

Step into the scaly world of reptile care and learn about new treatments in the hospital!



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT



The care for your reptile or amphibian varies based on the species. Amphibians (smooth, slimy skin) will have different requirements for their enclosure than reptiles (dry, scaly skin.)

First and foremost, different species must *not* be mixed. A solitary reptile pet is usually the healthiest as this avoids stress and competition for resources. Most notably, chameleons are extremely territorial which makes isolation essential for long-term survival.

The type of enclosure, as well as the size, is vital for your pets health; the largest possible is recommended. Glass aquaria, although commonly used for their visual appeal, may be stressful to your pet. Glass is also a poor insulator, whereas wood, plastic, or fiberglass is preferred.

Artificial turf, newspaper, and organic particulates such as bark chips can be used to line terrariums, but must be regularly replaced. Sand, soil and natural leaf litter may be used as well as long as it is oven baked for sterilization prior to placement. Make sure to do your research or contact your veterinarian prior to purchasing – reptiles such as geckos should not have fine sand in their habitats, as this can cause respiratory problems and other issues. Pebbles and gravel are also not recommended due to possible ingestion and cleaning difficulties.

A thermostat controlled heater should be placed on one end of the enclosure to provide a thermal gradient for your pet. Be sure to screen this in to protect your exotic friend.

Most importantly, UVB lights and humidifiers are instrumental in their health, however nothing compares to 1-2 hours per week of natural sunlight!

## HOSPITAL HAPPENINGS

# FEATURED NEWS





Phovia Light Therapy uses a specialized gel that targets the outer layers of skin to promote up to 50% faster healing than without light therapy. Check out these results

1 week after the first treatment!

6.5 year old Shih Tzu Photographed by Dr. Pearson





## ET'S TALK!

Stay tuned for our next discussion with one of our doctors, right here in the hospital!

### THANK YOU

It is our privilege and pleasure to care for your pets!





Gummy

Science





**Brinks** 



Axel + Aslan







Stache

Contact us today to have your pet featured! sevenfieldsvet@gmail.com

Did You Know...

Soil temperature effects the gender of reptile eggs; lower temperatures will produce males and higher temperatures produce females!