FACT FILE

Chester Zoo LEARNING

European grass snake



UK extinction risk: N/A

Global extinction risk: Least concern



Name	European grass snake
Scientific name	Natrix helvetica
Habitat (what they live in)	Grassland, heathland and moorland, freshwater, farmland, wetlands, woodland
Diet (what they eat)	Amphibians, fish, small mammals and birds
Lifespan	15-25 years
Length	90-150cm
Weight	240g
When to see them	April-October
Interesting fact	When threatened by one of its many predators, the grass snake often 'plays dead', making itself less appealing to eat
Take action for wildlife	Make your garden more wildlife friendly, put in a compost heap for grass snakes to incubate eggs