

## Kenyan Sand Boa care sheet



### PROFILE

*Common Name:* Kenyan sand boa

*Latin Name:* *Eryx colubrinus*

*Native To:* east Africa and Kenya

*Size:* 20-24"

*Life Span:* 15+ Years

### HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

#### ***Environment:***

Found in east Africa and Kenya, sand boas are fossorial and spend almost their entire lives underground digging through sand and loose substrate.

#### ***Vivarium Size:***

Sand boas are very minimalistic and don't require much space. An adult female sand boa measuring 24" will only need an 18x12x12" terrarium.

#### ***Substrate:***

We recommend a substrate for desert dwelling reptiles, desert mix, leolife and utilising sands and other loose substrate. Use low branches and sturdy rocks for enrichment.

#### ***Food and Water:***

Water should be provided at all times. A small bowl will suffice as this desert species will not enjoy increased levels of humidity.

Sand boas, like all snakes are carnivores. In the wild they will take any animals small enough to overpower and swallow. Lizards, rodents and small birds are all on the menu. In a captive environment sand boas will predominantly feed on defrosted rodents, mice, rats, gerbils and multimammates.

### ***Heat/Light Requirements:***

Like the majority of other snakes, sand boas do not require UV radiation. More often than not, they will hide away from it, due to them being nocturnal animals.

Sand boas will require high temperatures during the day and a controlled drop in temperature at night. As they are cold blooded animals, their body temperature is the same as that of the environment around them and therefore sand boas will move around the vivarium until they find their optimum temperature. At night we recommend a temperature drop of about 5-10°C.

Below are the ideal temperatures for your Kenyan sand boa, all of which can be thermostatically controlled:

Day (cool end): 26 - 28°C

Day: (warm end): 32 - 35°C

Night: 24 - 26°C

Please note that this care sheet is only for your basic husbandry knowledge and that it is always recommended that you do further reading.

### FURTHER READING

[www.reptilesmagazine.com](http://www.reptilesmagazine.com)

### ***Any Problems?***

Give us a ring ASAP on 0121 744 1300

Or email us at [shirley\\_reptiles@live.co.uk](mailto:shirley_reptiles@live.co.uk)

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