

LEVELED BOOK • K

Slithery and Slimy



Written by Kira Freed

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This is a book about
reptiles and amphibians.
Some are slithery.
And some are slimy.

Python



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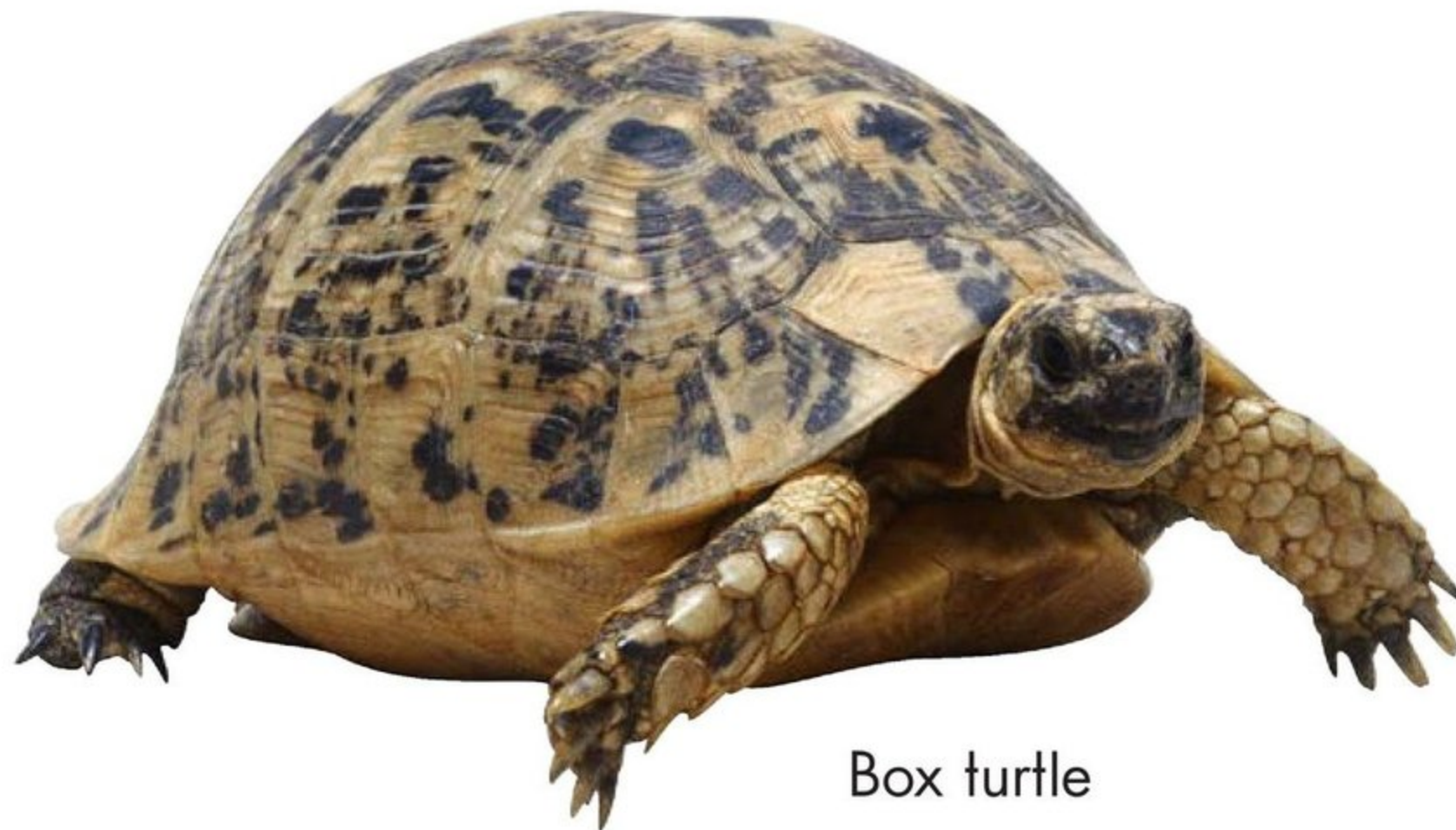


Red-eyed tree frog

By the end of this book,
you will know the difference
between reptiles and amphibians.
You will also learn fun facts
about these amazing animals.

How They Are the Same

- Reptiles and amphibians have backbones.
- They breathe air.



Box turtle



Leopard
frog

- Their body temperature changes. It changes with the temperature of the air and water around them. They get warmth from the heat of the sun.

How They Are Different

- Reptiles have dry, scaly skin.
- Most reptiles hatch from eggs with leathery shells that are laid on land.
- At birth, most reptiles look like their parents.



Eastern spotted newt

- Amphibians have moist skin with no scales.
- Amphibians come from eggs that have no shells. The eggs are laid in moist places.
- At birth, most amphibians do not look like their parents.

REPTILES

Dinosaurs were reptiles.
Many reptiles living today
are related to dinosaurs.

On the next pages
we will learn about
these reptile relatives.



Alligators

Lizards

All lizards are covered with scales. Lizards come in many sizes, shapes, and colors.



Chameleon



Sagebrush lizard

Snakes

Some snakes are venomous (poisonous), but most are not. Snakes shed their skin when it becomes too tight.



Rattlesnake (venomous)



Red tail boa (nonvenomous)

Turtles

Different turtles live in different places. Tortoises live on land. True turtles spend most of their lives in the water. Sea turtles live only in the salty water of the world's oceans.



Box turtle



Desert tortoise



Hawksbill sea turtle

Crocodiles and Alligators

These reptiles have many sharp teeth. Some crocodiles and alligators were around when dinosaurs walked the earth.



Alligators have powerful jaws.



An alligator hides most of its body in the water.

AMPHIBIANS

Many amphibians spend time both on land and in water.

There are three different groups of amphibians. Turn the page to learn about them.



Many toads and frogs have expandable throat sacs.

Frogs and Toads

Frogs are some of the best leapers on Earth.

Toads have shorter hind legs and fatter bodies than frogs.

They hop or crawl instead of leaping.

American toad



Pacific tree frog





Marbled salamander



Red newt

Salamanders and Newts

Many salamanders and newts have bodies shaped like lizards.
But their slimy skin tells us that they are amphibians.

Special Amphibians

Some amphibians
do not have legs.

Most of them live on land.

A few live in water.

They look like earthworms,
but they have very sharp
teeth.



Rubber eel



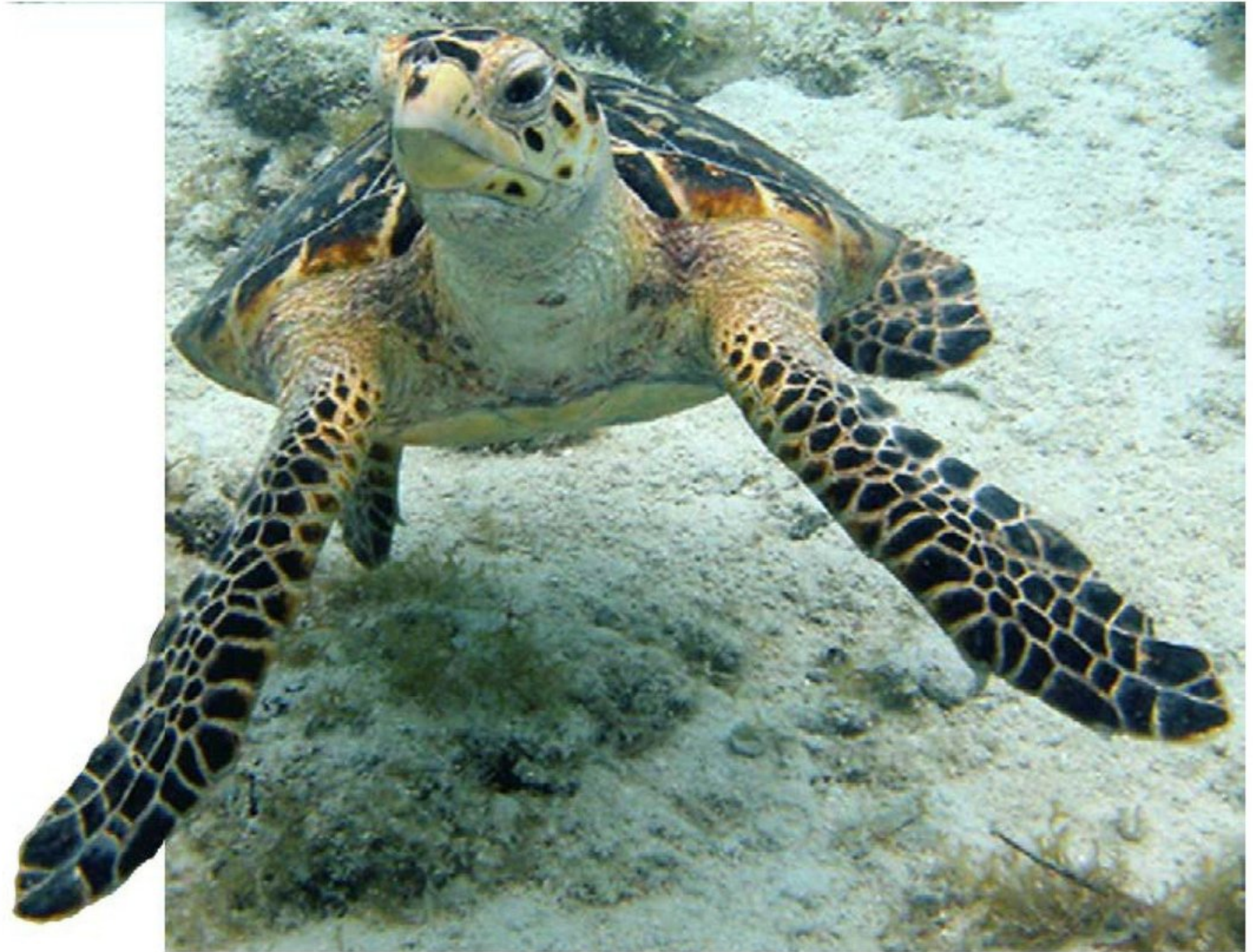
South American caecilian



The Texas blind salamander is endangered because it is losing its water habitat.

Many reptiles and amphibians are endangered.
Some have already become extinct (wiped out completely).
Many of their homes have been polluted and destroyed.

Reptiles and amphibians are important members of the web of life. Like all other animals, they have a place in our world. We need to protect their homes and help them to stay alive.



Hawksbill sea turtles are endangered.

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Many thanks to Priya Nanjappa and her colleagues at the USGS–Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD, for serving as consultants on this book.

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Level K Leveled Book
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