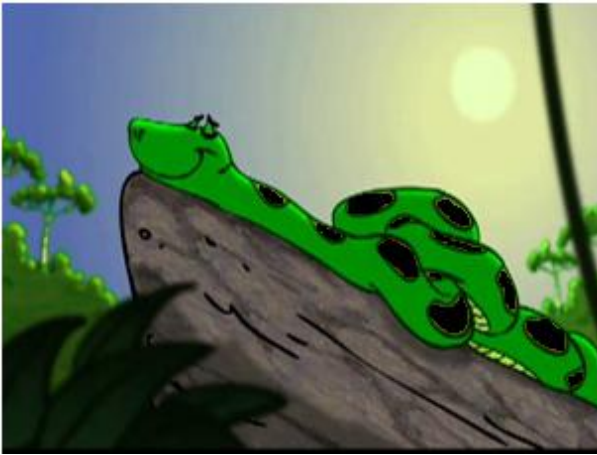


Amazon Voyage Meet Andy and Jet

If you look in the records there is a lot of controversy over which snake holds the world's record for massive size.



Now, my name is Andy and I am an anaconda. As you might think I am the **BIGGEST** snake on earth. I must be honest with you and explain how scientist considered me the biggest. Scientist use my total body *mass* or weight. There is another snake that is known for world records like me. The python holds the world's record for length, but I still beat those snakes hands down when it comes to mass or weight. I have Anaconda friends in the jungles of South America that are as big around as a grown man! I have one friend that ways up to 200 pounds! Now that is big!

Don't be afraid of me, there are many things about me that you may not even know. I spend most of my time in the wild hanging out in rivers hunting for food. I usually like to be alone and I am very shy of around people. I am able to stay camouflaged in the swamps and bogs where I live. I am a member of the boa constrictor family of snakes. That means that they kill my prey by coiling my large, powerful body around my prey and squeeze. I don't have to chew my supper because I swallow it whole. I really like to eat fish and I think people taste awful. So don't worry I want hurt you.



The United States does not have large snakes like Andy, but they do have many different species of snakes all around. One snake that you might not know about is the Texas Indigo snake. Hi, my name is Jet and I am an indigo snake.

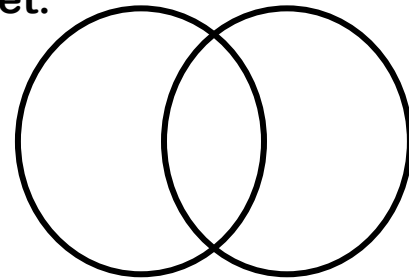
I live in south Texas. I have friends that live in New Mexico as well. I am a nonpoisonous snake. My friends and I like to see who has grown the most. Last time we checked we ranged from six to eight feet long. Now, that is pretty long! I have beautiful bluish black skin. My skin is also very smooth. I live in brush around small streams and ponds. Most of the time I don't mind hanging out, but when the weather heats up, so do I. I can get pretty mean if someone tries to mess with me. I usually spend my time relaxing and looking for frogs, lizards, baby turtles and birds to eat. One good thing that I do for my farmer friends is attack and kill rattlesnakes. They are not my friends and are scary for humans. I try very hard to make those guys hang out somewhere else.

Andy and Jet cannot wait to meet you and have you measure them to see how BIG they both are.

Amazon Voyage Meet Andy and Jet Directions

- 1. Read the information about Andy and Jet as a group.**
- 2. Using the white paper provided create a Venn Diagram as a group comparing Andy and Jet.**

Remember a Venn diagram compares and contrasts two things. Everything that is alike goes in middle part of the two circles. Label each side part.



- 3. Now that you have learned a little about Andy and Jet. It is time for you to meet them.**
- 4. Use the measuring tape in the basket as a group measure both Andy and Jet to find out how long they are in feet.**
- 5. Add your measurements to your group's Venn diagram.**
- 6. Make sure that you write all group members' names on the white paper.**
- 7. As a group discuss another animal from the Amazon rainforest that you would like to learn more about. Write this animal name on the back of your Venn diagram.**

Put all materials back in the basket for the next group/class.