

# Turtles & Tortoises

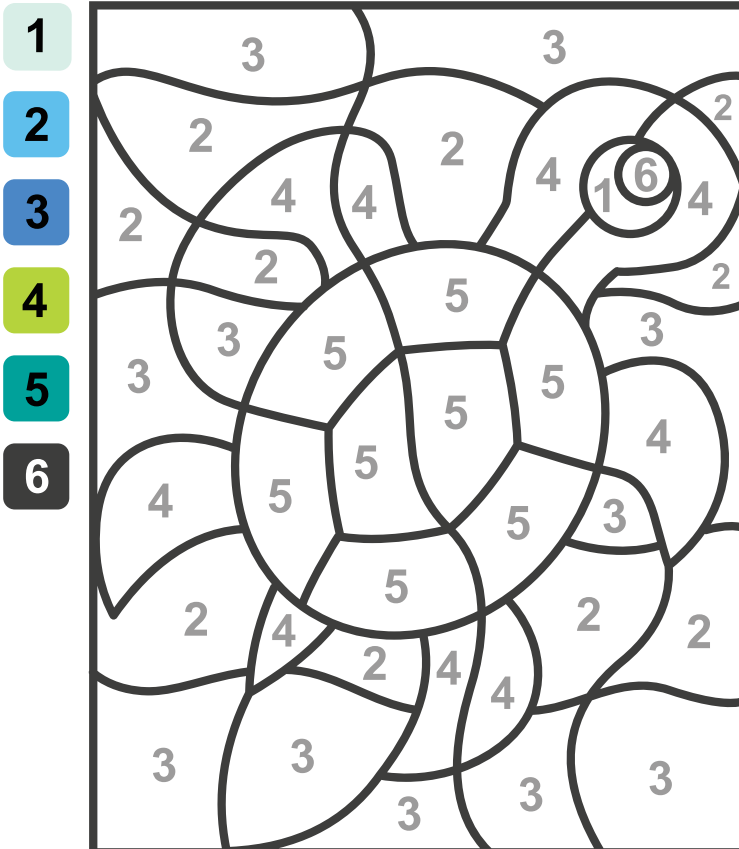


Red-eared slider

Let's talk turtles and tortoises! Both these hard-shelled reptiles are cold-blooded, lay eggs, and have toothless, beak-like mouths. Turtles are usually found in water, while tortoises spend most of their lives on land. Tortoises have rounded, domed shells, and turtle shells are thinner and more streamlined to help them swim. The Lord Jesus designed them to perfectly fit their habitats. Isn't that turtle-y awesome? Did you also know...

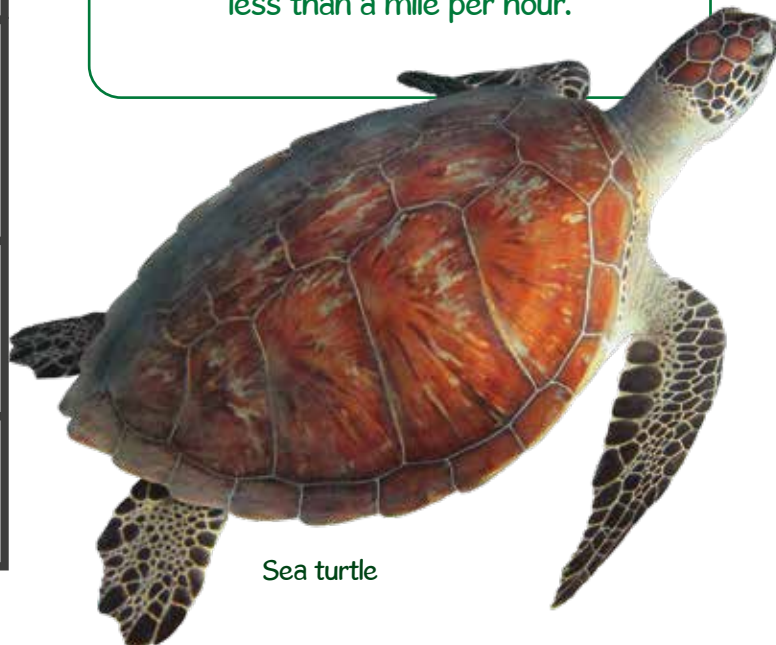
- ✓ There are over 350 species of turtles and tortoises today.
- ✓ Both turtles and tortoises use their shells for protection, and they never grow out of them.
- ✓ The word "turtle" describes any reptile with a shell. So, all tortoises are turtles, but not all turtles are tortoises.
- ✓ Turtles are great swimmers. They have either webbed toes or flippers. But tortoises can't swim—their feet are like an elephant's!

Color by number using the color code on the left.



## Slow and steady wins...?

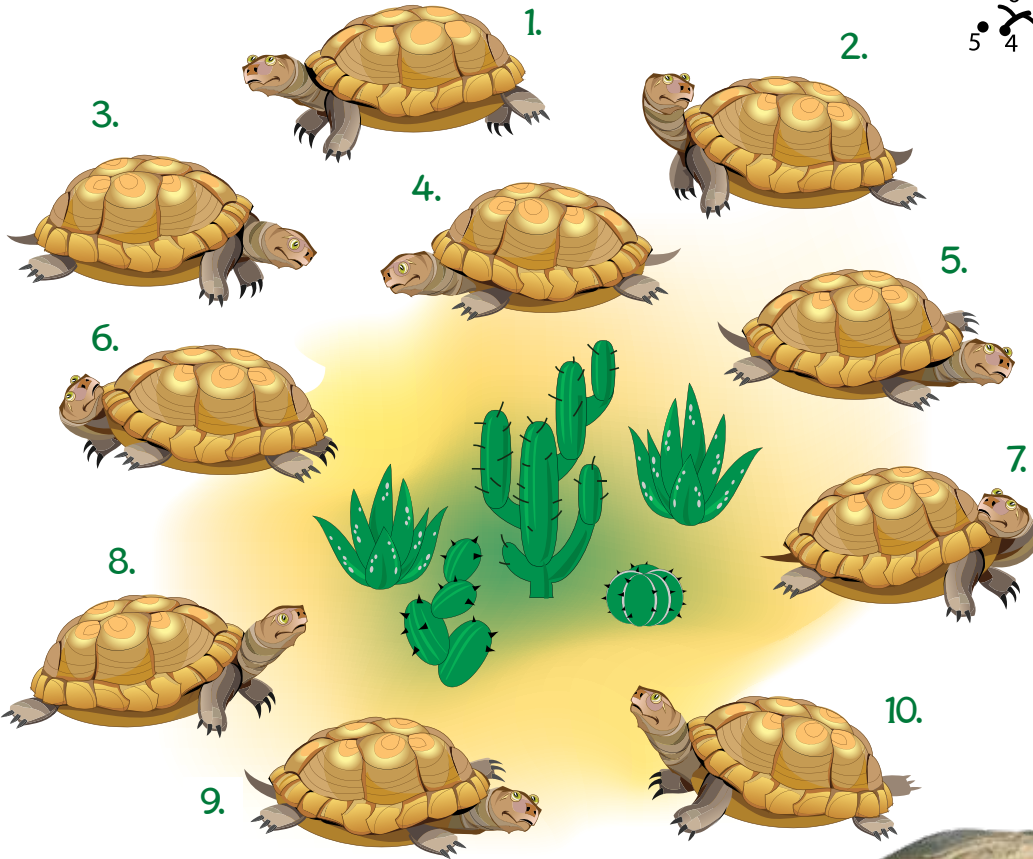
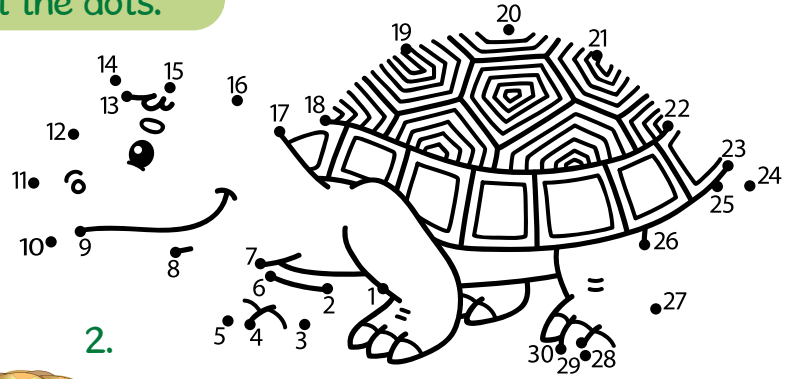
Believe it or not, some turtles are speedy! Sea turtles, for instance, can swim up to 22 miles per hour. Tortoises, however, are really slow—their average walking pace is less than a mile per hour.



Sea turtle

Connect the dots.

Circle the two turtles that are the same.



Did you know?

Turtles, like most reptiles, are cold-blooded, but that doesn't mean they're freezing. Instead, their body temperatures are based on the environment.

Did you know?

The oldest turtle in the world is a giant tortoise named Jonathan, who hatched in 1832. That means he's almost 200 years old!



Giant tortoise



Box turtle

Answer to the two turtles: 5 and 9