



PodCaz audio 108

Naomi's Pythons

http://pedagogie2.ac-reunion.fr/cyberprofil_V/telechargements/podcaz_audio/anglais/108_naomis-pythons.mp3

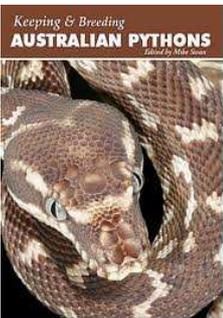
Langue : Anglais

Public : Lycée

Niveau CECL : B2



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1bpr3KBbWoA>



Hi, my name is Naomi Hanson, I'm a veterinarian in Queensland, in [Noosa](#). I work in a small animal practice; we work on a lot of dogs, and cats, sometimes we see the odd guinea pig, a few rabbits, we see ... sometimes, also, we see a few reptiles, people here have lizards as pets, and snakes as pets.

I'm one of those people, I actually have 4 snakes. I have 3 big pythons and one little python; their names are Basil, Maurice, Wayne and Abigail, so it's 3 boys and a girl. We also have 3 baby [bearded dragons](#), and er... I can't remember their names because they're more my boyfriend's, he looks after them... and one big bearded dragon... and I look after the snakes primarily.

Now, looking after the pythons we have is quite easy: during most of the time, they actually live in a glass enclosure called a terrarium, which we have heated mats in there for them, and a little water tank, and all have like a little rock they can hide under, which they really quite like. We've got to keep the temperature quite warm for them when it gets cold. When they're not in there, we do like to take them down to the garden, to take them for a walk, and they like to be hosed, and they like to be wet, and that helps sometimes when they're shedding.

As far as feeding the pythons, they're very easy to feed: they only need one meal every 2 weeks, we feed them on frozen rats which we buy at the pet shop, and you can buy the rats in different sizes, anything from a little rat for a little snake, to a big rat or a rabbit for the bigger snakes, and they have one of those every 2 weeks. And then 4 days after they have eaten, we take them down to the garden and they do a big poo in the garden- and that's very easy.

Then we take them back upstairs, they just hang out in their little tanks most of the time. And the bearded dragons are about the same, they need a little more food. We feed them every second day, and we feed them on crickets, and worms, and they like salad – so, greens; they also like fruit, and sometimes we also feed them on cabbage and things like that. But apart from that, the reptiles are actually quite easy to look after.

We have also one cat, called Liam, and Liam's now ... he was initially very scared of the reptiles but now he likes the snakes and he starts to play with their tails, which is probably not a good thing, because if they would have bite him (*sic*), I think it would hurt.

As far as the snakes go, they can bite, they do have teeth but they don't have [fangs](#), so they're not actually poisonous. If they're handled a lot they're quite friendly and there's no problem handling them, but if you are to come across a python in the wild, there's a chance that they might bite you, and because of the way their teeth are, the bite can get infected so you do have to be careful. And then, as far as wild snakes go in Australia, we do have a lot of venomous snakes that you do have to be very careful of, so we don't go around picking up snakes in the wild because some of them can be quite bad, and if you get bitten by one of those you could die.

So the snakes we have, they're called [carpet pythons](#). We have 3 different varieties depending on the area they come from: so we have [Wayne](#) who's a local, like a Sunshine Coast, coastal carpet python, and he's green and brown. And then we have [Abigail](#), that's the only girl we have, she's from Central Australia, so she is more like the sand, so she's like sandy-coloured brown. And then we have [Maurice](#), who's from the Murray Darling region which is the New South Wales/Victoria area, and he looks more like he would live in a habitat that's kind of got a lot of trees, and a lot of dirt, so he's browns and greys... the colouring depicts where they come from, and their camouflage, and as far as that goes, that's really important to know when we're looking after them in their tanks, as far as the temperatures and things like that because, obviously, the girl from Central Australia likes it drier... tank, then the guy who's from the Sunshine Coast, he likes a bit of humidity. Um... and ... that's it!

