

Grades 2-7

Turtles

Learning Lapbook with Study Guide



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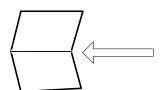
While you are there, sign up for our email newsletter and receive a FREZ lapbook!
You'll also receive great discount codes, special offers, find out what's new and what's to come!

oin us on Facebook!

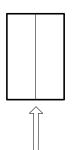
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Keep in mind that children of the same age can have very different academic and motor skills. Some children may have trouble writing in some of the smaller spaces of this lapbook. If this describes your child, we encourage you to let your child dictate the answers and you write for him. A lapbook is to be a fun project, not stressful.

Hamburger Fold-Fold horizontally



Hotdog Fold-Fold vertically



Dotted Lines-These are the cutting lines.

Accordion Fold-This fold is like making a paper fan. Fold on the first line so that title is on top. Turn over and fold on next line so that title is on top again. Turn over again and fold again on the next line so that title is on top. Continue until all folds are done.

Cover Labels-Most of the booklets that are folded look nicer with a label on top instead of just a blank space. They will be referred to as "cover label."

How Long Does it Take to Complete the Lapbook?

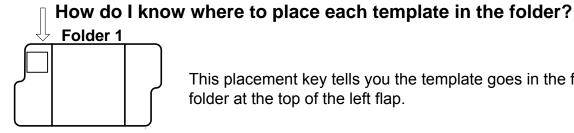
Doing a study guide page and mini-bookist a day, a 2-folder lapbook takes 2-3 weeks to complete. However, you can expand the study portion and make it last as long as you like! That's the beauty of homeschooling! Do it YOUR way!

Lappook Assembly Choices

(see photosorrhow to fold and glue your folders together) We recommend using Zip Dry Glue or Elmer's Extreme.

Choice #1 -Do not glue your folders together until you have completely finished both folders. It is easier to work with one folder instead of two or three glued together.

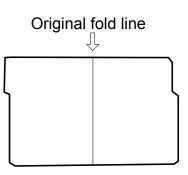
Choice #2 -Glue both folders together before beginning. Some children like to see the entire project as they work on it. It helps with keeping up with which folder you are supposed to be working in. The choices are completely up to you and your child!



This placement key tells you the template goes in the first folder at the top of the left flap.

Folding a Lapbook Base

Gather the number of folders required for the project. Fold them flat as seen here.



For each folder, fold the left and right sides inward toward the original line to create two flaps. Crease so that the highest part of each flap is touching the original line. It is important not to let the two flaps overlap. You may want to take a ruler and run it down each crease to make it sharper.



Glue your folders together by putting glue (or you may staple) on the insite of the flaps. Then press the newly glued flaps together with your hands until mey get a good strong hold to each other. Follow this step to add as many folders as you need for your project. Most of our lapbooks have either 2 or 3 folders.

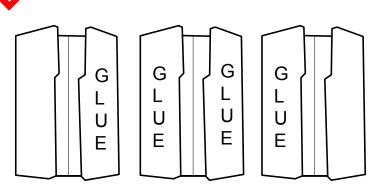
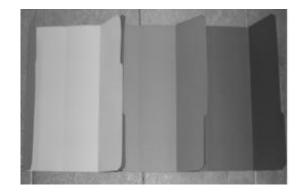


Photo of a completed lapbook base



Tips and tricks to go the extra mile!

Supplies Need:

½ inch three-ring binder

5 tabs (if you are using our copywork and/or notebooking pages, you will need to have 7 tabs. Label with copywork and notebooking)

Quart size baggies

Duct tape

Your study guide and mini-booklets pages

Office supplies-glue, scissors, brads, stapler, pencils, crayo s, and ribbon (if needed)

- 1. Label your tabs: Study Guide, Book Log, NICK Biography Reports, Outlines (Copywork and Notebooking, if using these).
- 2. Make copies of NICK notes and outlike forms and put them behind the tabs. Your child can use either the NICK notes from (easier) or the outline form (a bit harder) after any of the study guide. These serve as a good review of the material in the study guide.
- 3. Hole punch your study guide and mini-booklets sheets and place behind the Study Guide tab. You will per a page of a study guide. Behind the study guide are all of the booklets that go with that study guide.
- 4. Keeping your office supplies handy-Measure the bottom of a quart size ziplock bag. Then measure out a strip of duct tape that length. Lay the zip-lock bag on the lower edge of the tape. Fold the other end of the tape down on the zip-lock bag. Your duct tape should be sticking out from the bag. Now, you can hole punch the duct tape strip. DO NOT HOLE PUNCH INTO THE BAG! Then put it into your 3-ring binder. Use this bag to store items you will be using for your lapbook. Glue, scissors, hole puncher, stapler and extra staples, crayons, pencils, brads, ribbon, and any unfinished work. Doing this one step keeps you from having to constantly gather supplies every time you want to work on your lapbook!

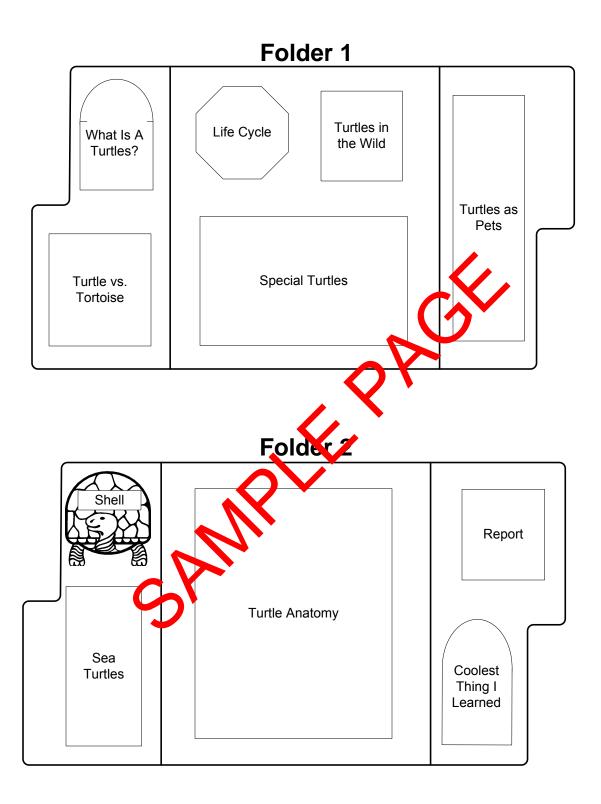


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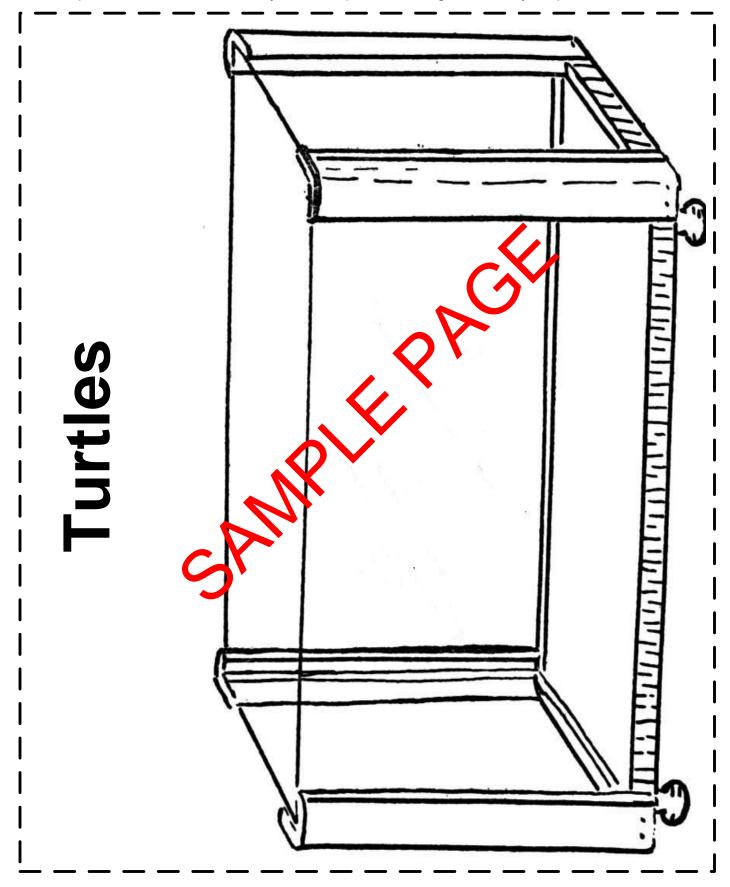
Turtle Anatomy

All About Shells

All About Sea Turtles

Sea Turtle Kinds

Cut out the page on the dotted lines. Glue to the front of your closed lapbook. Inside of the aquarium, create a home for your turtle pet. Don't forget to draw your pet and name it, too!



What Is A Turtle?

What would it be like to carry your house on your back, everywhere you go? If you were a turtle, that wouldn't be the only special thing about you! Turtles are one of the most interesting animals to learn about, watch, and even keep as a pet.

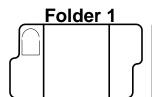
Turtles are part of an interesting order of animals, the reptiles. Reptiles have several special features that make them different from other animals. Some other reptiles include snakes, toads, lizards, alligators, and crocodiles. Reptiles are animals that have hard scales covering their body, breathe air through lungs, and lay eggs on land (never in water). There are a few exceptions, such as snakes that have live babies. Some reptiles that live in the water also absorb oxygen from the water through special membranes. Reptiles are also cold-blooder, which means they cannot maintain a core temperature like people do, and their temperature is determined by the environment around them.

Because turtles are reptiles, they carry the same traits as the rest of the order. Baby turtles are born from eggs laid on land, they are cold-blooded, breathe air, and are covered with scales. Some of the scales are modified in order to form the outer layer of the characteristic shell which we all associate with turtles.

Aside from the specific reptile characteristics that turtles have, there are many differences found among the 300 case various species. Turtles can be herbivorous, carnivorous, or omnivorous, and say be either nocturnal or diurnal. This means they can eat anything, and prefer to be awake in the day or the night, depending on species.

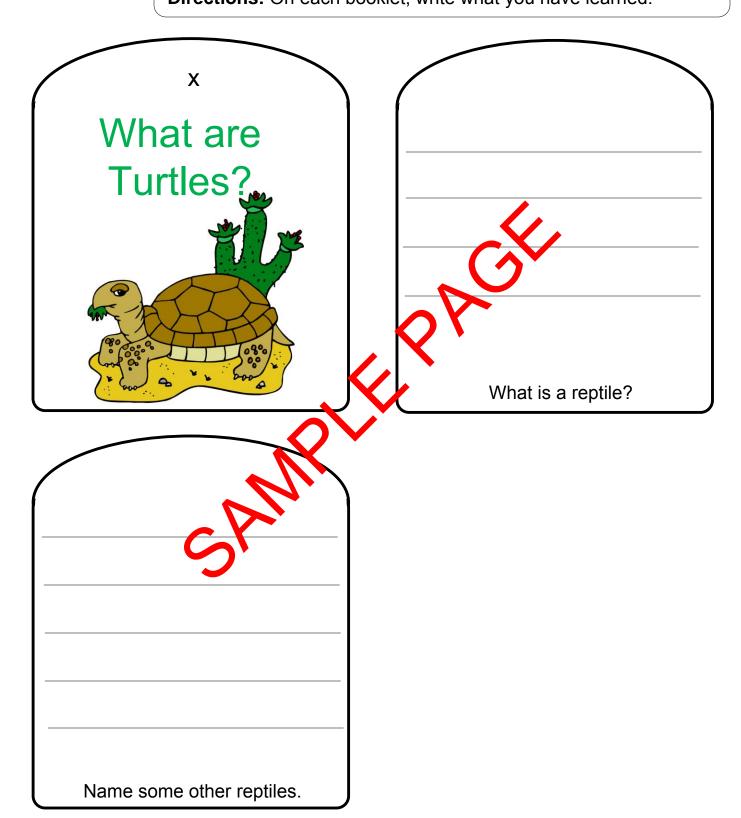
Turtles are found in many places around the world. In fact, turtles live on all of the continents in the world, except for frozen Antarctica, and in all of the warm oceans as well! Turtles are found in many different habitats, from water to deserts. The only place turtles cannot live is the cold areas near the poles. Because turtles are cold-blooded, they would never be able to maintain enough heat where it is cold all year long. In areas with cold winters, turtles have to find ways to cope with the temperature. Many hibernate under the ground until the weather warms up again.

Turtles live in one of three main habitats. Sea turtles live their entire lives in the water, except for short trips ashore to lay eggs. There are seven existing species of these ocean dwelling turtles. Freshwater turtles spend their lives in or near water. Lakes, ponds, swamps, rivers, and streams around the world are home to many different species of turtles. The last habitat of turtles is land. Terrestrial (land-dwelling) turtles are often called tortoises, and they live in habitats of all kinds. Although many tortoises live in wet or damp areas, some live in drier areas, including deserts.



Read What Is A Turtles?

Cut out each piece on this page. Stack with title on top. Fasten together at the top with a brad (or staple). Glue into lapbook. **Directions:** On each booklet, write what you have learned.



Turtle vs. Tortoise

What is the difference between a turtle and a tortoise? Well, it depends on where you live, and where the animal lives! If you are an American, you probably consider a turtle to be any shelled reptile in this family. Most Americans consider turtles to be aquatic animals, while some people consider the members of this family that do not have to live in or near water to be tortoises. In Europe, only sea turtles are called turtles. The kinds that live in freshwater are called terrapins, and the species that live mostly on land are called tortoises.

Although this can cause confusion, it is simpler to just consider the water-dwelling animals to be turtles, and the land-dwelling animals to be tortoises. Sorted into these broad categories, some interesting distinctions between the two groups appear.

Because they live in different types of habitats, perhaps the most obvious difference between turtles and tortoises is found in their bodies. Turtles tend to have flatter, more streamlined shells. Their shells are also lighter and narrower. This makes swimming easier. Most tortoises have high, domed shells that are very heavy and strong. This provides them with safety against predators. A turtle's first defense is the water while a tortoises' best way of staying safe is hiding in its thick shell.

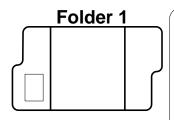
Tortoises and turtles also have differently shaped reet and legs. Turtles have webbed feet, and claws which help them climb on muddy banks, while tortoises have stocky legs that look more like an elephant. You might notice that tortoises have rougher scales on their legs and horny scutes (which are layered scales) on their backs. Again, this is more body armor for protection. Some turtles also have special ways of getting oxygen out of water in cases where they are not able to surface for a long time. They don't use this special feature unless it is an emergency. Tortoises, being land animals, don't have this unique ability.

All turtles and tortoises have some things in common, as well, besides the obvious shell. Turtles all lay similar edgs. The soft-shelled leathery eggs are almost perfectly round in most species. They may look mag e, but they are actually very tough. The eggs are incubated in similar ways, generally in noies in the sand or mud which the sun warms through the summer. Even turtles that spend their whole lives in the water will come ashore to lay their eggs.

Being reptiles, turtles and tortoises alike need warmth to survive. How much cool weather they can tolerate, and how they escape it, varies with species. Most turtles and tortoises that live in areas with cold weather simply hibernate in the ground, deep enough to avoid the freezing temperatures.

All turtles and tortoises have excellent senses. Their eyesight is good, and some people say they have eyes similar to a cat and can see well at night. They can also hear well, and sense vibrations through the ground.

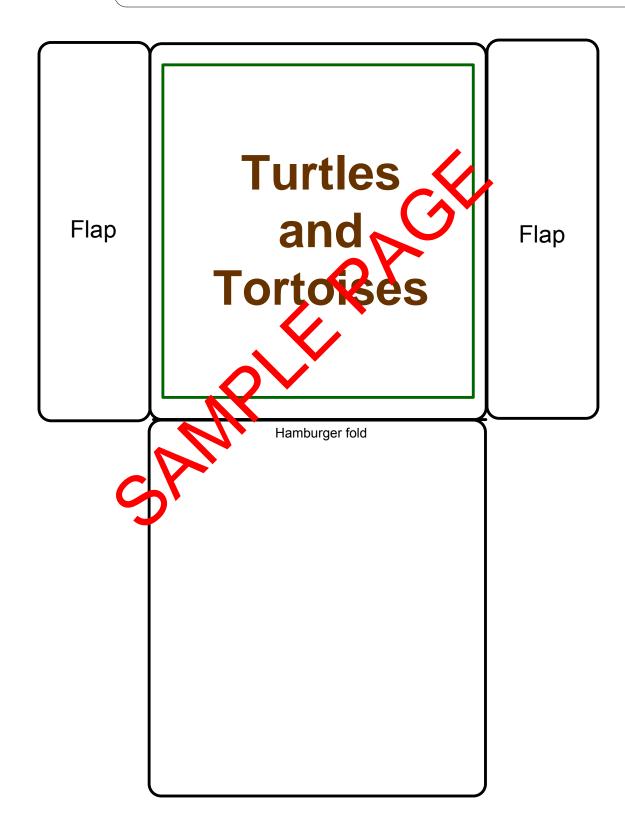
You can see that while turtles and tortoises may have many differences, they are alike in most ways, and many people call all animals of this family 'turtles'. There are no official differences between the two categories, so they are all really part of one big family.

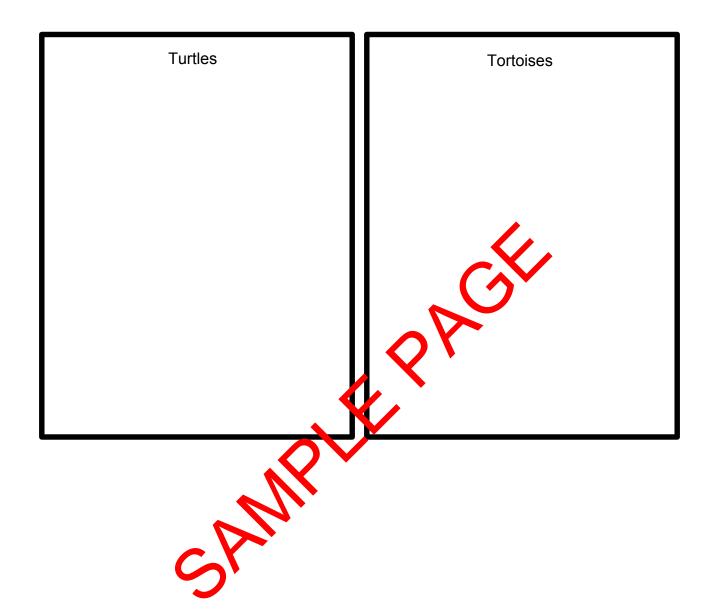


Read Turtle vs. Tortoise.

Cut out booklet as one piece. Fold the back bottom section up in back and then fold the flaps back and glue to make a pocket. Cut out the cards on the next page.

Directions: On the turtle card, draw where it lives. On the tortoise card, draw it lives.





Life Cycle

Turtle parents do not take care of their babies. Like most reptiles, they lay their eggs and then leave. Some turtles will stay to guard the nest against egg-eating snakes, but most do not.

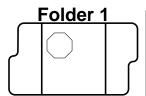
The mother turtle finds a suitable place for her nest, generally in a soft area of sand or dirt. She lays a large number of eggs and then covers them. The eggs are leathery and soft, not hard like chicken eggs. Although they may seem fragile because they are soft, the eggs are actually quite tough. Often they are round but some species lay oval eggs.

Although the eggs are not heated by their mother, they must not get too cold or they will not hatch. Turtles lay their eggs in the summer so they will be warm enough. The temperature during incubation can determine whether most of the baby turtles are males or females. Higher temperatures mean more female turtles, while lower temperatures cause more eggs to develop into males. Most kinds hatch in two to four months. Some sea turtles return to the beach several times during the summer to make second, third and even more nests. This increases the chances of a successful hatch in case one rost of eggs is discovered by a predator.

After the incubation period, the baby turtles hatch into the world, tiny but completely able to take care of themselves. They use an egg tooth, which is a hard sharp point on the end of their beak, to tear through the leathery shell. The egg tooth falls off after a few days. Newly hatched turtles are provided with enough putrition to survive several days, up to a week, without food. This allows them to build an their energy and strength, and start developing food-finding skills.

Young turtles often eat a different dist then adults, needing different nutrients for growing. Insects and other creepy-crawlies are often eaten by baby turtles for extra protein. This early stage of life is the most dangerous for turtles. They are very tiny and defenseless, and must find enough food without becoming a target for predators.

Turtles mature very slowly, often taking five years to reach adult size, and even longer to begin laying eggs. Land turtles may begin laying eggs at around 15 years, while sea turtles may take 20 years or even longer. After the initial dangerous period of life, turtles can live very long lives. A 100 or even 150 year old turtle is not uncommon. The oldest recorded turtle lived to be 188 in Tonga. He was given as a gift to the royal family by the explorer Captain Cook! Many other turtles have also lived extraordinarily long lives. Some reports claim turtles living from 160 to 250 years, although they are just estimations. Turtles do not seem to show signs of aging like many animals. The organs of most animals get weaker as the animal ages, but scientists have studied old turtles and found that their organs are nearly identical to younger ones.



Read Life Cycle.

Cut out the large shape as one booklet. Fold the left flap over the center flap. Next fold the right flap over the center. Cut out the cover label and glue on to front. Glue into lapbook.

Directions: On each flap, write what you have learned.

