



## **Talk Title: How to Identify Kenya's Reptiles and Amphibians**

**Date and Time:** June 25, 2021 2:00 pm (EAT)

**Presenter:** Stephen Spawls

**Platform:** Zoom (virtual)

### **Talk Description**

Reptiles make up a large part of the animal kingdom, with more than 6,500 known species. These include snakes, lizards, crocodiles, alligators, turtles and tortoises. In Kenya, there over 260 recorded reptile species. Differentiating between the different groups of reptiles may be easy, but distinguishing between a species can be extremely difficult. In this talk, **Stephen Spawls** shares insight on how to identify common reptiles found in Kenya.

### **About the Presenter**

Stephen Spawls was born in London but moved to Kenya in 1957 when he was four. Stephen lived in Meru and Nairobi for 17 years, where he attended St. Mary's School. After attaining a degree in geology, Stephen moved to Ghana, where he worked as a British volunteer. While in Ghana, he trained as a physics teacher. Stephen has also worked in Egypt, Botswana and Ethiopia, spending nearly 40 years in Africa.

Herpetology is Stephen's main interest. At the age of six, he caught his first chameleon and lost a finger to a puff adder when he was 17. Stephen has published several books. These include field guides; *Reptiles and Amphibians of East Africa* and *The Dangerous Snakes of Africa* (recently revised), and a book about his adventures in Kenya.

Presently, Stephen lives in Norwich, in the UK, and lectures in science and mathematics at City College Norwich.

