



# Bites and Stings



## Rattlesnakes

- A triangular head and a rattle on the tail
- Does not always rattle before they bite
- Most active April through October
- All species of rattlesnakes can deliver a dangerous bite
- Bites are usually caused by disturbing the snake
- Bites cause pain, swelling and bleeding problems



## Gila Monsters

- Only venomous lizard in United States
- Black and coral skin pattern
- Can grow up to 2 feet long
- Can deliver a very firm bite, requiring medical care

## Preventing Bites and Stings

- Leave wild animals alone
- These creatures are active in winter during the warmest part of the day
- Active in summer during the coolest part of the day
- Keep hands and feet out of tight spaces
- Wear shoes when walking after dark
- Use lights at night

## Snakebite First Aid

- Call 911 **immediately**
- Relax and move as little as possible; head to the nearest health care facility
- Remove jewelry or shoes from bite area
- No ice, no tight bandages, no cutting on the bite area

## Insect Bite & Sting First Aid

- Clean the area with soap and water
- Place a cool compress over sting area
- Get treatment for brown spider bites
- Call the Poison Center if a small child is stung by a scorpion
- With breathing problems or swelling of the lips, call 911

## Scorpions

- The bark scorpion has the most dangerous sting
- Hides in small cracks & dark places
- Stings can cause pain, numbness and tingling
- Small children may have jerky body and eye movements



## Spiders



### Black Widow

- Round body with red or orange hourglass markings underneath
- Bite feels like a pin prick
- Bite may cause pain and cramping in the upper body, nausea, vomiting, and headaches



### Arizona Brown

- Often confused with the Brown Recluse
- Tan to brown color
- Found in closets, woodpiles, folds of clothes and under sinks
- Pain and flu-like symptoms after a bite
- Wound site is large and slow to heal