Fire

Species	Corn snake (Pantherophis guttatus)
Habitat	Native to North America, corn snakes are often seen hunting the rodents that live in cornfields, which is how they got their name.
Care	Fire lives in a 4ft long vivarium, which has a hot end for basking and a cooler end for chilling out. She has hides at both ends, a tunnel to slither through, vines to climb along and substrate to bury herself in.
Food	Fire is fed a small mouse, known as a fluff, once a week. These are bought frozen. She only needs to eat once a week as it takes her this long to digest her food.
Characteristics	Fire is an amelanistic corn snake – also known as red albino. This type of snake doesn't have dark pigment. Fire has red eyes and orange and red patterns along her body. She is a constrictor snake, which means she would squeeze her prey in the wild, rather than bite it.
Why we love Fire	Fire is sweet, friendly and curious. She likes to watch what's going on and interact with those around her.

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Fire's story

Fire is very sweet, very pretty and very charming. Her small size makes her great for kids and she's exceptionally good at winning them over – even those who didn't think they liked snakes. Clare's daughter included, who was scared of snakes until she met Fire and is now completely besotted by her!

Fire hatched on 16th July 2016 as the runt of the litter – hence her small size. She was rehomed with Clare in June 2018 as her previous owner was no longer able to look after her. She has been handled by children all her life as her prior owner had young grandkids.

Fire still has some growing to do and, at the moment, will shed her skin every couple of months. This lets her get bigger. Snakes shed their skins in one go and continue to do so all their lives. However, the shedding frequency changes throughout their life, with younger snakes shedding more often than older snakes.

Corn snakes are one of the most sociable, calm and docile types of snake. Our corn snakes are very tame and inquisitive, and enjoy meeting people. You'll see their tongues flicking in and out as they greet you, this is just their way of smelling.