

Herpetology B/C Answer Key

Science Olympiad North Regional Tournament at the
University of Florida



Station 1

1. Chicken Turtle
2. Deirochelys
3. Broad Yellow Stripe
4. True
5. False
6. Aquatic insects, amphibian larvae, small fish, tadpoles, and crayfish (0.5 pts each, up to 1)
7. Late summer and early fall

Station 2

1. Masticophis
2. Masticophis
3. Yes
4. False
5. Eat nestling birds, escape predators
6. No
7. Hot
8. False

Station 3

1. Spring Salamander
2. Gyrinophilus
3. True
4. 1 year
5. Undersides of rocks or other cover objects
6. Nocturnal
7. Elongate build and nasal ridge

Station 4

1. Amphiumidae
2. One-third (1/3)
3. The retention of larval traits
4. Bury themselves in the mud and form a mucous cocoon
5. 3 years

Station 5

1. Squamata

2. Lacertidae
3. Insects
4. Sexually dimorphic
5. Nine (9) centimeters

Station 6

1. Spotted turtle
2. Bog turtle
3. Spotted turtle
4. Wood turtle
5. Blanding's turtle
6. A, B, C, D
7. Clemmys

Station 7

1. Hellbender
2. Cryptobranchidae
3. Fully aquatic
4. True
5. Increase surface area thus increasing oxygen absorption
6. Incomplete
7. False

Station 8

1. Elaphe
2. Elaphe
3. When frightened they often assume a "kinked" posture and remain motionless. They will vibrate the tail and expel malodorous musk.
4. Georgia
5. Southeast
6. True

Station 9

1. Urosaurus
2. Urosaurus
3. Uta
4. Cold months of late fall and early winter
5. True
6. Dewlap
7. Tail easily detaches – wriggles for several minutes distracting the

predator allowing for the lizard to escape

Station 10

1. Bufonidae
2. False
3. Bufotoxin
4. Bidder's organ
5. Australia and Antarctica (0.5 each, 1 total)

Station 11

1. Helodermatidae
2. 90%
3. One-third (1/3)
4. Smell
5. 5-10 times per year

Station 12

1. Hylidae
2. Pseudacris
3. Hylidae
4. Acris
5. Call and Range (0.5 pts each, 1 total)

Station 13

1. Nerodia
2. Water snake
3. False
4. True
5. Flee
6. Cloacae

Station 14

1. Scincidae
2. Survival trait – attracts predators attention to the tail which will break off when grabbed allowing the skink to escape
3. Voluntarily shedding a body part in order to escape, and later re-generating the body part
4. False
5. A regrown tail has a cartilaginous rod for support instead of vertebrae

Station 15

1. Crocodylia
2. Crocodylidae
3. True
4. G
5. Incubation temperature of the egg

Station 16

1. Cheloniidae
2. False
3. False
4. Plastron
5. Aids in unburying themselves from the sand
6. Temperature

Station 17

1. Plethodontidae
2. Hydromantes
3. 80%
4. True
5. Conduct respiration through their skin and their mouth tissues
6. Coils and rolls downhill to escape

Station 18

1. Ramphotyphlops
2. Brahminy blind snake
3. Rostral Scale
4. Parthenogenesis
5. True
6. True
7. True

Station 19

1. Malaclemys

2. Graptemys
3. Pseudemys
4. Terrapene
5. True
6. True

Station 20

1. Turtles
2. Lizards
3. Snakes
4. Crocodiles
5. Egg