



## Video transcript

### Blue tongue lizard introduction

So, this is a Blue Tongue Lizard. He's found along the east coast of Australia, so you'll find him from Western Australia, way down to Victoria. You don't find him in Tasmania at all. He's named Blue Tongue Lizard for obvious reasons and there we go, his blue tongue. The reason he's a lizard and maybe not a snake some differences to point out a lizard is that this little guy has legs which isn't always the case because there are some legless lizards in the World. He has eyelids, a snake doesn't have eyelids. And when he pokes out his tongue it's quite broad and fleshy and not forked, so he's a lizard. The most important parts of this guy to make him a lizard is the fact that he has ears. So, you see the two little holes on the side of his head, that would indicate that this guy's a lizard. All lizards have ears and there's no exceptions to the rules there. So, you'll find this guy in a variety of environments around Australia. So, from dry to forests to wet. But a lot of the time a lot of people find these guys in their backyard. They're enticed into backyards for a lot of reasons. One reason and the main reason that most reptiles are enticed into backyards is water. We all need water and a lot of backyards have a dog bowl or a cat bowl of water, a bird bath, a pool, all sorts of water sources to entice it in. So, if you've got water and the other thing is food. So, a lot of people are keen gardeners, not only do they come in for maybe the fruit and vegetables but they love snails and slugs. So, if you don't use pesticides and you have a lot of snails and slugs around they're coming in to eat all your goodies. They also like to eat funnel webs in some cases or spiders. So, they're quite handy to have around in the backyard. A lot of the time people just have a lot of shelter and it's something to keep them safe in the backyards. One thing that they don't really like about backyards unfortunately especially when it does come to them in coming in for water from dog bowls. And they also love eating dog and cat food is that the dogs and cats unfortunately do get attacked quite often by dogs and cats which obviously isn't good for these guys. The other thing in backyards that's quite a danger for them is when people are lawn mowing. So, mowers, whipper snippers, things like that. So, they do get injured quite often in backyards but most of the time backyards are quite a safe haven for a blue tongue lizard.