

# Veiled Chameleon

*Kingdom: Animalia Phylum: Chordata Class: Reptilia Order: Squamata  
Chamaeleo Calyptorarus*

**Description:** This lizard has brown, tan, turquoise, green and white scaly skin that changes color with the light, temperature and emotional level. They have a long, prehensile tail and a helmet-like casque on the head used to collect dew.

**Length:** Up to 2 feet long

**Lifespan:** 5 years female and 8 years male

**Habitat:** Deserts

**Range:** Yemen and Saudi Arabia

**Diet in the Wild:** Insects and some vegetables

**Special Features:**

- They are well adapted to extreme temperatures and scarce water.
- Their sticky tongues are longer than their body.
- Their claw-like feet have 5 toes.
- One of 80 species of Old World or true chameleons.
- The leaf-like body acts as camouflage. They move side to side like a leaf fluttering in the wind.
- Eyes can turn 180 degrees and can focus in two different directions.
- Arboreal
- Males have a fleshy appendage on the rear feet called a tarsal spur.
- Ectothermic
- Will sit motionless for hours waiting for prey.
- Generally solitary and males are very territorial.



**Breeding/Care of Young:**

- Few days before laying eggs the female will crawl to the ground.
- They lay 30-50 white, oval, tough-skinned eggs, which are buried in warm sand until they hatch.
- Sexually mature at 4-5 months.
- Egg laying occurs 20-30 days after mating.
- Breeding can occur 3 times per year.