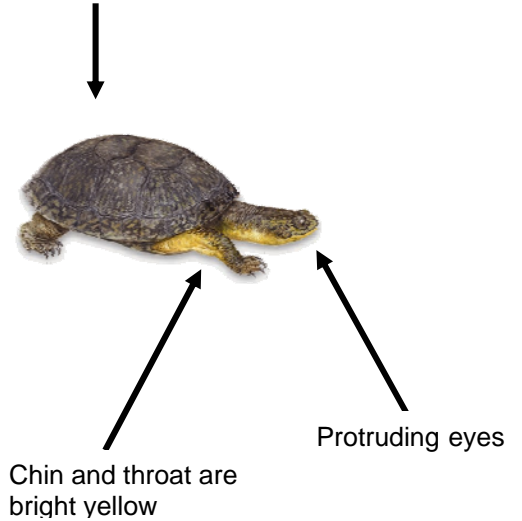


# TURTLE IDENTIFIER CARDS

## ***Blanding's Turtle***

- Size:** 12.5 to 18 cm
- Lives In:** soft-bottomed waters with dense aquatic vegetation
- Eats:** crayfish, insects, frogs and plants
- Other:**
- the plastron is hinged to protect the head of the turtle when recoiled
  - high domed carapace and yellow chin.

Smooth, domed carapace with yellow streaks or splotches

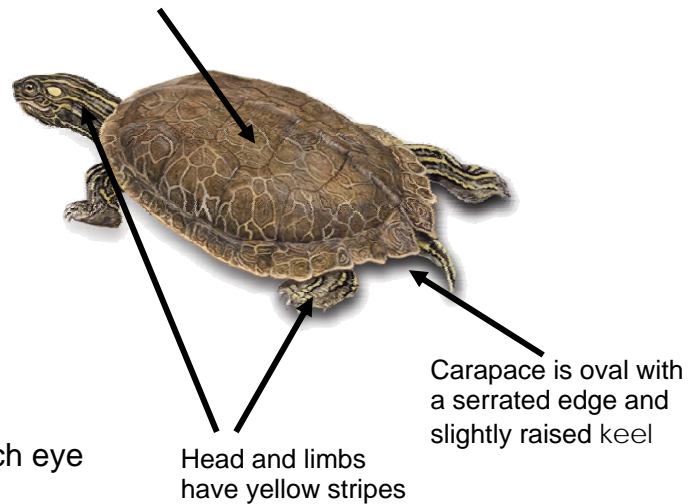


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## ***Northern Map Turtle***

- Size:** (males) 9 to 15.9 cm  
(females) 18 to 27.3 cm
- Lives In:** larger rivers and lakes (slow moving water with a soft bottom)
- Eats:** molluscs, insects, fish, carrion and plant material
- Other:**
- a yellow spot is located behind each eye
  - map-like markings on shell
  - rear edge of shell is serrated

Carapace is olive green with fine yellow lines running down its surface



## TURTLE IDENTIFIER CARDS

### ***Common Musk Turtle***

**Size:** 5.1 to 11.5 cm

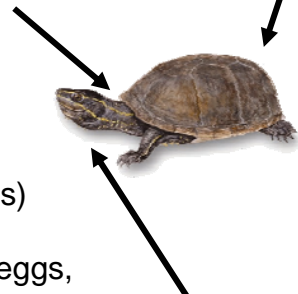
**Lives In:** often in shallow areas of soft-bottomed, slow moving water (e.g. rivers, lakes and ponds)

**Eats:** algae, carrion, small invertebrates, fish eggs, minnows and tadpoles

**Other:** • Ontario's smallest turtle

A yellow stripe is located above and below the eye on both sides of the head

Carapace is dome-shaped and smooth and is light olive to black in colour



Chin and throat are covered in barbels



### ***Common Snapping Turtle***

**Size:** 20.3 to 36 cm in carapace length

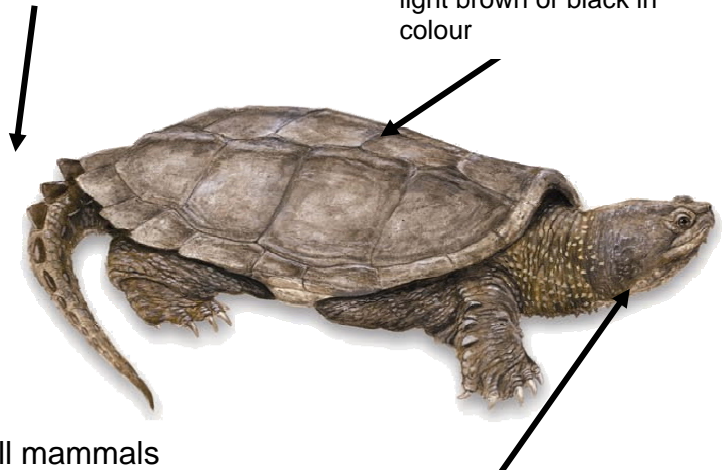
**Lives In:** slow-moving water with a soft bottom and plenty of vegetation (e.g. shallow ponds, rivers, streams and canals)

**Eats:** fish, invertebrates, plants, turtles, snakes, young waterfowl and small mammals

**Other:** • Ontario's largest turtle

Long serrated tail

Carapace is olive, tan, light brown or black in colour



Head has two barbels on chin

# TURTLE IDENTIFIER CARDS

## ***Eastern Spiny Softshell Turtle***

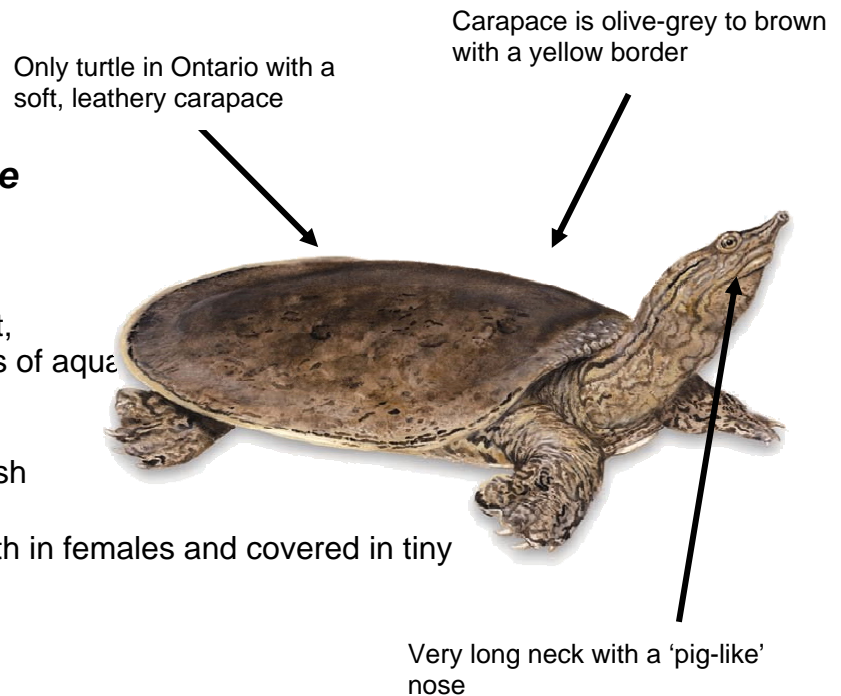
**Size:** 12.2 to 23.5 cm

**Lives In:** rivers or lakes with soft, sandy bottoms and lots of aquatic vegetation

**Eats:** insects, fish and crayfish

**Other:**

- carapaces are smooth in females and covered in tiny spines in males
- pliable, leathery shell



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## ***Painted Turtle***

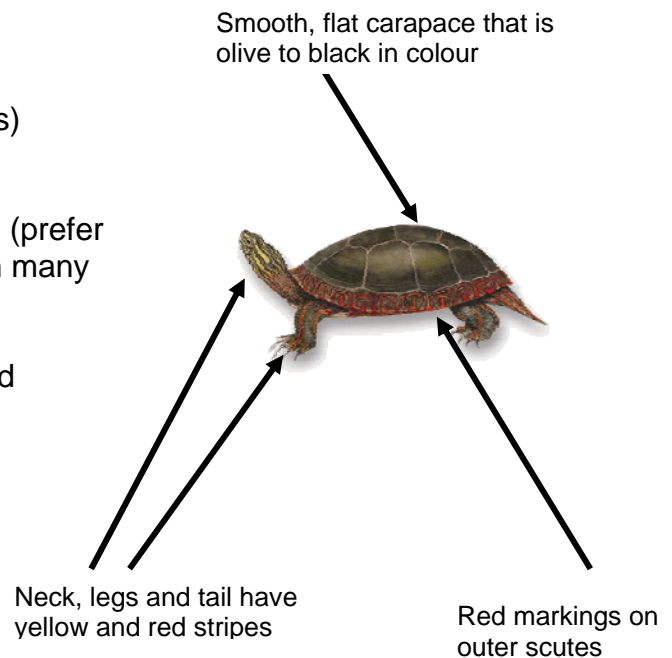
**Size:** 11.5 to 14 cm (Midland subspecies)  
9 to 18 cm (Western subspecies)

**Lives In:** ponds, marshes, lakes and creeks (prefer soft-bottomed bodies of water with many basking sites)

**Eats:** aquatic plants, frogs, small fish and aquatic invertebrates

**Other:**

- often seen basking together



# TURTLE IDENTIFIER CARDS

## ***Spotted Turtle***

- Size:** 9 to 11.5 cm
- Lives In:** bogs, marshes, and soft-bottomed lakes
- Eats:** snails, aquatic insects and vegetation
- Other:**
- males have a tan chin and brown eyes while females have a yellow to orange chin and yellow to orange eyes

Dark carapace with small, bright yellow or orange spots

Carapace is very smooth

Head, neck and limbs are grey to black with yellow spots



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## ***Wood Turtle***

- Size:** 14 to 20 cm
- Lives In:** woods, shrub or berry thickets, swamps, streams and open grassy areas
- Eats:** terrestrial plants, mushrooms, insects and worms
- Other:**
- Ontario's most terrestrial turtle

Carapace is brown to greyish-brown to yellow in colour

Concentric growth rings on each scute



Head and upper limbs are black. The neck and lower limbs vary in colour from yellow to orange to reddish depending on where they live