

General Activities - Answers

Reptile Word Search

G	W	E	P	M	R	A	R	A	T	A	U	T
A	O	T	I	P	A	I	N	T	E	D	E	U
R	E	L	C	T	B	R	O	N	L	Y	L	R
T	K	W	H	B	E	F	A	T	W	E	I	T
E	S	I	O	T	R	O	T	L	G	O	T	L
R	U	N	A	V	E	R	S	T	R	I	P	E
A	M	W	H	I	B	E	R	N	A	T	E	N
D	E	T	T	O	P	S	D	L	S	O	R	V
A	L	L	I	G	A	T	O	R	S	E	S	W
K	N	I	K	S	H	O	R	E	L	I	N	E
S	O	R	A	T	T	L	E	N	A	L	A	T
E	C	T	O	T	H	E	R	M	N	B	K	L
Y	W	A	H	A	T	S	A	D	D	L	E	A
W	E	U	L	I	Z	A	R	D	F	O	X	N
V	E	R	T	E	B	R	A	T	E	T	N	D
H	O	G	N	O	S	E	D	E	R	C	S	T
C	R	O	C	O	D	I	L	E	A	H	N	D

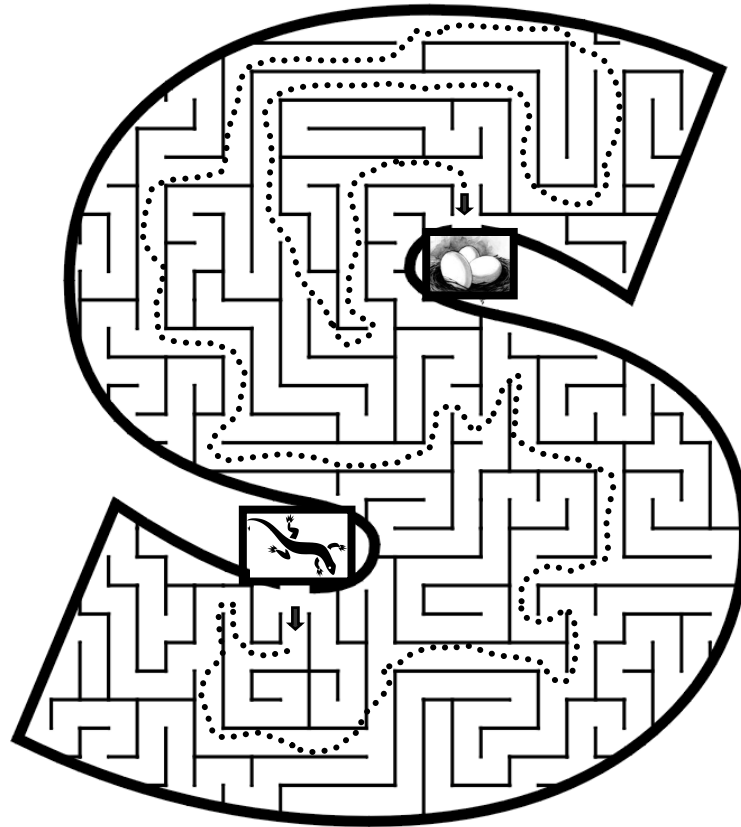
“We protect only what we love and love only what we understand”

Map Turtle Word Search

R	O	A	D	M	A	S	P	G	T	U	R	T	P	S
L	E	S	G	E	T	H	T	B	G	H	T	L	C	E
I	R	A	C	C	O	O	N	R	A	E	A	S	N	A
E	M	E	L	A	N	R	U	I	D	S	U	F	E	R
O	C	M	T	P	H	E	E	L	T	L	K	I	N	N
E	S	A	O	O	N	L	T	R	L	H	E	I	I	R
B	O	N	P	D	Y	I	O	O	W	H	I	C	N	H
L	D	O	O	A	K	N	M	E	L	T	R	U	T	G
L	I	K	E	L	R	E	I	N	E	S	O	N	A	A
M	A	E	R	U	T	A	R	E	P	M	E	T	I	P
B	O	A	T	C	O	O	C	A	R	L	G	O	L	!

Map Turtles get their name from the lines on their body which look like lines on a map. Cool!

Five Lined Skink Maze



Spiny Softshell Word Jumble

“SPINY SOFTSHELL TURTLES DO NOT HAVE A
HARD CARAPACE OR PLASTRON LIKE OTHER
TURTLES”

Reptile Word Search

Alligator
Blotch
Crocodile
Ectotherm
Forest
Fox
Garter
Grassland
Hibernate
Hognose

Lizard
Milk
Musk
Painted
Rattle
Reptile
Ribbon
Saddle
Scales
Shoreline

Skink
Snake
Spotted
Stripe
Tortoise
Tuatara
Turtle
Vertebrate
Water
Wetland

G W E P M R A R A T A U T
 A O T I P A I N T E D E U
 R E L C T B R O N L Y L R
 T K W H B E F A T W E I T
 E S I O T R O T L G O T L
 R U N A V E R S T R I P E
 A M W H I B E R N A T E N
 D E T T O P S D L S O R V
 A L L I G A T O R S E S W
 K N I K S H O R E L I N E
 S O R A T T L E N A L A T
 E C T O T H E R M N B K L
 Y W A H A T S A D D L E A
 W E U L I Z A R D F O X N
 V E R T E B R A T E T N D
 H O G N O S E D E R C S T
 C R O C O D I L E A H N D

“

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Map Turtle Word Search

Map turtles are one of Ontario’s eight species of turtle. These shy animals prefer deep water and thus, are found primarily in large water bodies such as Georgian Bay and the St. Lawrence River. Map turtles prefer, like all wild animals, to be left alone and will dive into the water from their basking sites at the first sign of an approaching person or predator. The diet of the map turtle consists mainly of molluscs, insects, fish and aquatic snails; they have also been recorded eating the Great Lakes invasive zebra mussel. Their body is designed specifically for this lifestyle; they have large, webbed feet which act as paddles to propel them through deep water and a large, strong jaw that is used to crush the shells of their prey species.

These beautiful animals are currently listed as a species of special concern, which means scientists are concerned about the status of their population but more complete research is needed to obtain information about their ecology. Much of the concern relating to this species stems from pollution in the Great Lakes which has diminished the quality of their habitat and collision mortality caused by boats and vehicles like cars on land. It is not difficult to minimize collision risks; slowing down your boat near shore and known basking sites and slowing down motorized vehicles, especially in the spring when females are traveling on land looking for nesting sites will go a long way to helping Map Turtle populations.

- | | | | | | |
|---------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-------------|
| Basking | Carapace | Log | Plastron | Road | Temperature |
| Boat | Diurnal | Molluscs | Pond | Shoreline | Turtle |
| Car | Egg | Nest | Raccoon | Tail | |

R O A D M A S P G T U R T P S
 L E S G E T H T B G H T L C E
 I R A C C O O N R A E A S N A
 E M E L A N R U I D S U F E R
 O C M T P H E E L T L K I N N
 E S A O O N L T R L H E I I R
 B O N P D Y I O O W H I C N H
 L D O O A K N M E L T R U T G
 L I K E L R E I N E S O N A A
 M A E R U T A R E P M E T I P
 B O A T C O O C A R L G O L !

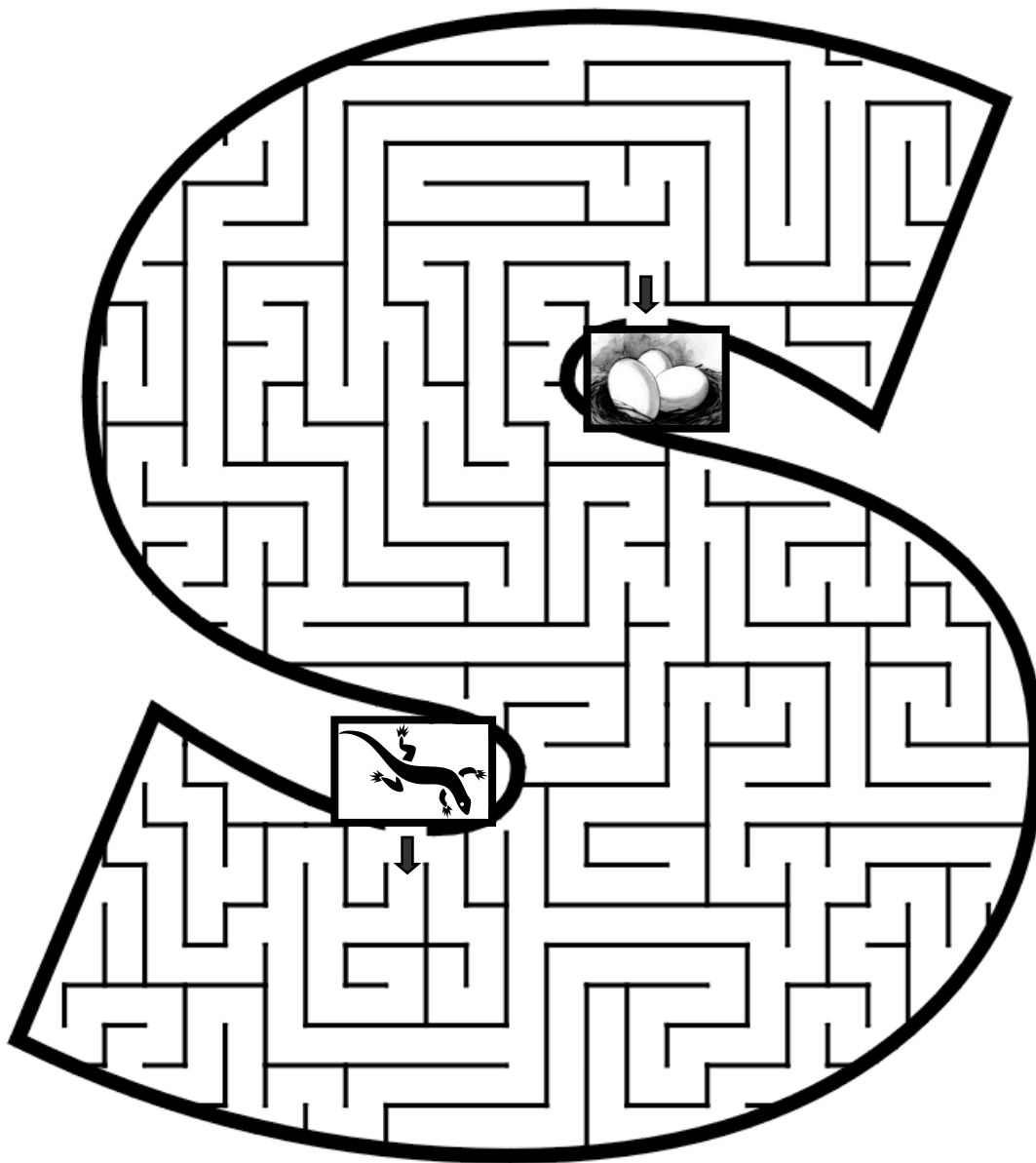
Use the left over letters to fill in this neat fact about Map Turtles:

Five Lined Skink Maze

Ontario's only species of lizard is the five lined skink. When these lizards are young they have a bright blue tail. The tail helps people identify them as five lined skinks. It also helps the lizards get away from predators. When they are being chased by a predator they can drop their tail and leave it behind as they run away. The bright blue tail remains on the ground wiggling away distracting the predator while the skink makes its escape. The predator gets a small meal by eating the tail left behind, but the skink gets to live another day and will re-grow its tail after a while.

These speedy animals are found in southern Ontario on the Canadian Shield and along some lateshores. They spend their lives in the leaf litter of deciduous hardwood forests. The five lined skink is currently listed as a species at risk in Ontario. Skinks are at risk because of habitat loss and people catching them as pets in some places. In some areas where skinks lived lots of forests have been cut down or changed so skinks can't live there anymore. Most reptiles lay their eggs or have their babies and then leave their babies to fend for themselves. Skinks on the other hand actually provide care and protection for their eggs. Pretty cool!

Help Swift (our native Ontario lizard) the five lined skink, find her nest of eggs.



Spiny Softshell Word Jumble

The Spiny Softshell turtle does not look like the other seven species of turtles found in Ontario, and the reason why is reflected in its name. This aquatic animal, unlike other turtles, does not have the hard plastron (bottom piece of turtles shell) or carapace (top piece of turtles shell) often associated with turtles instead they have a soft leathery plastron and carapace. Spiny Softshell turtles are olive in colour and are found in Lake Erie and nearby water bodies. Spiny softshell turtles prefer areas with muddy substrate and lots of vegetation; both tools they can use to help them hide in the water away from their predators such as skunks and raccoons. When hiding amongst the vegetation or under the mud, these turtles can use their long, snorkel like nose to breathe; this lets them keep their soft, vulnerable bodies hidden. As these turtles spend so much time in the water, their diet is made up of other aquatic animals such as crayfish, fish and some types of insects. Unfortunately due to pollution and habitat destruction, the areas where these turtles can live are becoming restricted. Currently Spiny Softshell turtles are listed as threatened in Ontario.

ELL	ER T	Y SO	AVE	ACE	LIKE	OT H
TURT	A HA	LAST	RON	DO N	OTH	FTSH
RD C	SPIN	LES	ARAP	OR P	URLT	ES

Rearrange the boxes to reveal a secret message about Spiny Softshell turtles. Two boxes have been placed for you.

“ TURT _____

RD C _____

 _____ ”

Ontario Reptile Word Anagrams

Below is a list of Ontario species of reptiles. How many words can you make from the letters in each name following list? Each word should be 3 letters long or longer. We have given you a few words to get you started.

Five Lined Skink

Like Kind Skinned

Black Rat Snake

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Blanding’s Turtle

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