

Activity 1: Write down the reptiles you know.

Variety of answers, e.g.: snakes (rattlesnake; python; anaconda; boa constrictor; adder), lizards (gecko; chameleon; bearded dragon; skink), tortoise, turtle, crocodile, alligator.

What is a reptile? List their key features.

A reptile is a cold-blooded animal with scaly skin that mostly lays egg. Adaptations include waterproof scales, strong limbs or streamlined bodies, venom and camouflage.

Activity 2: Write the habitat underneath each gecko. Include some facts for each one.



Madagascar day gecko

Tropical rainforests. A bright green body, red marks and sticky toe pads.



New Zealand gecko

Forests. Gives birth to live young.



leopard gecko

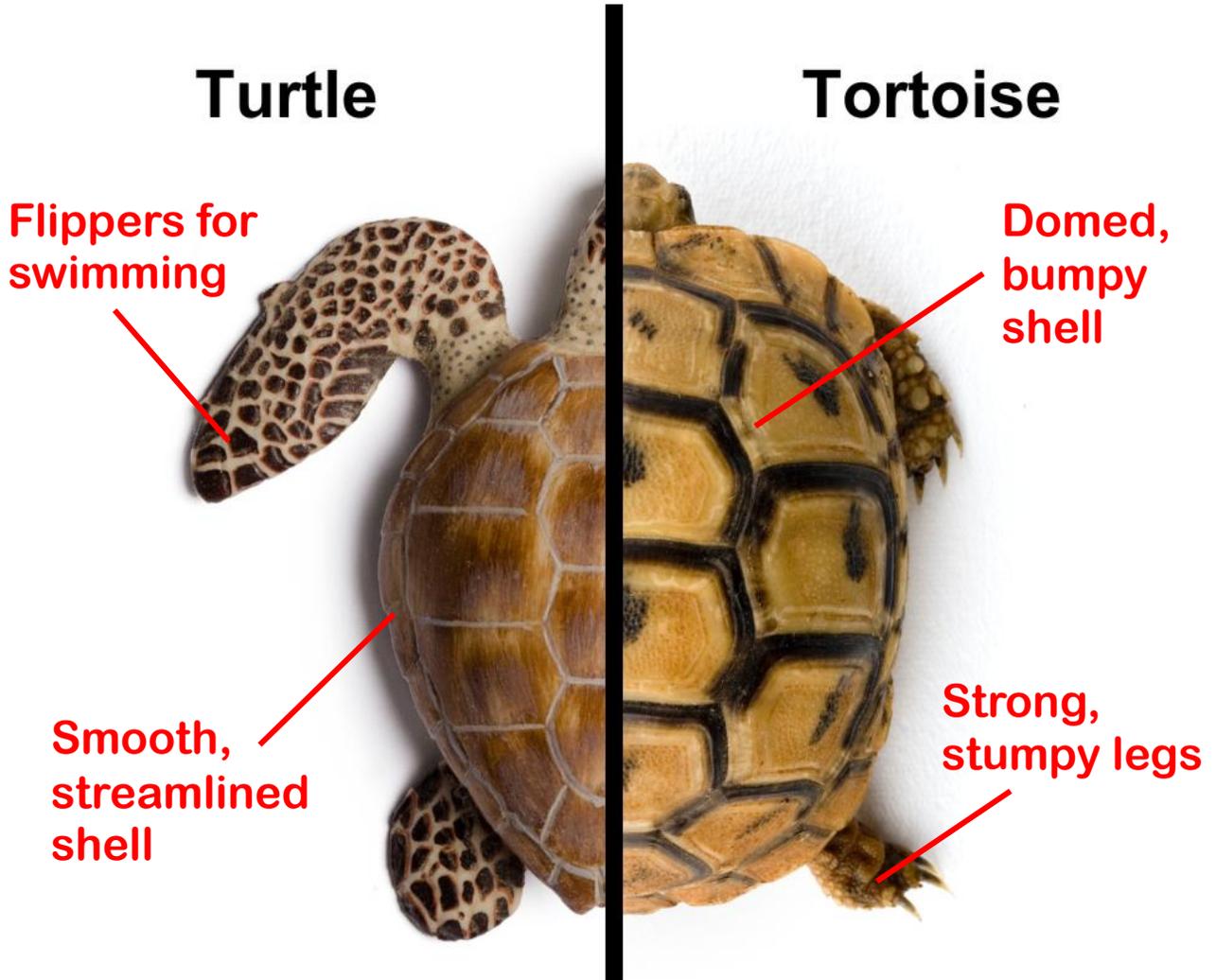
Deserts. Fat reserve stored in tail.



house gecko

Warm, urban areas. Lays eggs in buildings.

Activity 3: Label the features of a turtle and a tortoise. Label the adaptations each one has.



What are the key differences between a tortoise and a turtle?

Tortoises live on land; turtles live in water and have flippers or webbed feet for swimming. Tortoises have domed, bumpy shells for protection. Turtles have smooth, streamlined shells.

Challenge: Can you write a fact about the terrapin?

Found in freshwater environments like ponds and marshes; spend time in water and on land; have webbed feet for swimming and strong claws for climbing.

Activity 4: For each snake, write the following: 1. Its habitat; 2. What it eats; 3. How it kills prey (constrictor/venomous); 4. Other facts.



king snake

1. Forests, grasslands and deserts (North America)
2. Rodents, other snakes, eggs, small reptiles
3. Constrictor



rattlesnake

1. Deserts (North America)
2. Warm-blooded animals – birds, mice etc.
3. Venomous



garter snake

1. Forests, grasslands, marshes (North America)
2. Fish, frogs and newts
3. Constrictor



boa constrictor

1. Rainforests (South America)
2. Small mammals and other reptiles
3. Constrictor