

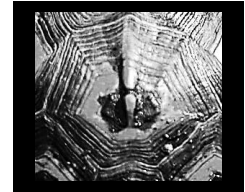


Fairly
FLAT
shell.

Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*)

- ✓ Endemic to North America.
- ✓ Carapace length 5.5 - 7.9 in with pyramidal pattern on its upper shell.
- ✓ Range = Nova Scotia (north and east), Minnesota (west), Virginia (south).
- ✓ Lives within several hundred meters from flowing water.
- ✓ It is diurnal.
- ✓ Hibernates in winter; spends estivation (dormancy) in the hottest part of summer.
- ✓ Is omnivorous; capable of eating on land *or* in water.

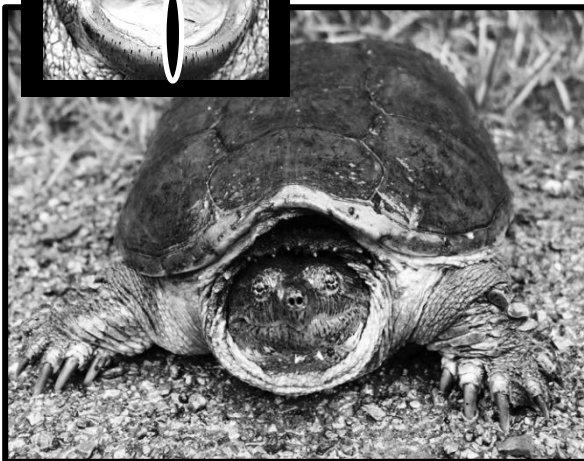
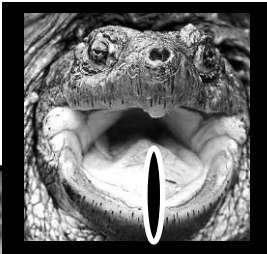
Wood and Box turtles = same family . . . *Emyidae*.



DOMED
shell.

Box Turtle (*genus Terrapene*)

- ✓ Native to North America (United States/ Mexico).
- ✓ Are terrestrial members of the American pond turtle family - not members of the tortoise family.
- ✓ Have a domed shell (hinged at the bottom) allowing it to close its shell tightly to escape predators.
- ✓ Females *usually* have yellowish, brown eyes; males *usually* have red or orange eyes.
- ✓ Most reliable manner to distinguish males from females is to examine the plastron (underside). On males there is a concave area centered beneath the hinge.



Common Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*)

- ✓ Large freshwater turtle.
- ✓ Range = SW Canada, SE to edge of the Rocky Mountains, E to Nova Scotia and Florida.
- ✓ Powerful beak-like jaws, highly mobile head and neck (hence specific name *serpentina*, meaning "snake-like").
- ✓ Females (presumably also males) in more northern populations mate later (at 15-20 years) and at a larger size than in more southern populations (about 12 years to mate).
- ✓ Lifespan in the wild is poorly known, but long-term mark-recapture data from Ontario, Canada suggest a maximum age over 100 years.
- ✓ And why chase when you can leisurely wait? The Snapper has a natural "bait" attached to its tongue – a shiny red elongated wiggly protrusion that is mighty attractive to many smaller creatures cruising by.

Turtle photos captured by Ed Patterson.