

# Children's Python

**Scientific Name:** *Antaresia childreni*

**Class:** Reptilia

**Order:** Squamata

**Family:** Boidae



This relatively small python, of moderate build, rarely exceeding five feet in length, is one of Australia's most common pythons. The head is wedge-shaped and pointed. The under-side is white, but the main color is light brown or beige heavily marked with many round to elongated black blotches. In the Northern Territories unmarked specimen occur.

## Range

Their range includes much of Australia.

## Habitat

They inhabit primarily dry brush-lands and rocky areas.

## Gestation

Incubation: Variable with temperature, from 7 to 15 weeks, averaging 49.9 days.

## Litter

Clutch: 10 to 20 eggs

## Behavior

This snake is generally docile. It tends to be more nocturnal, holing up in termite mounds, caves, crevices, etc. during the day. They will not hesitate to climb if in pursuit of prey.

## Reproduction

In northern Australia mating is from May to August. Eggs are laid in ground nests from September to October. The female coils her body around the eggs to aid in incubation, and also to defend them from predators. The newly hatched young are about ten inches in length.

## Wild Diet

Lizards, bats, small mammals