Name:

Imagine a little, cute creature with a hard shell and four tiny legs; yes, we're talking about the mud turtle! Mud turtles are small turtles that usually grow to about 3 to 4 inches long. They have a smooth, flat, and hard shell that is usually brown, black, or olive green. Their tiny feet are equipped with claws, and their head has a rather pointed snout with a beak-like mouth.



Now that we know how they look, let's dive into where these little guys love to hang out. Mud turtles can be found in a wide range of habitats but they especially love slow-moving freshwater environments. From marshes, ponds, to streams, these turtles love a good splash! They're even known to bury themselves in soft mud during the winter to keep warm.

Speaking of burying in mud, have you ever wondered about what these turtles munch on? Well, mud turtles are omnivores, meaning they eat both plants and animals. Their diet mainly consists of aquatic plants, small fish, insects, and even small frogs. They have strong jaws that help them grind their food, no matter how hard or slimy!



Just like us humans, mud turtles also have a very interesting life story. After the female mud turtle lays her eggs, she leaves them to hatch on their own. The little baby turtles, known as hatchlings, then have to fend for themselves right from the start. So, the next time you see a small, cute turtle, remember, it might just be a mud turtle, a little creature with a big life story!



Mud Turtle

Solve each problem.

5010	e cuch problem.		
	the article to answer the question. How long do mud turtles usually grow to be?	D	7 to 8 inches long
	A. 5 to 6 inches longC. 3 to 4 inches long		7 to 8 inches long 1 to 2 inches long
2)	Where do mud turtles love to hang out?A. Slow-moving freshwater environments		Rocky mountain streams
	C. Fast-flowing rivers	D.	Dry desert sand dunes
3)	What does a mud turtle eat?A. Only plantsC. Only animals		Only insects Both plants and animals
1)	What does a mud turtle's shell look like?		-
4)	A. Smooth and flatC. Bumpy and soft		Smooth with spikes Spiked and rough
5)	Where do mud turtles often bury themselves?		
,	A. In warm sand		Under tree roots
	C. In mud	D.	In thick snow
6)	What color can a mud turtle's shell be?		
	A. Brown, black, or olive green	B.	Orange, pink, or green
	C. Red, blue, or purple	D.	White, gray, or yellow
7)	What does a female mud turtle do after she la	ys h	er eggs?
	A. Leaves them to hatch on their own		Takes them to water
	C. Stays and guards them	D.	Carries them around
8)	What is the name for a baby turtle?		
	A. Hatchling		Cub
	C. Pup	D.	Chick
9)	What time of the year do mud turtles bury the		
	A. Autumn		Spring
	C. Summer	D.	Winter
10)	What type of snout does a mud turtle have?	F	
	A. A round snout		A square snout
	C. A flat snout	D.	A pointed snout
Dete	ermine if the statements is something the an	ima	d would say (W) or it it is no

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 11) "My shell is soft and squishy, not hard at all."
- 12) "I'm one of the biggest turtles, growing up to 6 feet long."

1-10										
11-20	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0

	Mud Turtle Name:
<u>13</u>)	"I live in places like ponds and streams, where I can swim all day!"
14)	"Did you know that I only grow up to 4 inches long, which is about as tall as a crayon?"
15)	"During winter, I love to play in the snow."
16)	"I detest the water, I prefer to stay on land."
17)	"I can eat almost anything I find in the water, from fish to insects!"
18)	"I only eat mud. That's how I got my name."
19)	"I don't have claws on my feet, instead they're smooth and perfect for sliding through the mud."
20)	"My mother watches over me until I grow up."
21)	"I prefer living in sea water. I'm an excellent swimmer and love the ocean waves."
22)	"Even though we've got little legs, we're great swimmers and can be found in slow-moving freshwater habitats like ponds and marshes."
23)	"Despite being a turtle, I enjoy roaming in deserts."
24)	"Believe it or not, I'm a strict vegetarian! All I need is green grass and seaweed to stay healthy."
25)	"When I get cold in winter, I find a cozy place in soft mud to sleep and stay warm."
Dete	ermine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.
26)	Most mud turtles hibernate in soft mud during the winter to keep warm.
27)	It is amazing how hatchlings can survive on their own right after birth.
28)	The diet of mud turtles mainly consists of aquatic plants, small fish, insects, and even small frogs.
29)	Mud turtles are the best kind of turtles because they live in water.
30)	Mud turtles can be found in a variety of habitats, but they particularly love slow-moving fresh water areas.
31)	Mud turtles' tiny beak-like mouth is adorable.

- **32)** Mud turtles have a smooth, flat, and hard shell that is typically brown, black, or olive green.
- **33)** Mud turtles eat both plants and animals, making them omnivores.
- **34)** It is amazing that mud turtles can survive being buried in mud during winter.
- 35) The way mud turtles blend in with their surroundings is the best defense tactic.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **36)** Mud turtles can be found in slow-moving freshwater environments.
- 37) Female mud turtles stay with their eggs until they hatch.
- **38)** Mud turtles hatch from eggs.
- **39)** Mud turtles live in saltwater habitats.
- 40) Mud turtles are known to bury themselves in soft mud during the winter to keep warm.
- 41) Mud turtles migrate south during the winter.
- **42)** Mud turtles can grow to be as long as 10 inches.

	Mud Tu	ırtle		Name:
43)	Mud turtles eat only plants.			
44)	Mud turtles love marshes, ponds, and stream	ns.		
45)	Mud turtles eat both plants and animals.			
Dete	ermine which choice is the expanded form	of th	e underlined contraction.	
46)	Mud turtles don't need a lot of space.			
	A. does not	B.	do not	
	C. did not	D.	are not	
47)	Mud turtles aren't very aggressive.			
	A. are not	В.	will not	
	C. can not	D.	are able	
48)	Mud turtles can't swim very fast.			
	A. can	B.	are not	
	C. will not	D.	cannot	
49)	They've got strong jaws that can crush shells			
	A. They have		They had	
	C. They will	D.	They are	
50)	They're known for their small size.			
	A. They were	B.	They is	
	C. They are	D.	They will	

Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 51) Mud turtles hibernate during the winter months.
- **52**) Do mud turtles lay eggs?
- 53) Mud turtles eat insects, worms, and small fish.
- 54) Mud turtles are usually less than 5 inches long.
- **55)** Are mud turtles endangered?
- **56)** Do mud turtles hibernate?

		Mud Turtle		Name:
1.		26	51.	
2.	:	27	52.	
3.		28	53.	
4.	:	29.	54	
5.	:	30.	55	
6.		31	56	
7.		32.	-	
8.		33.		
9.	:	34		
10.	:	35.		
11.	:	36		
12.	:	37		
13.	:	38		
14.		39.		
15.		40.	-	
16.	·	41	-	
17.		42.	-	
18.	·	43.	-	
19.	·	44	-	
20.	·	45.	-	
21.	·	46		
22.	· ·	47		
23.	· ·	48.		
24.	·	49		
25.	Deading	50		
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Name:

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Solve each problem.

501	e caen problem.		
Use	the article to answer the question.		
1)	How long do mud turtles usually grow to be?		
	A. 5 to 6 inches long	В.	7 to 8 inches long
	C. 3 to 4 inches long	D.	1 to 2 inches long
2)	Where do mud turtles love to hang out?		
2)	A. Slow-moving freshwater	в	Rocky mountain streams
	environments	Ъ.	Rocky mountain streams
	C. Fast-flowing rivers	D.	Dry desert sand dunes
			,
3)	What does a mud turtle eat?	ъ	
	A. Only plants		Only insects
	C. Only animals	D.	Both plants and animals
4)	What does a mud turtle's shell look like?		
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')	A. Leaves them to hatch on their own	•	Takes them to water
	C. Stays and guards them		Carries them around
		р.	
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	A. Autumn		Spring
	C. Summer		Winter
10)			
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	A. A round snout		A square snout
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D-4			
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		Ŋ							
	Mud Turtle	Name:	Answer Key						
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20)	"My mother watches over me until I grow up."								
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			Mud Turtle			Name:	Answer Key
1.	C	26.	fact	51.	declarative		
2.	A	27.	opinion	52.	interrogative		
3.	D	28.	fact	53.	declarative		
4.	A	29.	opinion	54.	declarative		
5.	<u> </u>	30.	fact	55.	interrogative		
6.	A	31.	opinion	56.	interrogative		
7.	A	32.	fact				
8.	A	33.	fact				
9.	D	34	opinion				
10.	D	35.	opinion				
11.	false	36.	true				
12.	false	37	false				
13.	true	38.	true				
14.	true	39.	false				
15.	false	40.	true				
16.	false	41.	false				
17.	true	42.	false				
18.	false	43.	false				
19.	false	44	true				
20.	false	45.	true				
21.	false	46.	В				
22.	true	47	Α				
23.	false	48.	D				
24.	false	49.	Α				
25.	true	50.	С				
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Solve each	problem.

Use	the article to answer the question.		
	How long do mud turtles usually grow to be?	(para	graph 1)
	A. 5 to 6 inches long	B.	
	C. 3 to 4 inches long	D.	
2)	Where do mud turtles love to here out?		
2)	Where do mud turtles love to hang out? (paragra A. Slow-moving freshwater	apn 2) B.	
	environments	р.	
	С.	D.	
3)	What does a mud turtle eat? (paragraph 3) A. Only plants	B.	
	C.		Both plants and animals
	С.	D.	Bour plants and annuals
4)	What does a mud turtle's shell look like? (parag	graph	1)
	A. Smooth and flat	В.	Smooth with spikes
	С.	D.	
5)	Where do mud turtles often bury themselves?	(para	agraph 2)
	A.		Under tree roots
	C. In mud	D.	
6)	What color can a mud turtle's shell be? (paragrap	oh 1)	
0)	A. Brown, black, or olive green	B.	
	С.	D.	
-			
7)	What does a female mud turtle do after she la	•	
	A. Leaves them to hatch on their own C.	ь. D.	Takes them to water
	С.	D.	
8)	What is the name for a baby turtle? (paragraph 4)		
	A. Hatchling	В.	Cub
	С.	D.	
9)	What time of the year do mud turtles bury the	emse	elves? (paragraph 2)
	A. Autumn	В.	
	С.	D.	Winter
10)	What type of snout does a mud turtle have? (p	araar	anh 1)
1V)	A. A round snout	B.	upre 1/
	C.		A pointed snout
			-

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

11) "My shell is soft and squishy, not hard at all." (paragraph 1)



12) "I'm one of the biggest turtles, growing up to 6 feet long." (paragraph 1)

