

For Creative Minds

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Turtle Feet and Legs: What Can You Tell?

What can you tell by a turtle's feet and legs?

1a



1b



1c

Answers: 1a: webs with claws tells us that the turtle lives in both water and on land, 1b: columnar legs (like an elephant's) with claws for digging tells us the turtle (tortoise) lives only on land, 1c: legs that are flippers for swimming tells us it's a sea turtle.

Match the Turtle to its Habitat

1



2



3



4

A



B



C



D



Answers: 1-C: ocean, 2-D: desert, 3-A: pond, 4-B: woods near water

Turtle True or False?

Can you tell which statements are true and which are false? Answers are below.

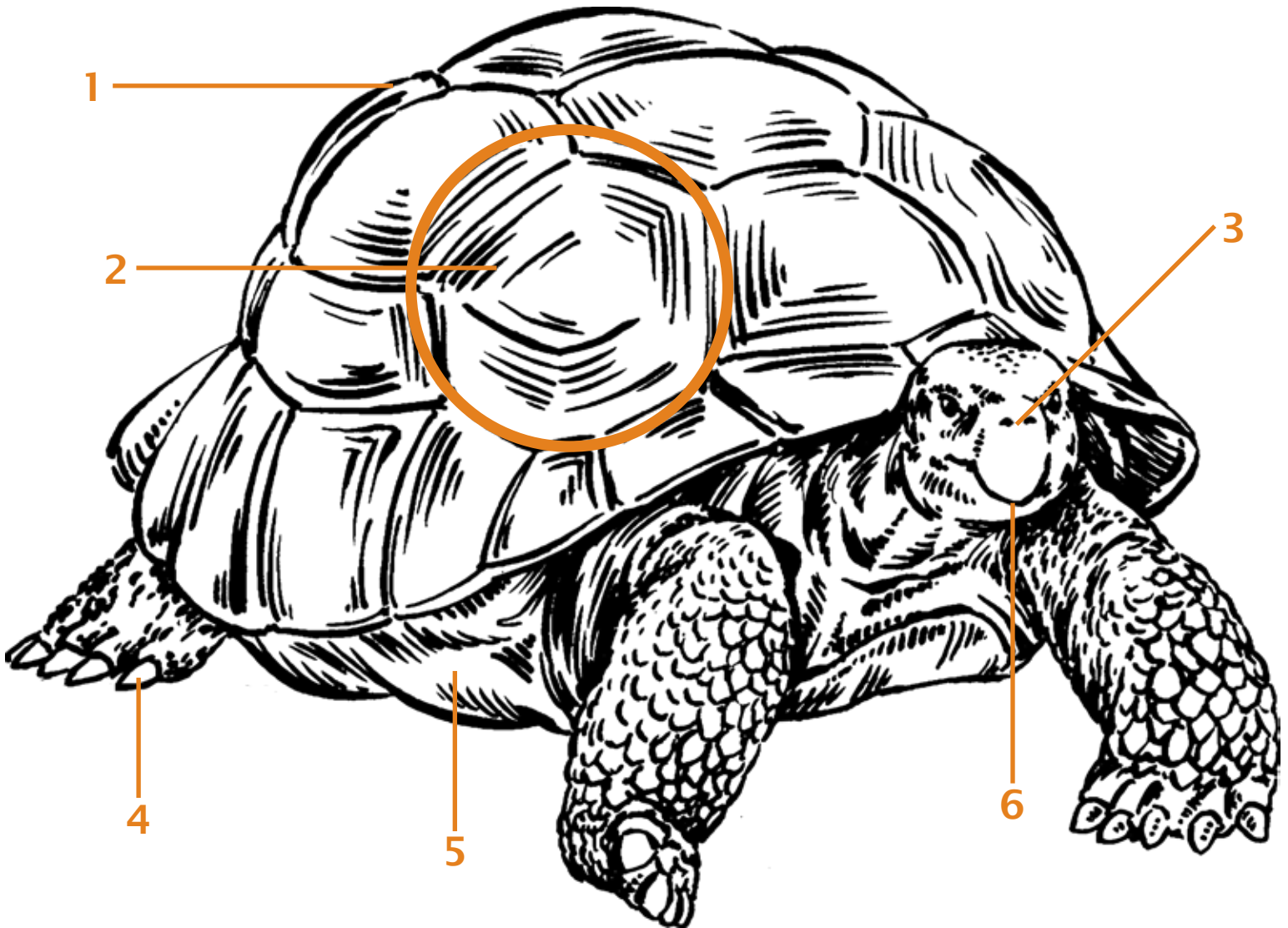
- 1 Sea turtles lay their eggs in the ocean.
- 2 Turtles, tortoises, and terrapins are all considered turtles. They are reptiles.
- 3 Most, but not all, turtles live in water and on land.
- 4 Turtles have very sharp teeth.
- 5 Turtles live in all kinds of habitats all over the world except for Antarctica.
- 6 Turtles crawl out of their shells and get new ones as they grow.
- 7 Turtle scutes and human fingernails are both made of keratin.
- 8 Turtles only eat plants (herbivore).
- 9 Turtles are cold-blooded.
- 10 Tortoises only live on land.

Answers: 1: False-all turtles lay eggs on land. 2: True. 3: True. 4: False-turtles have beaks and no teeth. 5: True. 6: False: turtle shells are part of their skeleton. 7: True. 8: False-some turtles eat plants and others eat meat or both plants and meat. 9: True. 10: True

Turtle Body Parts

Identify the turtle body parts using the vocabulary list. Answers are below.

beak	the hard, curved part of an animal's mouth
carapace (care-a-pace)	the top of a turtle's shell
claws	the sharp, curved end of toes
nostrils	the openings into a nose
plastron (pla-stron)	the bottom part of a turtle's shell
scutes (skoots)	the large bony plates on a turtle's carapace



Answers: 1: carapace, 2: scutes, 3: nostrils, 4: claws, 5: plastron, 6: beak