

Poisonous animals 1.6 Snake Molt

Definition:

molt, also spelled **Moult** is the shedding or casting off of an outer layer or covering and the formation of its replacement.

Function:

- 1. Snakes shed their **skin** to allow for further growth and to remove parasites that may have attached to their old **skin**.
- 2. Also snake don't have auditory apparatus it uses ground vibrations to sense its prey, molting helps to get better vibrations.

Time:

- 1. The average snake will shed its skin two to four times per year. This average varies with age and species.
- 2. Young snakes that are actively growing shed their skin every two weeks while older snakes shed twice/year