞片，鸟和其他动物都难以袭击它。鳞片对蛇而言，是一种很好的保护。

你可以从本页的图片中看到这些鳞片。甚至在蛇的嘴和眼睛周围也有鳞片。

Birds and mammals grow when they are young, and then they stop. Humans, for example, usually stop growing before they are twenty. But snakes grow all through their life.

The problem for snakes is that their skin does not grow with them. When the skin gets very tight, the snake feels uncomfortable. Would you like to wear clothes that were too small for you? What could you do? You could change your clothes. Well, the snake changes its clothes, too.

鸟类和哺乳动物在年幼时生长，之后生长就停止了。例如，人类通常在20岁之前停止生长。但是，蛇一生都在生长。

蛇的问题是皮不随身体的生长而生长。蛇在皮变紧时会感到很不舒服。你愿意穿很小的衣服吗？你会怎么办？你可以把衣服换一下。那么，蛇也换它的衣服。



Rock python
岩蟒

This is the time when snakes change their skin. It is called sloughing. It happens like this:

First the snake rubs its head on something hard – a stone or a piece of wood – to break the skin. The skin begins to open. Then the snake moves forward, and leaves the skin behind. It slides away. The snake has a new skin. It does not want the old one.

蛇换皮的时候到了，这叫蜕皮。它是这样发生的：

首先，蛇将其头部在坚硬的东西，如石头或木头上摩擦，把皮弄破。皮开始开裂了。然后，蛇向前移动，把皮留在后面。它滑行了。蛇有了新皮，旧皮就不要了。

*The shed skin
of a snake*
蛇蜕



Some people collect these old skins. They go into the country and look for them. They are quite difficult to see. They are very beautiful, but they break easily. In the picture opposite, you can even see the holes where the snake's eyes were. It looks like a model of a snake, or a mask.

Snakes slough every time their skin gets tight, and so they have shiny new skins very often. It is like having new clothes. They look good!

有人收集这些旧皮。他们去野外寻找这些东西，它们很难找。它们很好看，但却很脆。你甚至能在对面页上的图片中看到蛇眼睛所在的孔。它看上去像是蛇的模型或面具。

蛇每次在皮变紧时蜕皮，因此它们经常有鲜亮的新皮，就好像穿新衣服。它们看上去很漂亮！

Wait and see

When a snake is going to change its skin, its eyes turn white, like milk. Because it can't see very well at this time, it stays in a quiet place for about a week.

等着瞧

蛇在要换皮时眼睛变白、接近乳白色。因为这时候它看不太清楚，所以它在一个安静的地方大约待上一个星期。



Because snakes have no legs, they move along the ground in long curves. A small snake moves by pushing one part of its body against a rock, or a piece of wood, or a small bump in the ground. Each part of the snake's body must push against the same object or bump. Then the snake goes forwards.

The sidewinder snake shown here makes these marks in the desert, where it lives. You can see how the snake moves. It makes a big "S" in the sand. It pushes and it moves forward. It moves in curves. When it moves on sand, you can see the pattern that it makes.

因为蛇没有腿，它们贴着地面以长长的曲线形式移动。小蛇是靠它身体的一部分顶着岩石或一块木头或地面上的小突起而移动的。蛇身体的每个部分都必须顶着同一物体或突起。然后，蛇就向前进了。

这里所示的角响尾蛇在它生活的沙漠里留下了这些痕迹。你可以看到这种蛇是怎样移动的。它在沙子里走了一个大"S"形。它推动着自己向前移动。当它在沙地上移动时，你能看到它留下的花纹。



Big, heavy snakes like pythons move in a different way. A big snake can expand and contract the muscles in different parts of its body at different times.

It lifts one part of its body off the ground, stretches it or makes it longer, and then puts it down on the ground again.

By lifting different parts of their bodies, these big snakes can move forwards, in a straight line, not in a curve. They can move quickly. These big snakes are dangerous. They attack small animals and eat them. They move quickly and silently in a straight line to catch their food.

类似巨蟒那样的个大、体重的蛇以不同的方式移动。一条大蛇能使它身体不同部位的肌肉在不同的时间伸缩。

它把身体的一部分由地面抬起、伸展或使其变长，然后再把它放到地面上。

这些大蛇靠把身体各部分抬起，能以直线而不是曲线向前移动。它们能快速移动。这些大蛇是危险的。它们袭击小动物，并把它们吃掉。它们快速、无声地以直线移动，捕捉它们的猎物。





Eyelash viper
扁斑奎蛇

Not all snakes live on the ground; some snakes live in the sea, and some live in trees, especially in Asia and Africa.

How do they climb trees? And what do they eat?

不是所有的蛇都生活在陆地上；有些蛇生活在海里，有些蛇生活在树上，在亚洲和非洲这类蛇尤其多。

它们怎样爬树？它们吃什么？

Long-lost legs

Millions of years ago, snakes had legs, like lizards. Monitor lizards, like this one, are the closest relatives of snakes today. Some lizards look like snakes because they have no legs. But there is a difference: lizards have eyelids!

丢失很久的腿

数百万年以前，蛇是有腿的，就像蜥蜴那样。像这个沙地蜥蜴，就是今天蛇的最近的亲属。有些蜥蜴看上去像蛇，因为它们也没有腿。但是，有一个差别：蜥蜴有眼睑！



Because they live in trees, some snakes must climb. They can climb because the scales underneath a snake are larger than the scales on its back. It uses these scales to hold on to the tree. (Remember, they are like the nails on our hands!) Then it pulls itself up the tree with its muscles.

因为有些蛇生活在树上，所以它们必须会爬树。它们能爬树是因为蛇腹部的鳞片比背上的鳞片要大。它用这些鳞片把自己挂在树上，（别忘了，鳞片就像我们手上的指甲！）然后将自己用肌肉向树上拉。



Boa constrictor

王蛇

How are snakes born?

Some snakes lay eggs. They can have from 10 to 100 eggs at the same time! That's a big family!

Other snakes reproduce like humans. They don't lay eggs but give birth to live baby snakes.

蛇是怎样出生的?

有些蛇下蛋。它们一次能下10至100个蛋!真是个大家庭!

其他蛇就像人类那样生产。它们不下蛋,而是生下活的蛇宝宝。



This Florida kingsnake is laying eggs.

这条佛罗里达王蛇正在下蛋。