



Have you ever seen a turtle with spots? If yes, you've probably met a spotted turtle! These cute little creatures are small, with their shell (or 'carapace') usually only reaching 4 to 6 inches in length. Their shells are dark, almost black, and decorated with bright yellow or orange spots that make them easy to recognize. And you know what's even more interesting? No two spotted turtles have the same pattern of spots!



Now that you're familiar with their looks, let's dive into where these unique turtles call home. Spotted turtles inhabit a wide range of habitats across North America, from southern Ontario in Canada down to Florida in the United States. They love hanging out in wet areas like marshes, swamps, and even in the shallow parts of lakes and streams. But they're also known to wander on land, especially when they're looking for a mate or a place to lay their eggs.

Speaking of eggs, let's hatch some knowledge about the spotted turtle's life cycle. Like other turtles, spotted turtles lay eggs that hatch into tiny turtles, but they lay fewer eggs than most other turtle species, usually only three to five at a time. The eggs develop and hatch over the summer, and the baby turtles grow into adults over a period of several years. Spotted turtles can live a long time, often up to 50 years or more!



truly unique and fascinating creature!

Now, let's shell-ebrate some cool facts about our spotty friends and their relationship with humans and other animals. They are known to be friendly and even curious about humans, but sadly, their numbers are declining due to habitat loss and being captured for the pet trade. As for other animals, spotted turtles are omnivores, which means they eat both plants and animals like insects, worms, and small fish. Finally, their colorful spots aren't just for show, they also serve as a warning to predators that these turtles are not to be messed with. So, that's our spotted turtle — a



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) Are spotted turtles friendly towards humans?
A. They never interact with humans B. No, they are always aggressive
C. No, they are scared of humans D. Yes, they are known to be friendly
- 2) What parts of a spotted turtle are usually decorated with bright yellow or orange spots?
A. Their eyes B. Their shell (or 'carapace')
C. Their heads and limbs D. Their belly
- 3) Where do spotted turtles live?
A. South America B. North America
C. Africa D. Asia
- 4) How long can spotted turtles live?
A. Up to 20 years B. Up to 10 years
C. Up to 30 years D. Up to 50 years or more
- 5) What type of areas do spotted turtles prefer?
A. Wet areas B. Dry areas
C. High mountain areas D. Cold areas
- 6) What color are the spots on a spotted turtle's shell?
A. Bright yellow or orange B. Red and green
C. Dull gray D. Deep blue
- 7) How many eggs do spotted turtles usually lay at a time?
A. Nine to eleven B. Three to five
C. Six to eight D. One to two
- 8) Under what circumstances would spotted turtles leave the water?
A. When looking for a place to lay eggs B. When they want to play
C. When they're hungry D. When it's too hot
- 9) What kind of diet do spotted turtles have?
A. They are herbivores B. They are omnivores
C. They are carnivores D. They are insectivores
- 10) What is a reason the number of spotted turtles declining?
A. Lack of predators B. Disease
C. Habitat loss D. Overpopulation
- 11) What is the usual length of a spotted turtle's shell?
A. 1 to 2 feet B. 4 to 6 inches
C. 1 to 3 inches D. 10 to 12 inches

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 12) "We are quite afraid of humans and tend to stay away."
- 13) "In the wild, I normally hang around marshes, swamps, lakes, and streams."



Spotted Turtle

Name: _____

- 14) "We spotted turtles only live for few years, just a decade or so."
- 15) "Dry desert is my favorite place, you'll never find me in wet areas."
- 16) "It takes me several years to grow up into an adult, and once I reach that point, I can live up to 50 years or more!"
- 17) "Our shells are dark but we don't have any spots, it's just a name."
- 18) "To survive, we eat both plants and animals - insects, worms, and small fish are part of our diet."
- 19) "Look closely at my shell and you'll see dark black color and beautiful yellow spots!"
- 20) "When it comes to laying eggs, spotted turtles go big! Each of us can lay hundreds of eggs at a time!"
- 21) "I only eat plants and vegetables, not a fan of insects or worms."
- 22) "We are friendly and sometimes even curious about humans, but sadly our numbers are going down due to losing our homes and being captured as pets."

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 23) Spotted turtles have an omnivorous diet which includes both plants and animals.
- 24) Their small size makes spotted turtles look adorable.
- 25) Spotted turtles live in various wet areas throughout North America.
- 26) Spotted turtles, with their bright yellow or orange spots, are the most unique looking turtles.
- 27) The shell of a spotted turtle is usually dark with bright orange or yellow spots.
- 28) It's sad that the spotted turtle is a threatened species.
- 29) Spotted turtles generally live for up to 50 years or even longer.
- 30) Each spotted turtle's shell has a unique pattern of spots.
- 31) Spotted turtles are the most unique and beautiful species of turtles.
- 32) It's amazing that spotted turtles can live up to 50 years or more!

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 33) Spotted turtles can live over 50 years.
- 34) Spotted turtles are aggressive and often attack humans.
- 35) Spotted turtles lay fewer eggs than most other turtle species.
- 36) Spotted turtles are herbivores and eat only plants.
- 37) Spotted turtles are omnivores.
- 38) Spotted turtles can be found in Europe and Asia.
- 39) Spotted turtles will venture high up in trees when they are looking for a mate.
- 40) All spotted turtles have the same pattern of spots.
- 41) Spotted turtles have a shell with bright yellow or orange spots.
- 42) Spotted turtles prefer living in wet areas.

Determine which choice is the expanded form of the underlined contraction.

43) Spotted turtles can't change their shell color.

- A. will not
- B. cannot
- C. do not
- D. should not

44) They might've been around for millions of years.

- A. might have
- B. might not
- C. might be
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Spotted Turtle

Name: _____

45) Spotted turtles don't move quickly on land.

- A. can not
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46) It's important to protect their habitat.

- A. it is
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47) They're usually found near shallow water.

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Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 48) Spotted turtles can live for over 50 years in the wild.
- 49) Are spotted turtles endangered?
- 50) Spotted turtles are omnivores and eat a variety of foods, including plants and small insects.
- 51) Spotted turtles live in freshwater habitats, like marshes and ponds.
- 52) How do spotted turtles get their name?
- 53) Where can spotted turtles be found in the wild?



Spotted Turtle

Name: _____

1. _____ 26. _____ 51. _____

2. _____ 27. _____ 52. _____

3. _____ 28. _____ 53. _____

4. _____ 29. _____

5. _____ 30. _____

6. _____ 31. _____

7. _____ 32. _____

8. _____ 33. _____

9. _____ 34. _____

10. _____ 35. _____

11. _____ 36. _____

12. _____ 37. _____

13. _____ 38. _____

14. _____ 39. _____

15. _____ 40. _____

16. _____ 41. _____

17. _____ 42. _____

18. _____ 43. _____

19. _____ 44. _____

20. _____ 45. _____

21. _____ 46. _____

22. _____ 47. _____

23. _____ 48. _____

24. _____ 49. _____

25. _____ 50. _____



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1. **D** 26. **opinion** 51. **declarative**

2. **B** 27. **fact** 52. **interrogative**

3. **B** 28. **opinion** 53. **interrogative**

4. **D** 29. **fact**

5. **A** 30. **fact**

6. **A** 31. **opinion**

7. **B** 32. **opinion**

8. **A** 33. **true**

9. **B** 34. **false**

10. **C** 35. **true**

11. **B** 36. **false**

12. **Not** 37. **true**

13. **Would** 38. **false**

14. **Not** 39. **false**

15. **Not** 40. **false**

16. **Would** 41. **true**

17. **Not** 42. **true**

18. **Would** 43. **B**

19. **Would** 44. **A**

20. **Not** 45. **D**

21. **Not** 46. **A**

22. **Would** 47. **C**

23. **fact** 48. **declarative**

24. **opinion** 49. **interrogative**

25. **fact** 50. **declarative**



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) Are spotted turtles friendly towards humans? (paragraph 4)
A. They never interact with humans B.
C. D. Yes, they are known to be friendly

- 2) What parts of a spotted turtle are usually decorated with bright yellow or orange spots? (paragraph 1)
A. Their eyes B. Their shell (or 'carapace')
C. D.

- 3) Where do spotted turtles live? (paragraph 2)
A. B. North America
C. D.

- 4) How long can spotted turtles live? (paragraph 3)
A. Up to 20 years B.
C. D. Up to 50 years or more

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C. D.

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A. Lack of predators B.
C. Habitat loss D.

- 11) What is the usual length of a spotted turtle's shell? (paragraph 1)
A. B. 4 to 6 inches
C. D.

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).



Spotted Turtle

Name: _____

12) "We are quite afraid of humans and tend to stay away." (paragraph 4)