

RED-TAILED BOA CONSTRICTOR

Boa constrictor



FACTS AT A GLANCE

TYPE OF ANIMAL

Reptile

OTHER NAMES

Boa Constrictor

FOUND WHERE

Tropical South America
and some islands in the
Caribbean

LENGTH (INCLUDING TAIL)

1.8 - 3m

WEIGHT

Over 45kg

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not listed

LIFE SPAN

20 - 30 years

Red-tailed Boa Constrictors can be found in a wide range of habitats including rainforest clearings but also in woodlands, thorn scrub, grasslands, dry tropical forest, and semi-desert.

DIET

Mostly comprised of birds and small mammals, but they will try and eat anything of the right size. They hunt via ambush predation and constrict their prey to kill it. It can take between 4-6 days to digest their food! They have over 100 teeth that are short and curve backwards to ensure their prey don't escape.



REPRODUCTION

Red-tailed boa constrictors don't lay eggs!

Boas are pregnant for around 5-8 months and give birth to live young. These young are independent from the moment they are born. They can give birth to between 10-64 snakes at a time.

FUN FACTS

Boa constrictors are strong swimmers. They often live along the banks of streams but can also be found in forests and dry croplands.

MEET OUR BOA

Penny is one of our Boa Constrictors she was born at Mogo Zoo in 2011 and transferred to Rockhampton Zoo in 2012.