

Will a Newly Discovered Lizard Help Scientists Protect Rain Forests?



Reading for Detail

Circle each statement below that tells something true about the Northern Sierra Madre monitor lizard.

1. Northern Sierra Madre monitor lizards live on land and in the water.
2. The lizard was found in a Philippines' rain forest.
3. Some people think the meat of the new lizard is a tasty treat.
4. The lizard that scientists captured was about 6-1½ feet long.
5. The Northern Sierra Madre monitor's body is covered with bright green and blue speckles.
6. Scientists got their very first look at a Northern Sierra Madre monitor in 2009.
7. The newly discovered lizard is named after the tribespeople who captured it.
8. Scientists captured a Northern Sierra Madre monitor in the island's Agta Mountains.
9. Some people are destroying forests in the Philippines.
10. The new lizard is related to the Komodo dragon, which is a much larger lizard.

Language Practice: Building Vocabulary

In each sentence, color the circle before the word that means most nearly the same as the underlined word.

1. The Philippines' rain forests may hold other never-before-seen creatures.
 a. monsters b. animals c. pets d. pests
2. In 2009, scientists captured a lizard that they could study.
 a. read b. taste c. sell d. examine
3. Its uniquely colored skin helps the Northern Sierra Madre monitor camouflage itself in trees.
 a. commonly b. normal c. unusually d. average
4. Scientists realize that Philippines' rain forests need to be protected.
 a. understand b. pretend c. distinguish d. recall
5. The rain forests are a "conservation hot spot" that needs to be protected, scientists say.
 a. preserved b. destroyed c. settled d. studied

Reading Comprehension: What's the Main Idea?

Color the circle next to the statement that best sums up the main idea of this week's *News for You* article.

- a. The Agta tribe in the Philippines has known about the new lizard for many years.
- b. A newly discovered lizard is teaching people about the importance of protecting rain forests.
- c. The Northern Sierra Madre monitor lizard is related to a larger lizard, the Komodo dragon.
- d. The amount of forest-covered land in the Philippines has decreased in recent years.