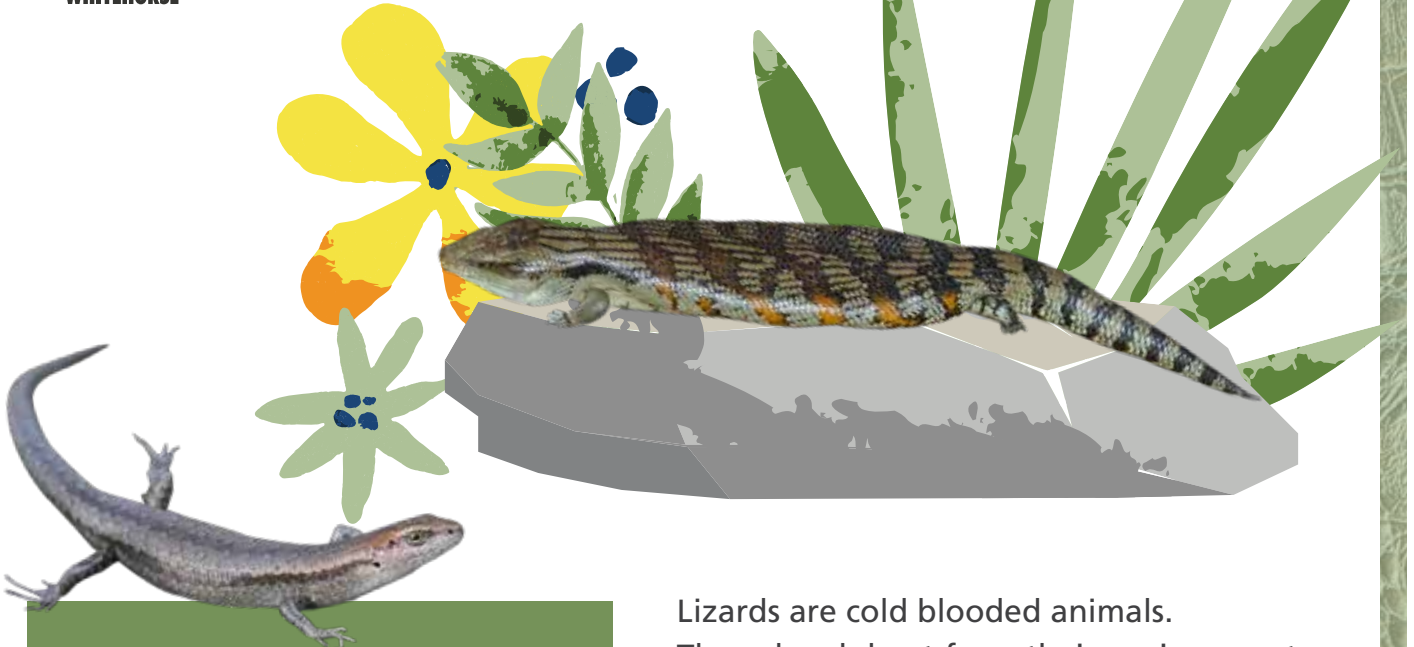


# Lizards



How to make a lizard lounge:

## Checklist

- A sunny area, rock pile and logs
- Leaf litter and mulch
- Ground cover plants and grasses
- Shallow ground-level dish of water
- Keep your cats enclosed inside the house or in a cat run and adhere to local cat curfew laws - cats take a considerable toll on wildlife
- Make sure elements are connected to reduce exposure to predators and facilitate movement between habitats
- Avoid using pesticides to ensure that insect populations thrive

Lizards are cold blooded animals. They absorb heat from their environment rather than generating their own heat. In order to raise their body temperature to function properly they must bask in the sun. They often will only sun small parts of their bodies at a time to minimise predation risk. Lizards get much of their water from their food and have very efficient bodies that lose little moisture through their skin. However they will drink if water is available, especially in hot weather.



## Some lizard species found in Whitehorse



### Blue-tongue Lizard

*Tiliqua scincoides*

Head and body length:  
🐾 300 mm

Blue-tongues live on or near the ground, feeding on a variety of invertebrates including snails which they find in leaf litter and amongst groundcover plants.

They also eat plant material including berries.



### Marbled Gecko

*Christinus marmoratus*

Head and body length:  
🐾 70 mm

Marbled Geckos are arboreal nocturnal creatures and enjoy feeding on spiders and insects. They will often be found hiding under loose bark, old sheets of iron, stacks of brick and wooden sleepers.



### Common Garden Skink

*Lampropholis guichenoti*

Head and body length:  
🐾 48 mm

Skinks are excellent hunters of insects. Having skinks around will help control crickets, moths and cockroaches. To avoid predators, these skinks will drop their tails when grasped roughly. The tails do eventually grow back.

## Suggested plants:



1 Nodding Saltbush (*Einadia nutans*)

2 Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*)

3 Wallaby Grass (*Rytidosperma spp*)

4 Spiny-headed Mat-rush (*Lomandra longifolia*)

5 Tussock Grass (*Poa spp*)

6 Wattle Mat-rush (*Lomandra filiformis*)

