

## Lizard Families of the World

*Remember that you should be able to identify specimens to family by external morphological characteristics alone.* Do not rely upon coloration and pattern characteristics since these are often bleached out in preserved specimens. Typical coloration and patterning also tends to vary greatly in nature. Know **Distribution** and **Representative Forms** information contained in the Lizard handout, *even if there are not representative specimens in our Collection.*

Different sources consider the following families as either separate families or as subfamilies of Iguanidae: Corytophanidae, Crotaphytidae, Hoplocercidae, Opluridae, Phrynosomatidae, Polychrotidae and Tropiduridae. For our purposes, we will consider them to be separate families. Eublepharidae and Pygopodidae have often been treated as separate families, but here are treated as subfamilies of Gekkonidae.

Iguania	Gekkota	Scincomorpha	Anguimorpha
Agamidae	Gekkonidae	Cordylidae	Anguinae
Chamaeleonidae	Subfamily Gekkoninae	Gerrhosauridae	Xenosauridae*
Corytophanidae	Subfamily Diplodactylinae*	Xantusiidae	Shinisauridae*
Crotaphytidae	Subfamily Eublepharinae	Teiidae	Helodermatidae
Hoplocercidae*	Subfamily Pygopodinae*	Gymnophthalmidae*	Lanthanotidae
Iguanidae		Lacertidae	Varanidae
Opluridae*		Scincidae	
Phrynosomatidae		Dibamidae*	
Polychrotidae			
Tropiduridae			

\*= no specimens for this family represented in our collection.