Western Diamondback Rattlesnake

These venomous snakes are gray and brown with white, black or brown blotches along their body. They use this camouflage, along with their incredible sense of smell, to sneak up on prey. Rattlesnakes play an important role in their ecosystem by controlling small mammal populations. They prey mostly on rodents and only eat once every two weeks.

Rattlesnakes can move their rattle back and forth 60 times per second! They use their rattle to deter predators.

If you encounter a rattlesnake in the wild, stay calm, give the animal space, and walk in another direction. Always keep your dog on a leash!

Habitat: Southwestern United States and Mexico

What are two desert adaptations of rattlesnakes?

Rattlesnakes: Word Search

Find the following words in the word search below.

VENOMOUS ECOSYSTEM
HABITAT PREDATOR
RODENTS LEASH
RATTLE CALM
CAMOUFLAGE SPACE

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