

Getting wild! – animals in the Grand Canyon National Park!

Tourists can visit Grand Canyon National Park to see the wonderful wildlife of the Grand Canyon. In Grand Canyon National Park many endangered animals can live safely. Let's find out more about some of them!

Reptiles

kingsnake www.californiaherps.com

You can see reptiles in the desert very often. In Grand Canyon National Park there are interesting reptiles such as the **gila monster** (Krustenechse), **chuckwalla** (Leguan) and the common **kingsnake** (Königsnatter). A chuckwalla is a large **lizard**.

(Eidechse). It is active by day. When this animal is **threatened** (bedroht) it will hide in a small crevice (**Felsspalte**). The Gila monster is another lizard that is active during the day. It is the largest and the only **venomous** (giftig) lizard in the United States. Its length goes from eighteen to twenty-four inches. The poison of the Gila monster is **painful** (schmerzhaft) but doesn't kill people. The common kingsnake is a black snake with white stripes. This snake will bite other snakes and lizards behind the head then it **wraps** (wickeln) itself around them.

Bighorn Sheep www.marvelousmarv.com

These animals live on the rocky **slopes** (Hang) of the inner canyon. There they are safe from enemies. The big horns of the sheep continue to grow throughout their lives. Males' horns grow to a full **curl** (Wirbel) and the females' ones are only a half curl. The Bighorn feed in the early morning in herds. They eat grass and other plants in the park

www.no-pest.com

Mountain lions, also called cougars, pumas and panthers, are about 4 feet long and 2 feet tall at the shoulder. The colour of a mountain lion is gray. They have dark brown **tips** (Spitze) at the ends of their long tails and on the backs of their ears. Mountain lions are active mostly at night, but also hunt during the day.

They eat deer, elk, bighorn sheep, rabbits, **porcupines** (Stachelschwein), **rodents** (Nagetiere) and sometimes **domestic animals** (Haustiere). Each lion makes a big kill every seven to 10 days.

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Read the brochure about the animals of Grand Canyon National Park and fill in the **fact sheets!** Put down short notes about food, body and characteristics!

Reptiles

Gila monster:

Chuckwalla:

Kingsnake:

Bighorn sheep

Mountain lion