



REPTILE MOUNTAIN

Baby Blue Tongue Skink Quick Guide

HEAT

#1 Proper heating is absolutely critical. Heat allows these animals to properly metabolize their food and it helps stimulate growth, activity, and most of all appetite. The number one issue new baby skink owners face is a non-eater. The number one reason their skink isn't eating is they are not warm enough or too hot.

- o **Easterns** → Warm side (1/3 of enclosure) at least 90F + Ideally 95F -98F
- o **Northern**s → Warm side (1/3 of enclosure) at least 95F+ Ideally 98F-102F

SECURITY

#2 Proper security is also absolutely critical. These baby reptiles are born highly vulnerable. Nearly everything in nature would be a predator or lethal threat to your baby skink. Your baby does not understand that you are a not a threat nor does it understand the concept of captivity. Therefore, your animal is programmed to need security. They need to feel safe. A blank clear-sided enclosure is not ideal.

- o Use paper or cardboard to cover transparent enclosure sides for first few days
- o Place multiple hiding areas and plant cover as a best practice

FOOD

#3 Proper food is vital to their well-being. Babies will do best on wet cat or dog food. Feeding crickets/meal worms/etc is like feeding a newborn human popcorn and rice cakes. Fruits at this age are like feeding human toddlers pure sugar. A good smelly wet cat or dog food is best for babies. They do not need vegetation at this stage of life. Young omnivores such as these need animal proteins more than anything which is exactly what is in wet cat or dog food. For what cat/dog foods to feed see my care guides.

FIRST WEEK PRIORTIES

- o Give Privacy o
- o Limit Exposure o
- o Limit Handling o
- o Monitor Closely o
- o Feed Daily o

This is a brief overview and NOT a comprehensive care guide. Check www.ReptileMountain.com for more info.