**Woma Python**

**Native to:** Australia, deserts and grasslands

**Predators:** HUMANS- endangered species due to habitat destruction, invasive species of foxes

**Prey:** invertebrates, lizards, birds, small mammals- mainly other reptiles it catches in burrows

**Facts:**

* Burrow to escape the intense sun and hunt, so they stay where there is mostly sandy soil, which makes digging easier
* Instead of coiling around their prey to crush them, they push a loop of their body up against the burrow wall to crush the animal. This is effective, but often leads to minor injuries to the snake’s body.
* Only pythons that don’t have heat seeking pits (because most of their prey is cold blooded)
* 4-8 feet in length, weigh up to 10 lbs
* Do not possess pits to detect heat changes, but may have another mechanism with the same purpose
* Nocturnal
* Immune to venomous snakes

**Defense Mechanisms:**

* Camouflage
* Venom immunity

**Reproduction:**

* 5-20 eggs per clutch
* Mothers stay and shiver with eggs for 3 months until they are hatched

**Lifespan:** 20+ years

**Handling Tips:**

Bindy is 5 years old. She can occasionally bite, so handlers and bring a hook and try to support the animal’s weight.