

Texas Horned Lizards

Texas horned lizards look strange. They have a crown of horns. They puff up. They look really fat. They look like a spiky balloon. Their scales stick out. This makes them hard to swallow. This keeps **predators** away. Predators are hunters.

Their eyes shoot blood. They have **ducts** in the corners of their eyes. Ducts are like tubes. The ducts close up when the lizard is threatened. This stops the blood flowing in their heads. They swell up. The blood pressure increases. Then, the ducts burst. The blood can shoot 5 feet (1.5 meters). They blind predators. Predators get confused. This gives lizards time to run away.



Horned lizards' blood tastes gross.