

## Corn Snake Care Sheet for Kids:

### Habitat:

**Enclosure:** Get a secure tank with a tight-fitting lid to prevent escapes. A 20-gallon tank is good for starters.

**Substrate:** Use newspaper, aspen shavings, or coconut fiber as bedding. Change it regularly to keep things clean.

### Temperature:

**Warm Side:** Keep one side of the tank warm at 80-85°F using a heat mat or lamp.

**Cool Side:** The other side should be cooler, around 70-75°F, providing a temperature gradient for your snake.

### Lighting:

Corn snakes don't need special lighting, but they need a day and night cycle. Keep the lights on for about 12 hours and turn them off at night.

### Hideouts:

Place two hides on each side of the tank – one warm and one cool. Snakes love to hide, so make sure they feel safe.

### Water:

Provide a shallow water dish for drinking and soaking. Change the water regularly to keep it clean.

### Feeding:

Feed your snake thawed mice or rats appropriate for its size. Young snakes eat more often (every 5-7 days), while adults eat less (every 10-14 days).

### Handling:

Give your snake some time to settle into its new home before handling. When you do, be gentle and avoid sudden movements. Wash your hands before and after handling.

### **Health Check:**

Keep an eye on your snake's behavior and appearance. If you notice anything unusual, like not eating or changes in skin color, ask an adult for help.

### **Cleaning:**

Clean the tank regularly, removing uneaten food and waste. A clean environment keeps your snake healthy.

### **No Wild Food:**

Never feed your snake wild-caught prey. Stick to store-bought mice or rats to avoid introducing diseases.

### **Learn and Observe:**

Learn about corn snakes! Read books, watch videos, and ask questions. The more you know, the better you can take care of your scaly friend.

### **Respect Your Snake:**

Remember, your snake is a living creature. Treat it with kindness and respect. If you have questions or concerns, ask an adult or seek advice from a vet.

### **Conclusion:**

Taking care of a corn snake can be a fun and rewarding experience. With the right habitat, temperature, food, and love, you'll have a happy and healthy snake friend!