**Savannah Monitor**

**Native to:** Native to the Savannahs of Northern and Eastern Africa

**Predators:**  Birds, Snakes, Large Mammals, Other Lizards

**Food:**  Small insects, eggs, small mammal, birds, carrion

**Facts:**.

* They are one of medium species of Monitor that generally grow between 3 to 5 feet in length and weigh in at around 10 to 15 lbs
* During the heat of the day time they dig into termite mounds to stay cool and keep hydrated.
* They usually scavenge for food that other animals have already killed but can hunt live prey if needed.
* When they feel threatened their first defense is to whip their tails and a predator at almost 70 miles an hour.
* They generally have few threats to their lives from other predators when they are full grown
* Monitors have a bifurcated or split tongue one end acts as their sense of taste and the other as their sense of smell much like their snake cousins in the reptile family.
* The main threats to this species are hunting by humans for their hides and the bush meat trade.

**Defense Mechanisms:**

* Size
* Strength
* Tail Whip

**Reproduction:**

Females lays a clutch of 6 to 10 eggs once a year.

**Lifespan:** Can live for about 15 to 25 years in captivity

**Handling Tips**

Our Savannah Monitor is very easy to handle. Make sure you hold him securely enough to make sure he does not wiggle his way out of your hands.