

California Slender Salamander

Scientific Name: *Batrachoseps attenuatus*

My home:

I live along the coast of California and southwest Oregon. You can usually find me among coastal redwood forests and at low elevations. Look under logs, bark, rocks, boards and damp duff.

What I eat:

I eat small insects (especially springtails and small beetles), snails, mites, and spiders.

How to identify me:

I have a long, thin body with extremely tiny arms and legs. Surprise, I only have four toes on front and back feet. I am usually dark in color with a red, brown, yellow or tan stripe across my back.

Fun facts:

Sometimes you can find me coiled around.

I breathe through my skin not my lungs.

If I get scared I will drop part of my tail to distract my predator.

Pictures:



California Giant Salamander

Scientific name: *Dicamptodon ensatus*

My home:

I am only found in California usually near streams. I can be found under objects such as rocks, logs and stones.

What I eat:

I eat anything I can overpower. Including slugs, invertebrates, other salamanders, small rodents, lizards and eggs.

How to identify me:

I am one of the largest salamander in North America. My body is large, I have a big head and my tail is flattened to help me swim. My skin has a marble pattern.

Fun facts:

I am one of the few animals who eat banana slugs.

As babies, we are 100% aquatic.

Pictures:



Yellow-eyed Ensatina

Scientific Name: *Ensatina eschscholtzii xanthoptica*

My home:

I can be found in a small area of California. I like to stay under rocks, logs, and bark. If it gets too dry I can burrow underground.

What I eat:

I enjoy eating invertebrates such as worms, ants, beetles and spiders.

How to identify me:

The base of my arms and legs are a lighter color than that of my body, usually light orange. The base of my tail is smaller than the rest of my tail.

Fun facts:

I have a long sticky tongue that I use to catch my prey.

My tail has poison glands.

Pictures:



California Newt

Scientific Name: *Taricha torosa*

My home:

I am only found in California. I live along the coast from Mendocino county to San Diego county.

What I eat:

I enjoy eating invertebrates such as worms, snails, slugs, sow bugs, and insects. I also eat amphibian eggs.

How to identify me:

In my adult form my back is yellowish-brown and my belly is yellow-orange. My skin is not smooth.

Fun facts:

My skin contains a neurotoxin.

The common garter snake has a high resistance to my poison.

I have four toes on my hand and five toes on my feet, how cool!

Pictures:



Rough Skin Newt

Scientific Name: *Taricha granulosa*

My home:

I can be found along the west coast from California to Alaska including Canada!

What I eat:

My diet mostly consists of invertebrates but also includes salamander and frog eggs and larvae, and even tiny fish.

How to identify me:

I have dark bumpy skin. My back is usually black, brown, reddish brown and my belly is yellow or orange.

Fun facts:

My skin is full of poison called tetrodotoxin.

You can tell the California Newt and myself apart from my lower eyelids which are dark in color.

When I get, scared I show my belly and curl my tail, called the unken reflex.

Pictures:

