

GECKODAILY CLASSROOM RESOURCES · QUIZ

Crested Gecko - Multiple Choice Quiz

Correlophus ciliatus

Name: _____ Date: _____

Instructions: Circle the best answer to each question. An answer key with brief explanations follows on the last page.

1. What family does the crested gecko belong to?

- A) Eublepharidae B) Gekkonidae
C) Diplodactylidae D) Agamidae

2. The crested gecko was rediscovered in what year, after being presumed extinct?

- A) 1976 B) 1988
C) 1994 D) 2001

3. What structure lets crested geckos climb smooth surfaces like glass?

- A) Sticky mucus B) Setae-covered toe pads
C) Suction cups D) Hooked claws

4. What is unusual about a crested gecko's tail once it is lost?

- A) It regrows within a week B) It does not grow back
C) It regrows twice as long D) It regrows as a different colour every time

5. The crested gecko's diet is best described as:

- A) Strict carnivore B) Strict herbivore
C) Omnivore (fruit, nectar, insects) D) Filter feeder

6. What is the crested gecko's current IUCN Red List status?

- A) Least Concern B) Near Threatened
C) Vulnerable D) Extinct in the Wild

7. A species presumed extinct and then rediscovered, like the crested gecko, is sometimes called a:

- A) Keystone species B) Lazarus species
C) Indicator species D) Founder species

8. Crested geckos are native to:

- A) West Africa B) South-Central Asia
C) New Caledonia D) Central Australia

9. The fringed skin ridges above a crested gecko's eyes are the likely source of its:

- A) Common nickname 'eyelash gecko' B) Ability to fly short distances
C) Venom glands D) Colour-changing ability

10. Why is genetic diversity a concern in captive crested gecko populations?

- A) They reproduce by parthenogenesis B) Most descend from a small number of individuals collected after the 1994 rediscovery
C) They cannot be bred in captivity at all D) They are immune to all diseases

Crested Gecko - Multiple Choice Quiz

1. C) Diplodactylidae

Crested geckos belong to Diplodactylidae, a family largely restricted to the Australia/New Caledonia/New Zealand region.

2. C) 1994

It was rediscovered on the Isle of Pines in 1994 after not being documented since the 1860s.

3. B) Setae-covered toe pads

Microscopic hair-like setae grip surfaces via weak intermolecular (van der Waals) forces.

4. B) It does not grow back

Unlike many other geckos, crested geckos do not regenerate a lost tail.

5. C) Omnivore (fruit, nectar, insects)

Crested geckos eat both plant material (fruit, nectar) and insects.

6. C) Vulnerable

The species is currently assessed as Vulnerable.

7. B) Lazarus species

'Lazarus species' is the informal term for species rediscovered after being thought extinct.

8. C) New Caledonia

They are native to southern New Caledonia in the South Pacific.

9. A) Common nickname 'eyelash gecko'

The eyelash-like crests running from above the eyes give the species its 'eyelash gecko' nickname.

10. B) Most descend from a small number of individuals collected after the 1994 rediscovery

The modern captive population traces back to a small founding group, reducing genetic diversity.