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To describe a “shield bearer” you might use the word Aspidites
(phonetically as'-pid'-eye'-teez)

The Greek adjective for dark or black is “mélas”

Melanocephalus in species names is a label for “black headed”

literally, a snake that has a black head, and, bears shield
marking might be known as Aspidites Melanocephalus

The black headed Python is **Aspidites Melanocephalus**

[DejaVu Sans Mono 12 point ... ijklmn & IJKLMNOP & 123]

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A Serif font would portray the blackheaded Python as Aspidites Melanocephalus [FreeSerif 12 pt]