



It's World Turtle Day!

Thank you for caring about turtles! We wish we could share about these wonderful creatures in person, but here are some fun things you can do at home:

1. Eastern box turtles are one of Pennsylvania's native species. Find out how to tell the difference between a male and female box turtle based on its eye color in this [5-minute mini-documentary](#). Then you can choose your own colors for [this coloring page](#).
2. There are 13 other turtles you can find in Pennsylvania, too! Did you know some have soft shells? [Learn all about them](#). Which one do you like best?

3. Let's check out turtles from outside Pennsylvania too! Here is a Ted-Ed video about the survival of sea turtles. Then you can play this game to try to save sea turtles!

4. Next visit a rescue hospital for injured sea turtles, or get to know the sea turtles at our local Adventure Aquarium, and see if you can answer these questions:

- a. How much does Bob the loggerhead turtle weigh?
- b. What do they eat, and do you eat any of those things too?
- c. How long can they hold their breath underwater
- d. You might like to color this Bob coloring page, or go outside and try to draw a life size version of Bob with sidewalk chalk (measure 3 feet!)

5. Climate change can affect sea turtles. Read this story about Myrtle the Turtle to find out about it.

Ornate Box Turtle Facts!

- Ornate box turtles are different from our eastern box turtles, and are native to the Great Plains area of the US. They typically grow 6 inches long. Can you measure 6 inches on a ruler?
- You can tell the difference between a male and a female box turtle by looking at their eyes! Male ornate box turtles usually have red eyes while females have brown or yellow. Do you think the turtle pictured below is a male or female?
- Records for ornate box turtles indicate they live as long as 32 to 37 years. Try counting to 37 - how many hands do you need to count on your fingers that high?
- If you look closely at this box turtle's shell, you will see growth rings. Can you think of anything else in nature that has growth rings?



Book Read Alouds

Looking for more? We know the library is closed right now, but here are a few great books about turtles that you can watch being read aloud right from home. Get comfy!

- Listen to a book about a very special turtle named [Mossy, by Jan Brett](#) (This is my personal favorite!)
- In this video you can listen to children's author, Suzanne Tate, reading her book, [Tammy Turtle, A Tale of Saving Sea Turtles](#).
- Sea turtles are a popular species to learn about, with many books written about them. In [One Tiny Turtle](#), author Nicola Davies combines a story about loggerhead sea turtles with amazing facts about their life cycle.

Thank you for celebrating World Turtle Day with DCVA at home. We hope to see you at a live event someday soon!