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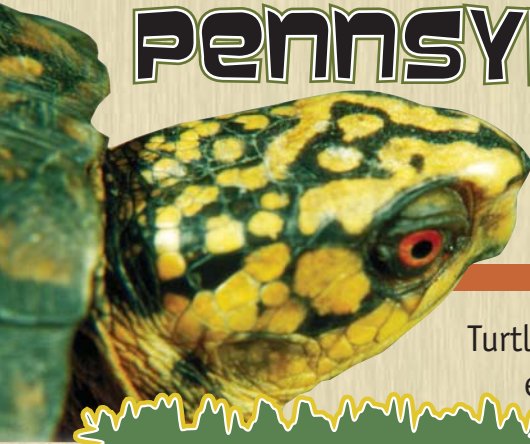
Fall
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Pennsylvania • League • of • Angling • Youth

Pennsylvania's

by Alice Stitt

TURTLES



*The eastern box turtle is a **TERRESTRIAL** species.*

Turtles are wonderful reptiles. They are easily recognized because of their protective shells. This great form of shelter, defense, and shielding has helped them survive for

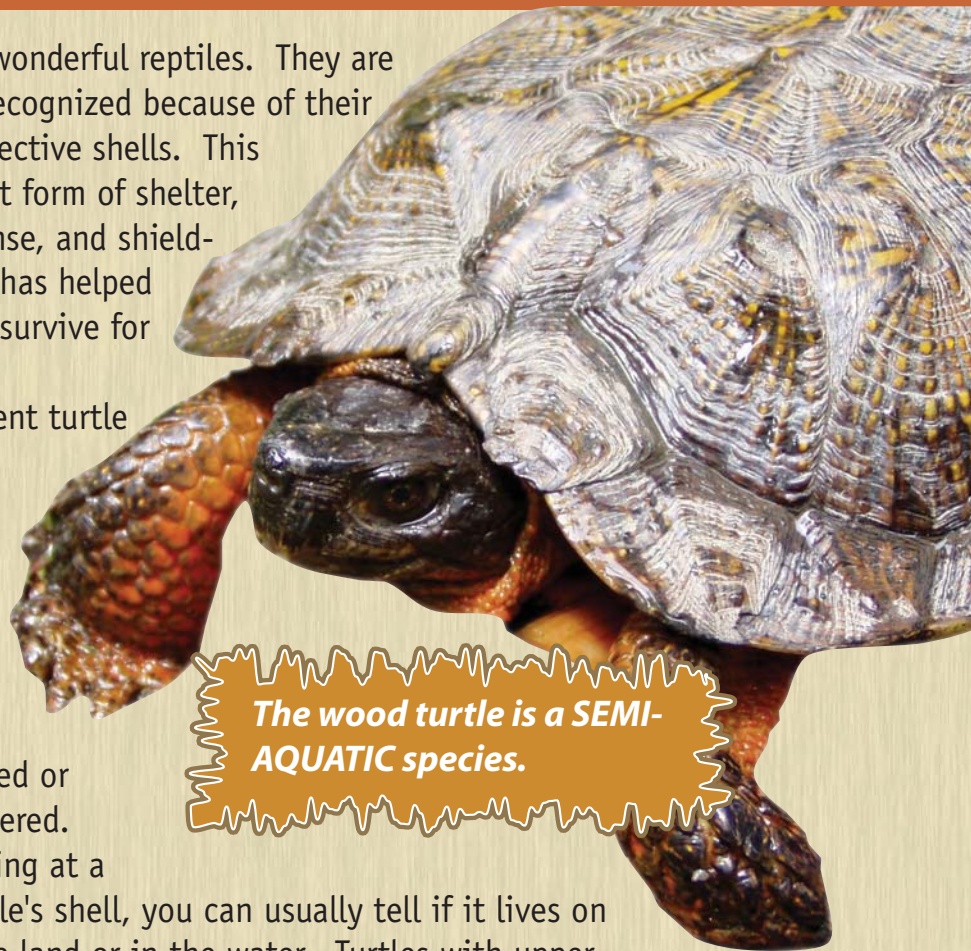
thousands of years.

In Pennsylvania, we have 14 different turtle species. Some live on the land (TERRESTRIAL), some live in the water (AQUATIC), and some live on land and in the water (SEMI-AQUATIC). Penn-

sylvania also has some turtles that are threatened or endangered.

Looking at a

turtle's shell, you can usually tell if it lives on the land or in the water. Turtles with upper shells that are not highly raised or domed and that look more flattened from the side are turtles that usually live in the water and swim. They need a more streamlined body shape to help them swim. Turtles that have a high, more rounded shell are usually land turtles. They don't need to have a flattened shell to walk on land.



*The wood turtle is a **SEMI-AQUATIC** species.*



*The snapping turtle is an **AQUATIC** species.*

Alice Stitt is the Fish & Boat Commission's aquatic resources program specialist for the Southcentral Region.