

GECKODAILY CLASSROOM RESOURCES · QUIZ

African Fat-Tailed Gecko - Multiple Choice Quiz

Hemitheconyx caudicinctus

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 African fat-tailed gecko belong to?

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

2. The African fat-tailed gecko shares which trait with the leopard gecko?

- A) Adhesive toe pads B) Movable eyelids
C) Obligate parthenogenesis D) Fully aquatic lifestyle

3. What is the primary function of this species' thickened tail?

- A) Producing venom B) Storing fat as an energy reserve
C) Underwater propulsion D) Sound production

4. The African fat-tailed gecko is native to:

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

5. What kind of sex determination system does this species use?

- A) Temperature-dependent sex determination (TSD) B) ZZ/ZW chromosomal system only
C) XY chromosomal system only D) Parthenogenesis

6. What does the alternating brown and tan banding on this species mainly provide?

- A) Waterproofing B) Camouflage against leaf litter and rocky ground
C) UV protection only D) A mating signal visible only at night

7. This species' activity pattern is best described as:

- A) Diurnal and heliothermic B) Nocturnal
C) Fully aquatic D) Active only in winter

8. What is this species' current IUCN Red List status?

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

9. After autotomy, a regenerated fat-tailed gecko tail is typically:

- A) Identical to the original B) Shorter and more bulbous than the original
C) Longer and thinner than the original D) A completely different colour every time

10. Compared to a mourning gecko, an African fat-tailed gecko's toes have:

- A) The same adhesive setae B) Claws instead of adhesive pads
C) Webbing for swimming D) No toes

GECKODAILY CLASSROOM RESOURCES · ANSWER KEY

African Fat-Tailed Gecko - Multiple Choice Quiz

1. A) Eublepharidae

Like the leopard gecko, it belongs to Eublepharidae, the eyelid gecko family.

2. B) Movable eyelids

Both belong to Eublepharidae and share movable eyelids and clawed, non-adhesive toes.

3. B) Storing fat as an energy reserve

The tail stores fat, helping the gecko survive periods without food in a seasonally dry habitat.

4. B) West Africa

Its native range spans West Africa, from Senegal to northern Cameroon.

5. A) Temperature-dependent sex determination (TSD)

As in the leopard gecko, incubation temperature influences hatchling sex.

6. B) Camouflage against leaf litter and rocky ground

The banding breaks up the animal's outline, making it harder for predators to detect.

7. B) Nocturnal

African fat-tailed geckos shelter by day and forage at night.

8. B) Least Concern

The species is currently assessed as Least Concern.

9. B) Shorter and more bulbous than the original

The replacement tail typically differs from the original, usually shorter and more bulbous.

10. B) Claws instead of adhesive pads

Fat-tailed geckos (Eublepharidae) lack adhesive toe pads, unlike mourning geckos (Gekkonidae).