

# Ground Skink

## Ground Skink (*Scincella lateralis*) - Pl.8

**Identification:** 3" - 5 3/4". The Ground Skink is the smaller of the two species of skink in our region, with a proportionately longer tail (when intact). It has a brown back bordered by a black dorsolateral stripe. In some Ground Skinks, the back is almost as dark as the stripe. The underside is pale.

**Where to find them:** The Ground Skink prefers wooded areas, and is typically found in leaf litter and other forest floor debris.

**When to find them:** Active May through September.

**Range:** Eastern Southern Region, west to eastern Camden, Gloucester, and Cumberland Counties; northern quarter of Cape May County. All of Burlington, Ocean, and Atlantic Counties. Most of Monmouth County in the Northern Region.

## Ground Skink

(*Scincella lateralis*)

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### Key Features

- Smooth brown to black skin.
- Dark dorsolateral stripe runs from the eye, along the body, & onto the tail.
- Proportionately longer tail than five-lined.



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Excerpt from: "Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of New Jersey"  
Order the complete guide at - <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/products.htm>