



Skinks and Geckos

This task is about using information provided to identify similarities and differences between geckos and skinks.

The following boxes contain facts about the similarities and differences between skinks and geckos.

Facts about Skinks	
Head	Narrow. A skink looks rather snake-like.
Skin	Smooth and shiny, with tiny fish-like scales.
Sloughing (pronounced 'sluffing')	Skin comes off in pieces.
Feet	Smooth, narrow toes.

Facts about Geckos	
Head	Larger than a skink's, a wider mouth, geckos look rather frog-like.
Skin	Velvety, loose skin. It does have scales, but not as obvious to the naked eye as a skink's.
Sloughing (pronounced 'sluffing')	Skin comes off in one piece as if they are climbing out of a tightly-fitting suit.
Feet	Wide toes (like padded gloves). With a microscope, you could see thousands of tiny hairs under their toes that help the gecko climb smooth surfaces.

Facts about Skinks and Geckos
Food: Skinks and geckos eat mainly insects, though some eat berries and fruit. Also, some skinks and geckos eat other smaller lizards.
Blood: Skinks and geckos have cold blood. Their blood is the temperature of their surroundings. Skinks and geckos need the warmth of the sun to stay active enough to catch their prey.

- Use the boxes below to show how skinks and geckos are different from each other. The differences in their head shapes have been done for you. Use the information on the previous page to make **brief** notes in the boxes for skin, sloughing, and feet. Write the main ideas only.

	Head differences
Skinks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • narrow • snake-like
Geckos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • larger than skinks • wide mouth • frog-like

	Skin differences
Skinks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •
Geckos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •

	Sloughing differences
Skinks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •
Geckos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •

	Feet differences
Skinks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •
Geckos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •

- . Use the boxes below to show what skinks and geckos have in common. The facts about food have been done for you. Use the information on the previous page to make brief notes in the box for blood.

Food

- mainly insects
- some eat berries and fruit
- some eat smaller lizards

Blood

-
-
-