

How & Why Animals Are Poisonous



A rattlesnake lies coiled in the desert sand. The rattles on its tail shake in warning. This is a dangerous snake. Its bite is poisonous. The rattlesnake uses its poison to kill mice and other prey. It also bites to defend itself. Glands in the snake's head make the poison, called venom. When the snake bites, venom is forced through its hollow fangs and into its victim.



