

The Tree-Top Lizard

Appearance

The Tree-Top Lizard is camouflaged. When it touches wood, it turns brown. Here you can see it green because it is stepping on green leaves.

The lizard has green eyes and spikes on its back. To help it climb trees, it has suckers on its feet.

When it is threatened, the spikes turn into wings and it can also shoot out poisonous venom from the tips of the wings.

It grows to 20cm length.

Diet

The Tree-Top Lizard mostly eats bugs which live in the tree. Sometimes it can eat fruit or leaves from the tree. In a day, the lizard eats 30 bugs. It lives up to 20 years so that's around 220 000 bugs!

Habitat

The Tree-Top lizard lives in the Amazon rainforest, near the Amazon River. It lives in the very top of the highest trees. They can climb up a tree in a matter of seconds. Using its wings and suckers. It is a great swimmer because it can store oxygen, twice the amount than humans. The Tree-top lizard can also jump from tree to tree They make camouflaged nests out of leaves and twigs. The mummy lizard lays eggs. When the baby lizards hatch, the mum goes and gets insects and bugs to feed them, like a bird.

Because the Tree-top Lizard eats all the bugs, it helps keep the tree healthy.

Did you know?

The Tree-top lizard carries its babies in its mouth when it's flying through the trees. This is the same as a crocodile carries its babies too.

Because the lizard is so well camouflaged, it has only been discovered 30 years ago.