

## Species Fact Sheet



**REPTILES** <http://www.peoriazoo.org/reptiles.html>

### Prehensile Tailed Skinks

*Corucia zebrata*

**Peoria Zoo Exhibit** Historic Entry Building

<http://www.peoriazoo.org/exhibits.html>

**Habitat:** Arboreal (lives in trees) in the tropical rainforests

**Range:** Solomon Islands,

**Activity Cycle:** Primarily crepuscular (active at dawn and dusk) but can be nocturnal

**Size:** Largest known living species of skink, reaching a length of 32 inches

**Social Structure:** Solitary  
Gestation for babies is 6-7 months, with babies born 6-8 inches long. They stay by their parents for the first few months.

**Distinguishing Features:** Ranges in color from olive to green with shade of green decorating their back.  
They have a prehensile tail, which they use to help them climb, and four very strong legs that have very sharp claws. They have a broad-shaped head and a large mouth with lots of small, very sharp teeth.

**Diet:** Almost exclusively herbivorous, eating the leaves of the Solomon Islands creeper plant

**Life Span:** 25 years in captivity

### **Did you know?**

**Unlike other skinks, prehensile tailed skinks cannot drop their tail as a defense.**