

RED-EARED SLIDER

Trachemys scripta elegans

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Fast facts

ANIMAL	Freshwater turtle
DIET	Plants and animals
FEET	Webbed for swimming
YOUNG	Hatchling



Photo: Plumpton Park Zoo

Did you know?

- The red stripe is behind the eye.
- Sliders bask on sunny surfaces.
- Webbed feet help them swim.
- Females lay eggs in nests on land.
- Sliders are introduced in Maryland.

Words to know

Omnivore: An animal that eats plants and animals.

Carapace: The upper part of a turtle's shell.

Plastron: The underside of a turtle's shell.

Hatchling: An animal newly emerged from an egg.

Think about it

1. Where is the red stripe?
2. Why are webbed feet useful?
3. What is the upper shell called?
4. Where are the eggs laid?
5. Are sliders native to Maryland?

Draw it

Draw a slider. Label its head stripe, shell and feet. Explain how one body structure helps it survive.

Draw here