1. The __________ ______________, named for the sharp spikes that cover its head and body, is a lizard that dwells in the Australian Outback's hot and desert.

2. Though its scary appearance has earned it other equally alarming names like the thorny dragon or the mountain devil, the palm-sized reptile is a harmless, slow moving animal that has managed to adapt to one of the world's most __________________ ______________________.

3. While researchers know a lot about these hardy lizards, the one mystery that had never been completely solved, is ________ ________ _________ _________.

4. The researchers believe that this may be the reason the lizards are often seen shoveling the desert sand on their backs or even burying themselves in it, especially following a __________ ____________.

5. They hypothesize that this action increases the reptiles' __________ __________ __________ __________ ____________.

6. That's because _________________ _____________ to one another, which means that the skin, moistened by the sand is able to draw in more water, than when its dry. This, together with some help from gravity, helps fill the grooves to capacity and allows the lizards to quench their thirst.