

Scales vs. Slime—Who's Who?

Take a look at the facts below to discover the differences and similarities between lizards and salamanders.

Choose a fact from the numbered list below and place its number on the correct line at right. Your choices are "Lizard," "Salamander" or "Both."

1 Is a reptile and does not go through **metamorphosis**. When hatched, the young are fully developed and resemble their parents.

2 Four fingers in the front and five toes on the back without claws.

3 Is **ectothermic**, meaning the body temperature is the same as the surrounding environment.

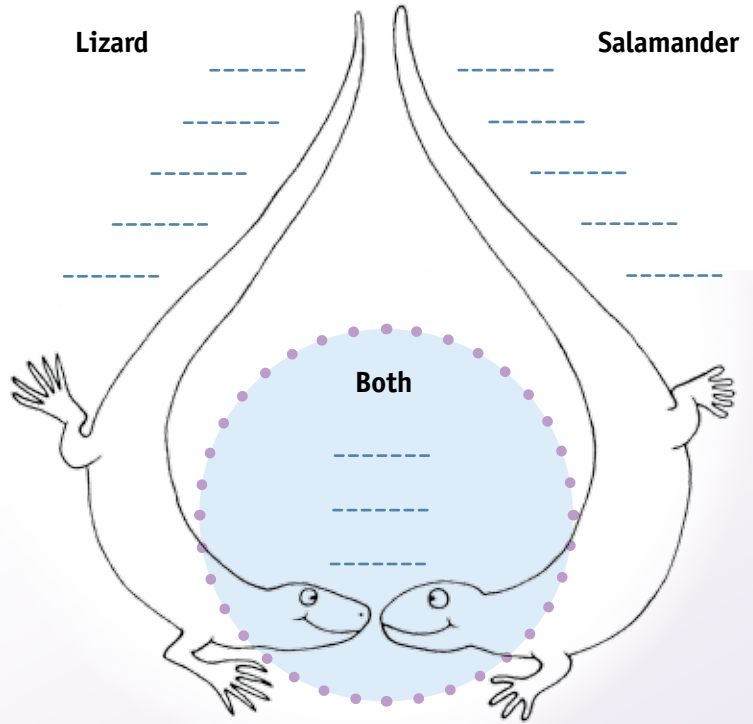
4 Is an amphibian, which lives part of its life in water and part of its life on land.

5 Eggs have a soft gel surrounding them. Usually found in water or in damp areas.

6 Some can absorb oxygen through their thin skin.

7 Eggs have a hard or nearly hard, leathery shell. They are laid on land.

8 Lay eggs.



9 Ear openings.

10 Dry, rough skin covered in scales.

11 Smooth slimy skin with no scales.

12 Five fingers and toes with claws.

13 Carnivorous (meat eating), diet consists of small insects, worms and other small critters.

See Summer 2012 PLAY's "Pennsylvania's Secret Salamander Treasures" for more on salamanders.

ANSWER KEY:
Lizard 1, 7, 9, 10, 12; Salamander 2, 4, 5, 6, 11; Both 3, 8, 13.

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