

## COOL FACTS Three-toed Box Turtles:

- Box turtles are named after their ability to close their bottom shell up against their upper shell to completely hide and protect its head and limbs.
- Its name refers to its hind feet, which commonly have three toes each. The front feet can have four or five toes each.
- Shell color pattern can be quite variable but they are typically a tan or brown with some yellow spots or light stripes.
- These turtles can live 50 to 100 years.
- Box turtles removed from their home areas rarely adapt to new areas and often don't survive.



- Oklahoma's other species of box turtle is the plains box turtle.
- They bury themselves and go dormant during winter.
- They are active from April through October.
- Box turtles eat insects, worms, mushrooms, and fruit.
- Males have red eyes and some orange on the head and neck, while females have yellow-brown eyes.
- They are primarily land turtles but can easily swim across ponds or creeks.



## Color a Critter: Three-toed Box Turtle

