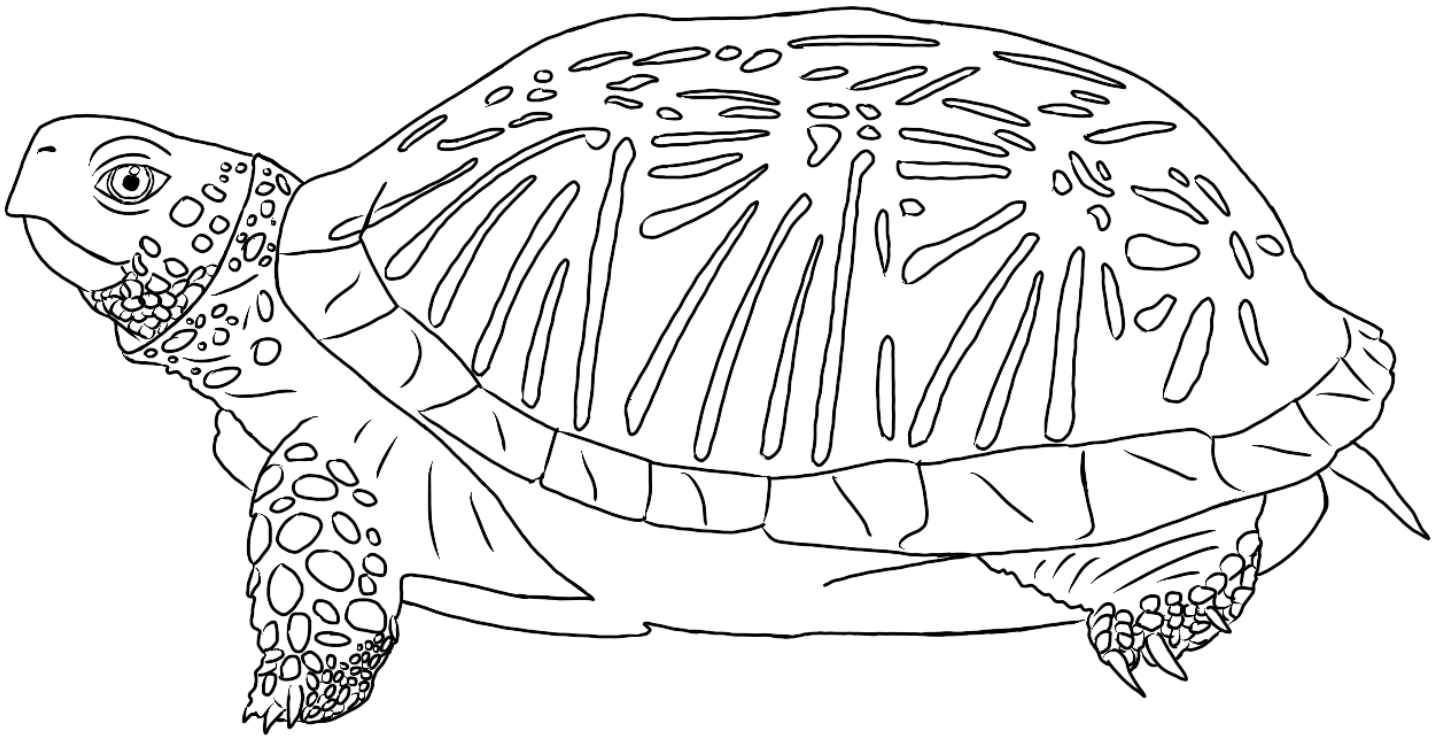


Eastern Box Turtle

Terrapene carolina carolina

The eastern box turtle, a subspecies of hinge-shelled box turtle, is usually found near ponds, fields, meadows, and woodlands throughout the eastern half of the United States. Box turtles have an effective technique for defense. When threatened, they will retract all of their limbs into their shell and clamp it shut. Very few predators can effectively prey upon adult box turtles because of this technique! About five to six inches long, the box turtle's shell, or carapace, can vary in coloration but is usually brown or black with some yellow, orange, red, or white spots or streaks. These turtles are omnivorous and will eat almost anything, including berries, insects, roots, flowers, eggs, and amphibians.



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