

updated March 2017

## MADAGASCAR HOGNOSE SNAKE



<b>Range</b>	Madagascar, widespread across island; introduced to Comoros
<b>Habitat</b>	Native dry forest, scrubland, and grassland
<b>Diet (wild)</b>	Small birds, small mammals, lizards, and reptile eggs
<b>Diet (captivity)</b>	
<b>Description</b>	Length: up to 6 feet inches. Typically, black or brown mottled backs with light beige or yellow underside. Like other hognose snakes, the most distinguishing feature is the upturned snout, used for digging in sandy soils. A large, heavy-bodied snake.
<b>Lifespan</b>	Captivity: 27.2 years (longest recorded)
<b>Reproduction</b>	The female lays 6–12 eggs. The young hatch in 60–80 days and are about 12 inches long.
<b>Behavior</b>	Terrestrial, diurnal. Energetic but easily tamed. Will display impressive, but harmless, bluffs to scare away predators. Their large girth and length can be intimidating. Helps to control small mammal populations.
<b>Our animals</b>	1 female. Born: 09/01/2012
<b>Cool stuff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largest of the hognose snakes. Mildly venomous, but not particularly dangerous to humans. While unrelated to the North American hognose snakes, they are an example of parallel evolution.</li> <li>• Madagascar hognose snakes are opisthognathous, which means they have fangs in the back of their mouth.</li> <li>• Potter Park's snake was originally labeled as a male. She is adept at escaping her cage and exploring high places.</li> </ul>

Phylum  
ChordataClass  
ReptiliaOrder  
SquamataFamily  
LamprophiidaeGenus  
Leioheterodonspecies  
*L. madagascariensis*