



Snake Eyes

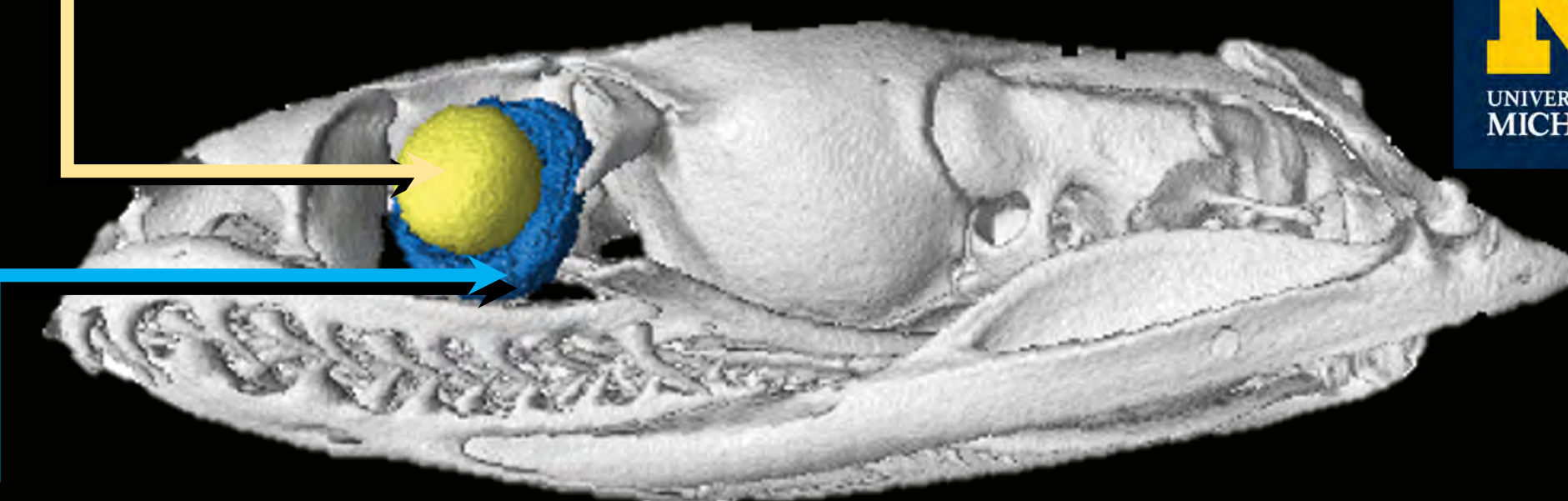
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Retina

Detects light
and movement

Lens

Focuses light on
retina to see
clearer image



This one has a
large retina to
detect light and
see during the day!

Land Snake



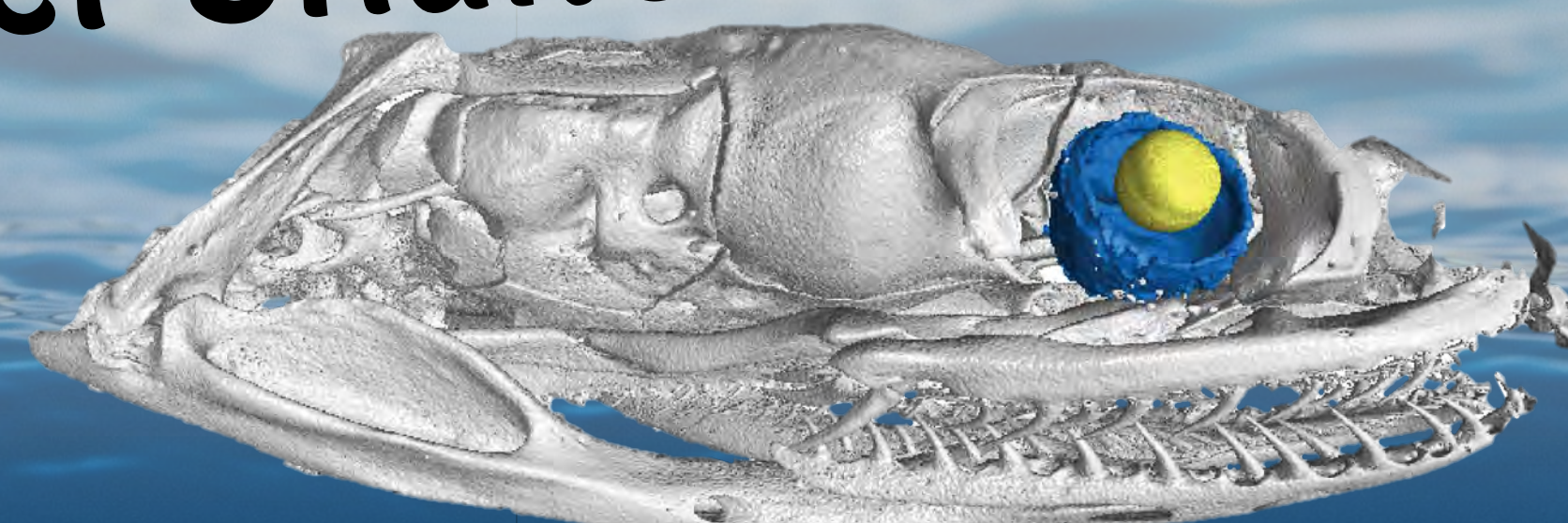
Your familiar
neighborhood
snake with
medium-sized
eyes.

False coral snake
Oxyrhopus melanogenys

South American
water snake
Helicops angulatus

Small lens due to
reduced use in
water, it uses other
senses instead.

Water Snake

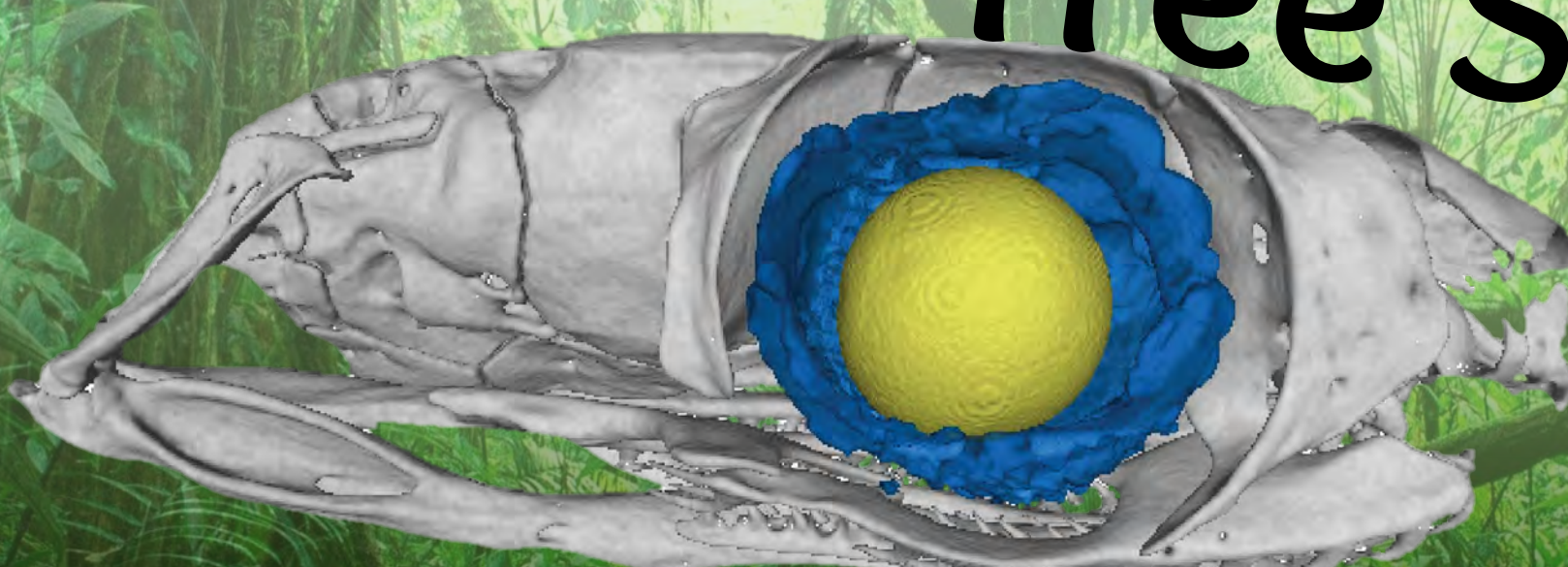


Eyes at the top
of the head to
see above water
while swimming
at the surface!



Large eyes to see all
around while
slithering through the
trees – it can even
look below its chin!

Tree Snake



Huge retina and
lens to see lots of
light, and eyes
almost 25% of the
entire head.

Blunthead tree snake
Imantodes cenchoa

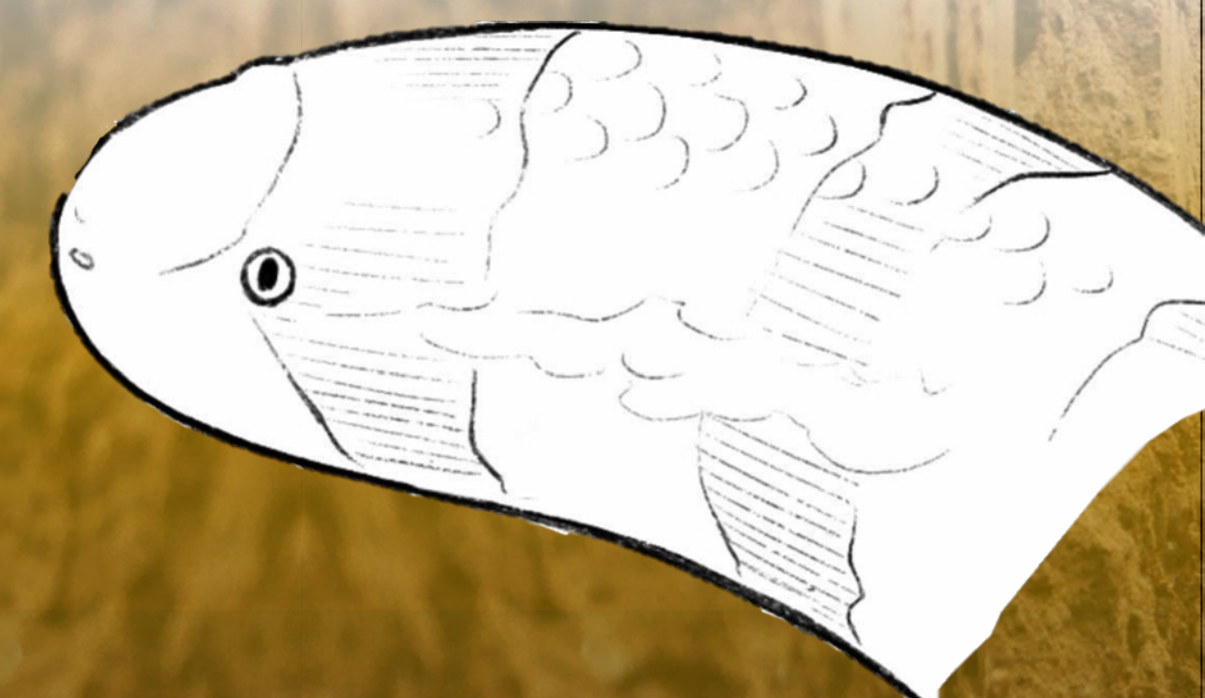
South American
pipe snake
Anilius scytale

Has tinted lenses to
protect the eyes from
light when it comes
above ground.

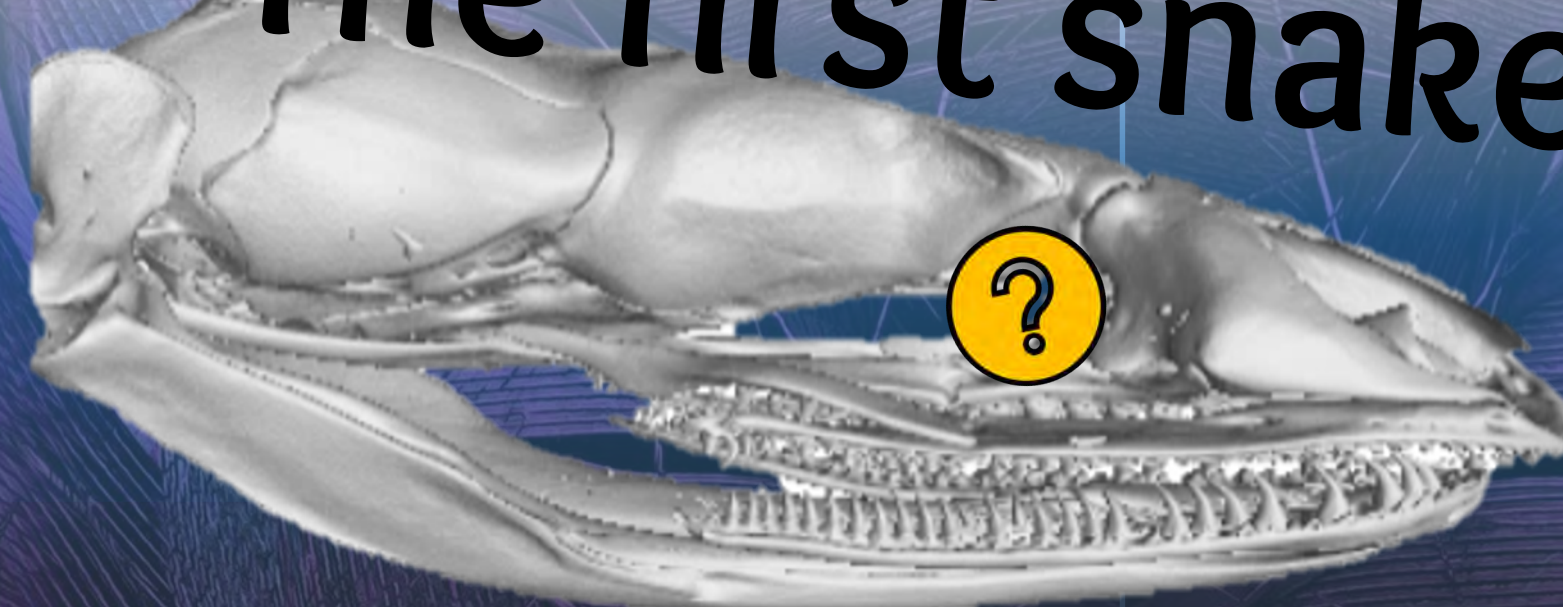
Burrowing Snake



Spends most of
its life
underground so
its eyes are tiny!



The first snakes



This sunbeam snake has
similar habits to the
ancestor of all snakes.
What kind of eyes do
YOU think it has?

Sunbeam Snake
Xenopeltis unicolor

Snakes are actually *lizards* that lost some parts –
arms, legs, and even their eyesight! The ancestor
of all snakes lived in a dimly lit environment,
then snakes re-evolved different kinds of
eyesight as they adapted to new habitats.