
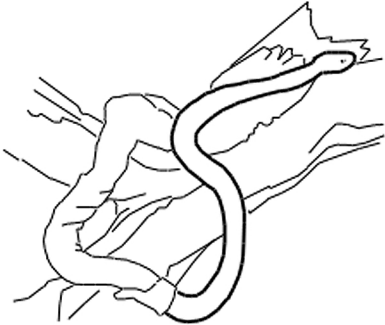





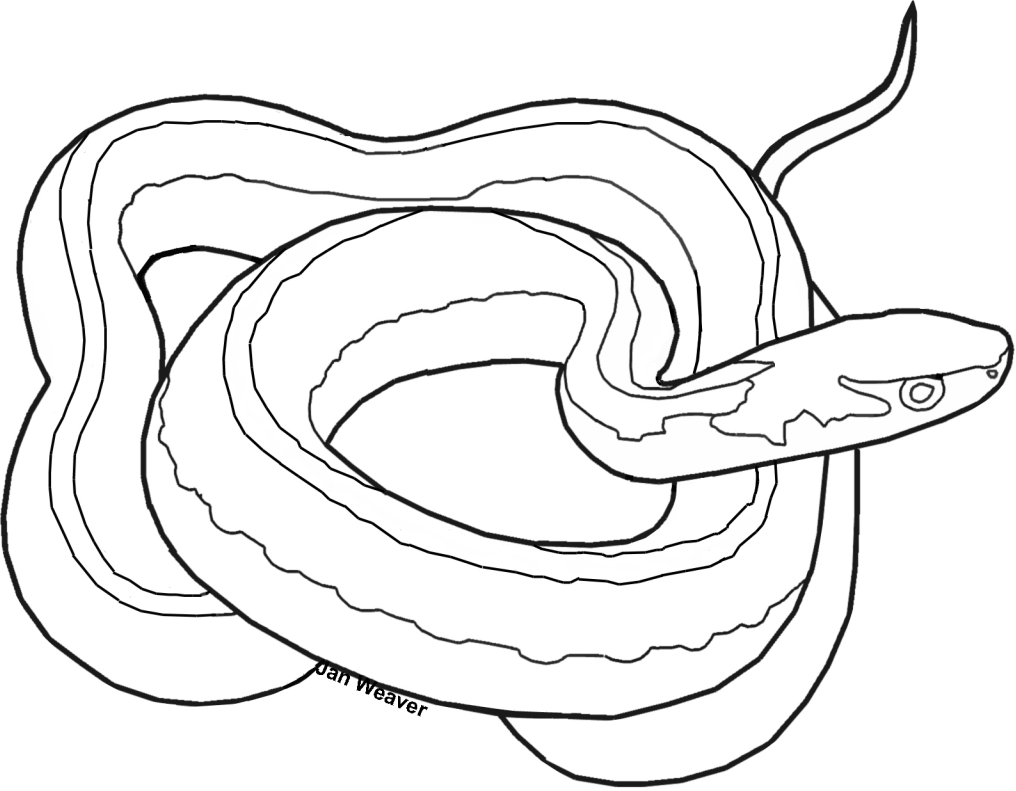






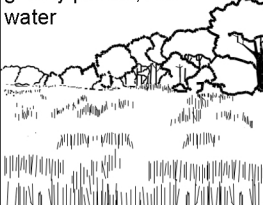


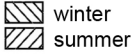


	January	<h1>Garter Snake</h1> <p><i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i> Animalia &gt; Chordata &gt; Reptilia &gt; Squamata &gt; Colubridae</p>		<p><b>Missouri Department of Conservation</b> - <a href="http://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/eastern-gartersnake-eastern-garter-snake">mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/eastern-gartersnake-eastern-garter-snake</a>  <b>USFWS</b> - <a href="http://www.fws.gov/refuge/julia_butler_hansen/wildlife_and_habitat/common-garter_snake.html">www.fws.gov/refuge/julia_butler_hansen/wildlife_and_habitat/common-garter_snake.html</a></p>		
	February			<p><b>Coloring Guide</b> yellow or buff line along the center of the back, black lines on either side of that and yellow or buff sides and belly, black head</p>		
	March	<p>Like all snakes, garter snakes shed their skin all in one piece. Shortly before shedding their skin, it separates from the new scales that have formed underneath it. The snake breaks the skin at the mouth and wiggles out of it head first. Sometimes you can find a whole shed skin where the snake left it.</p>				
	April			<p><b>Size</b> length - 55 cm (22") weight - 150 g (5.3 oz)</p>		
	May					
	June			<p><b>Human Connection</b> Garter snakes are one of the most common snakes in North America. While their bite is harmless to humans, they do have a venom that is toxic to frogs.</p>		
	July					
	August					
	September			<p><b>What eats Garter Snakes</b> crayfish, king snakes, coral snakes, crows, hawks, raccoons, domestic cats and dogs; young snakes are eaten by frogs and shrews</p>		
	October					
	November	<p><b>North American Distribution</b></p> 	<p><b>Missouri Distribution</b></p> 	<p><b>Habitat</b> (home/food/water) meadows, marshes, woodlands, hillsides, moist, grassy places, near water</p> 	<p><b>Home</b> dens in the winter, near the ground in grass, under stones or logs unless sunning itself to warm up</p> 	<p><b>What Garter Snakes eat</b> earthworms, amphibians, slugs, snails, leeches, insects, small fish and other snakes - sometimes small mammals, lizards, and baby birds</p>
	December	<p>     winter   summer </p>				