

Scrub Python

Megafauna snake

- A cold-blooded reptile, they will often use the branches to sun themselves.
- They use the rough tree bark to help them scrape off old skin. This skin becomes a food source for ants.
- They can grow 6 metres long and weigh 40kg.
- Scrub pythons find warm-blooded prey by using labial, heat-seeking pits on their lower jaws.
- To ambush predators, the scrub python lies camouflaged to the rainforest, waiting silently and patiently.
- A scrub python eats its prey whole, including animals up to three times the size of its head using backwards-facing teeth.
- Scrub pythons can breathe while eating food. They push their windpipe (glottis) outside of their mouth and breathe through it like a snorkel.

The skin of these large pythons gives off a beautiful iridescent rainbow shine, linking it to the Rainbow Serpent Dreaming story about a being who created the rivers and the mountains.



**“Margoi, Buda-dji, Goorialla, Gundaya.
And in English, we call it the
amethystine or scrub python.”**

PHIL BRESLIN,
BUILT TO SURVIVE HOST