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feel a sense of validation only when you are "crazy busy"? Is your world upside down and you need help setting things right? Are you easily swayed from your true path? Turtle, as a Spirit, Totem, and Power Animal, can help! Turtle teaches you how to work effectively and with proficiency. Delve deeply in Turtle symbolism and meaning to find out this Animal Spirit Guide can support, assist, and inspire you. Turtle World of Contents/Turtle & Tortoise Symbolism & Meaning/Turtle Spirit moves to an inner drummer that is in no hurry. Seeming to have no worries, Turtle plods along at a cosmic, personal pace. If Turtle had a mantra, it would be "one small step at a time." This Spirit Animal truly lives in the moment - taking one after another with simple, innocent acceptance. This is a powerful lesson for humans who rush about at unhealthy speeds, often missing the mystical gem right in front of them, in the here and now. Turtle's greatest gift to us is learning to slow down and smell the roses (literally and figuratively). Being a water creature, some of the Turtle's symbolism and meaning come from that elemental influence. It is from the water that Turtle gains the attributes of insight and being able to understand and express our deeper emotions. In numerous myths and religions, Turtle & Tortoise takes a distinctly noticeable spot as representing resoluteness and peace. Cosmological traditions speak of a World Turtle that either supports the heavens or transports the Earth safely. If you are a traveler, you couldn't ask for a better spiritual guide. Additionally, Turtle & Tortoise carries its 'home' on its back. The Turtle cannot leave its shell. In this, Turtle symbolizes that our earthly body is our home - for now. It can protect and shelter you, so take good care of it. Tortoise's situation gives a whole new meaning to the phrase, "there's no place like home." Some of the Deities associated with Turtle Spirit include Ea, the Mesopotamian God of Wisdom and Magic, who lives under the ocean, Venus and Aphrodite - goddesses of love and fertility (Greco-Roman), Vishnu, who has a giant turtle avatar and Set the Egyptian God of the underworld. Overall, Turtle & Tortoise Medicine reminds us that strength and determination are the keys to overcoming our obstacles. Take your time before you move - don't go jumping out of your shell right into danger. Turtle Spirit Animal/When Turtle comes to you as a Spirit Animal, it bears the message of staying true to your path and being at peace with your choices. This may also signify that you are carrying too much weight on your shoulders. You cannot fix anything if you're overwhelmed. Put down negative things that hold you back, go into your shell, and meditate. Get grounded, embrace your emotional power, and reclaim your serenity. Also, Turtle might appear as your Spirit Animal during times when it seems as though your world is topsy-turvy. Many mistakenly believe Turtles cannot right themselves when flipped over on their back. But this is not always true. Turtles have strong necks and can flip themselves over. In this, Turtle can come to you as a reminder to use your own head. You are powerful enough to right yourself, even when others don't believe you can. If you can see your Tortoise Spirit Animal in your mind, Remember its color. It has significance. Black Turtle: Long life, safety. In China, it is sometimes called the Black Warrior of the North, representing the winter. Blue Turtle: Brings messages about wisdom, truth, and inventiveness. Golden Turtle: A yellow Turtle embodies grace, beauty, and primitive emotions. Green Turtle: Luck. It is also a spiritual guardian who can guide us when we feel off track. Orange Turtle: This Spirit Animal works with you on emotional expression. Purple Turtle: Peace and prosperity that comes from getting sound counsel. Increased psychic abilities. In this case, your Turtle Spirit Animal, White Turtle: Brings ancient truths and healing. Factoid: In Hawaii, there is a Turtle Goddess named Kaula. She could shape-shift into a human and watched over children. The Green Turtle can live 80 years, making it a symbol of longevity and mana (spiritual energy). When the Turtle typically live a long life. You pace yourself, savoring the moment-to-moment blessings. Having a safe haven is very important for Turtle people, so choose your shell wisely. Know when to retreat for your own safety or peace of mind. As one of the first animals on the Earth, Turtle Totem has the ability to express abundant wisdom and dig deep into the Greater Mysteries. The calmer speed of Turtle's life doesn't mean it's boring. If anything, Turtle is dynamic, particularly when connecting with water. This fills you and recharges those batteries that even the most metered Turtle can burn out. Turtles walk the path of peace, and so do you. You are anchored and grounded in your steps and feel no need to create a fuss. When something happens, you tuck your head and listen to your inner voice before reacting. Those who are Turtle born often become healers, professionally or in day-to-day interactions. You have a natural restorative energy that automatically goes to work when you encounter a damaged soul. You do have to be careful, however, as some will try to use you as a crutch. Turtle Power Animal/Invoke Turtle as a Power Animal when you need to amp up happiness and get out of a rut. If you watch children observing a Tortoise eating, they have great smiles and bucketloads of curiosity (joy). Turtle may not be hopping and jumping, but they are known to play with rocks and balls, building structures, taking them down, and starting again. It's their version of Jenga (forward movement). When you're feeling out of balance and you can't find your center of being, talk to your inner Turtle Power animal. It is very rare that Turtles are upside down, and even then, they can right themselves. Turn to the Turtle Power Animal within to guide you on life's path and keep you grounded along the way. Turtle helps your transformation into a fully actualized spiritual being living in the Earth plane. Be gentle with yourself. Your progress should not be measured by that of others (just ask Turtle!). There are times when all of us feel over-exposed and just want to find a safe haven. Trust your Inner Turtle to guide you into the perfect shell. Use your time there to heal physically, mentally, or spiritually. During your connection, Turtle may give you an AH HA moment-finding a way to move past challenges. Who's Who: Sea Turtle, Terrapins, Tortoise, TurtleYou see a round critter with a shell. Is it a turtle? A Tortoise? A Terrapin or Sea Turtle. Your uncertainty is understandable. Their appearance is incredibly similar until you look closer. Sea turtles rarely come to land except when they want to sunbathe or lay their eggs. Terrapins are more likely to go to land. They like living in swampy areas. Terrapins, despite their environment, understand the need to come out of the muck. Tortoises are not water creatures. They spend their life on land, happily enjoying terra-firma. Tortoise Spiritual Meaning/What can we learn from Turtle Spirit? The best way of discerning any creature's lessons is by observing natural behaviors and characteristics. For example, their long life makes them an ideal icon for durability and stability. As a creature who observed humankind grow and change, appearing on the Earth some 200 million years ago, Turtle imparts an appreciation for history and the wisdom it provides. Turtle and the Water element have strong connections. In times when there is a fierce focus on environmentalism, Turtle becomes the poster animal for marine conservation. Approximately 1/2 of the Turtle and Tortoise species are vulnerable or endangered, and it strives to impart awareness to you. Many of the world's stories, myths, and folklore have Turtle as a starring actor or support cast. There are key energies ascribed to Tortoise in these tales, which you can focus on when you work with this Animal Guide. They are: Knowledge, Longevity, Lunar energies, Perseverance, Persistence, Protection, Steadfastness, Tranquility, Transformation, Wisdom, and so much more. The Tortoise and Turtle are sun lovers. They will position themselves in a spot and just enjoy it. They look like tranquil passivists. Meanwhile, the sea Turtle and Tortoise take to the water. If you follow their energetic signature, you can dive into your subconscious and expand self-awareness. Native American Turtle & Tortoise Symbolic Meanings/The creation myth among Lenape and Iroquois people includes the peaceful Turtle at center stage. Soil was gathered and piled on the back of a Great Sea Turtle. The mound continues growing, completing the Earth. To this day, many tribes in North America speak for their continent as Turtle Island. Among the Mohawk, a giant Turtle also carries the earth. When earthquakes come, it's the Turtle adjusting the weight on her back. There is a saying that goes, "when your world seems shaky, perhaps it is Spirit Shaking you." Like the Turtle, it's time for adjustments. Native American discernment illustrates Turtle as the Sacred Feminine who lives in harmony with Earth. She is a protector who carried humankind on her back during a great flood. The story goes on to say that should Humankind or the earth ever get in serious trouble, Turtle will save and protect them again. However, Turtle medicine reminds us that we must also walk gently in this world, remembering its sacredness. We cannot separate ourselves from Mother and how we affect the planet any more than Turtle can detach its shell. Because Turtle's belly has 13 sections, Native American custom aligns this creature with the mysterious and magical full moon that appears 13 times a year. Turtle & Tortoise as a Celtic Animal Symbol/Celtic mystics tell us that Turtle stands guard over the entrance to the world of the Fey. This creates an intimate connection with magic and other realms normally just beyond our awareness. Celtic esteemed the Turtle's senses and steady methodology. Their art often depicts Turtle as an emblem of fertility. The Celtic shamans used Turtle energy to help keep them grounded when traveling between the Planes. Far Eastern Turtle Symbolic Meanings/People in China believe that Turtle & Tortoise have a spirit just like humans do. They often used Turtle shells for divination. At the beginning of time, it was a Turtle who helped P'an Ku form the world. There is also another folk tale that tells us a Turtle holds the flat earth on its back. Perhaps this dignified duty is the reason why Chinese philosophers and mystics consider the Turtle among the Four Fabulous Animals. Some even say Tortoises disappear in winter. They then reappear in spring after changing their shell. What a wonderful allusion to people having to "change shells" as they grow and transform. Turtle & Tortoise rule the Northern quarter of creation, representing long life, endurance, and strength. These admirable attributes are why the Chinese army bore flags with images of Turtle as a show of power and endurance. In Feng Shui, Turtle & Tortoise align with the water element. In this art of placement, a Black Turtle represents a happy home, family, and good relationships. To this day people place a Turtle figure near the back door for positive Chi attracting luck and blessings. Japan has similar high praise for Turtle. Legend says Turtles can bear the spirit of an immortal. They represent longevity, good fortune, and provision. This Animal Ally is sacred to Kumpira, the God of fishers and sailors. In Japan, there is a Cryptid called Minogame, which can live up to 10,000 years. Depictions show them as having a tail composed of algae and seaweed. It plays a role in the legend of Urashima Taro. The story goes Taro rescued a turtle on the beach one day. When he visits again, Minogame tells him the emperor wants to see him and offer thanks. Minogame gives him gills so he can swim safely to the Palace of the Dragon God. He arrived to find a beautiful princess in the position of emperor. He thought he only spent three days in the magical realm, but like Rumpelstiltskin, finds it's been 300. He is furious and opens the gift from the princess, a priceless box he was told to keep closed. When he does, he ages. One should listen to the advice of such powerful beings, especially Gods. Egyptian Beliefs about Turtles/Early representations of the Nile Turtle were used to ward off evil. Artists made amulets of Turtle intended to protect a person's health and life force. Archaeologists unearthed many such items, specifically designed for women and children. Because Turtle is aquatic it had associations with the underworld and God Set. Artwork portrayed Set in the prow of Ra's boat, slaying enemies. Hindu Meaning and Symbolism of Turtle/As with Native Americans, Hindu myths claim the world rides on a giant Turtle. However, these legends add four elephants who stand on the shell, offering their strength to uphold the earth. Vishnu has a giant turtle mount name Kuma. So important was this creature, it had a temple dedicated to him in Andhra Pradesh, India. Kurma was, after all, the first being whose shell symbolized the cosmos. Turtle & Tortoise Dreams/There are a variety of interpretations for Turtle & Tortoise in the dream space. If Turtle scuttles slowly into your dream, it is a reminder that you either need to slow down or speed up, depending on the current situation. This is especially true in relationships - don't drag your feet 90 so fast that they scare someone off. Seeing a Turtle in your dream indicates a difficult transition. Everything is going slower than you wish, and you've become impatient. Stop for a moment and remember that high-quality success takes time and ongoing effort. You will get there when you get there. If the Turtle's shell is front and center in your dream, it speaks of self-care. Look at your environment. Remove negatives and open the path for a better tomorrow. Should the Turtle in the dream seem to attack you, something is amiss. You feel overwhelmed, Reexamine the situation. Are you making things worse in your mind? There is certainly something requiring action, but don't go looking for problems. A Turtle resting happily in the sun means you have deep peace of mind. Comfort surrounds, and your heart is filled with joy. Take that wonderful energy as you move forward. The Sea Turtle is a nomad, there may be some travel in your future. A door opens to global experiences and thinking. If you've been considering making plans, the Universe says, go for it. When you're feeding Turtles in your dream, it turns your attention to emotional "feeding." Are you getting the love and support you need? If not, tell people! Others cannot help you fix something if they have no idea a problem exists. Several Turtles appearing together in your dream implies an increase in your Circle. Perhaps there is a birth or wedding ahead. Or, you may find a new friend. Running from a Turtle in the dream, besides being a surprising sight, means you're avoiding something in all ways possible. Stop procrastinating and postponing. So doing may end up in missed opportunities. If you see yourself saving a Turtle in your dream, stop and consider who or what that Turtle represents. Someone or something needs your attention or help. Be aware that someone might be YOU. One of the most common dreams people experience about Turtle is touching or stroking them. It means you're in a period of pleasure and beauty. You look at the world with a better mindset and aren't afraid to hope for all the bells and whistles of the "good life." An empty Turtle shell in your dream represents the things you've left behind. There are times in life when you must transition to new proverbial shells with room to grow. This is a fresh start. Turtle eggs in your dream portend an idea. It coalesces slowly into something spectacular. Take your time nurturing your idea. If the eggs hatch, it's time to bring the concept forward. Turtles use the beach as a breeding space. Seeing them on the sand means working with others to create a fertile environment in which dreams and goals manifest. Find those who not only have talents and skills but feel right in the group dynamic. When a Turtle moves away from you at a normal pace, something is coming to a natural conclusion. It's time to accept endings and say your goodbyes. This dream doesn't have to seem daunting. The situation could be as simple as accepting a new job. The color of the Turtle in a dream impacts the interpretation. Golden Turtles are omens of prosperity and luck. Green Turtles have connections with personal growth and good health. Learn more about Turtle Spirit by reading What Do Dreams About Turtles Mean? on WhatMySpiritAnimal.com/Tortoise and the Hare/Aesop's fable, the Tortoise and the Hare, has a common folktale theme balancing trickery and cleverness. Tortoise is slow-moving, and the Hare ridicules him. Eventually, Tortoise kindles his pride and challenges Hare to a race. Hare, of course, thought this would be easy. In fact, he took a nap along the way. When he woke up, the Tortoise had arrived at the finish line. Symbolically Tortoise stands up to a bully, and the Hare is arrogant and foolishly audacious. Thus the saying, "slow and steady wins the race." "Turtles All the Way Down" Connotation/This saying has to do with cosmology and infinity. The mythological premise is that a World Turtle carries the Earth on its back. Beneath it, there's an even larger Turtle. The progression continues into infinity. In earlier times, if someone asked what the world stands for, they could get the reply, "on a Tortoise." But then the natural next two questions are, "on what does the Tortoise stand? How does it not fall from its place in the cosmos?" The answer is, the creature stands on another Tortoise.... There are Tortoises "all the way down." Turtle Quotes and Sayings/Behold the Turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out. -James Bryant Conant/Try to be like the turtle - at ease in your own shell. Bill Copeland Take a walk with a turtle. And behold the world in pause. -Bruce Feiler/I'm like an old turtle these days. I don't run wide-open everywhere, but at the end of the day, I'll be where I'm supposed to be. -Tracy Lawrence/Turtle Island is the name of this continent we live on...that's right, not 'America,' as in North America, but the name given by the first peoples of this land. -John Densmore/am now a turtle. Virtually everything I own is on my back and suffice it to say I am one ton lighter and, therefore, 2,000 pounds happier. All houses are gone. -Bobby Darin/Turtle Tattoo/People drawn to Turtle Tattoos are usually old souls on the brink of a spiritual transformation. They see globally and live holistically. In other instances, a person may have a favorite Turtle myth and portray it in a Tattoo. Sign of the Turtle/In Mesopotamia, the Western sign of Cancer

and energy. A partner should uplift you, not cause unnecessary stress. For you, it's all about the journey, rather than the destination, so you tend to not create expectations of commitment, especially when you have just started to get to know the person.

Career Turtle Totem indicates that you are patient, and persistent in the professional arena. You may face career challenges, such as being asked to change major duties, or your own desires to move forward, may be hindered by others' agendas, and/or your own hesitations. However, your patience will pay off. You just have to keep looking for opportunities. In the work environment, try to find how to stand your ground, and then let them do something good. You don't lack the ability to lead, but you will generate distrust if you allow people to follow in your own pace, so this may become an issue if you work directly under your boss, or if you work for someone. They certainly have their own approach to the job, so if they don't match their mindset, or you have other ways to do things, it may become a struggle for you to enjoy the work. You have to find a way to connect with your own pace, and your boss' pace, so you get the best of everything. You can apply your own knowledge, and learn through your own practical approach, but also learn from your boss. You would do well in the business world, but only if you learn how to adjust fast when things are changing. Your persistence, and patience, will pay well, in the beginning, when you just started your business, and money is not flowing. This is when most people give up, and return to their old 9-5 jobs. Once the business starts to grow, you should grow with it. Regarding finances, Turtle Totem represents a good financial situation. You may start off slow, but eventually you will build a legacy for yourself. You have to balance your needs, your desires, and your future. If you struggle with saving money, find ways to force yourself not to use money, or to make it impossible for you to use a certain amount of money for a long period of time, (for example: invest in a bank deposit that won't allow you to touch that amount for 10-15 years). Relationship with yourself

Turtle Animal Totem reveals your inner struggles, as well as your true self, which you may hide from others. Although you may be patient, and persistent, your patience may run thin multiple times. When this happens, you may witness little things starting to fall apart. It is your own vibration, or changes in your own mindset, that trick you to think you are not gaining anything. You must understand that you are always growing, and evolving. You cannot stay stagnant, and you need to know when to stop, and when to go. All too often, we hold ourselves back, because we're afraid of what might happen. We should evaluate the path you are walking on. Is it really worth it to keep going, or do you need to make changes? You may want to ask someone who has experienced the same struggles as you. You may place a time limit on yourself, before making changes. Or you may just take the risk, and adapt. Also, be careful how much you tolerate people, because they start to take advantage of you, a trait that you have noticed way too often. If you see two or more red flags, make sure to speak about it. Don't let it pass, especially if your boundaries are being crossed. You can be patient with people who show that they are making changes to not hurt you, after you talked to them. How to honour or connect with your Animal Totem?

Source: Undertheseapottery If you want to connect with your Turtle Animal Totem, you can take a page from the book of the Native American Traditions. You don't have to wear the skin of the Turtle on you, but you can keep nice Turtle sculptures at your work desk. You can have a beautiful artwork of the Turtle printed with your blouse, or a point of the Turtle on your wall. You can also buy jewelry that has a Turtle signature in it, like the head, or footprints. You can use these objects to focus on during your meditation, in order to connect with Turtle Animal Totem. During your meditation, you may want to call upon your Turtle Animal Totem, and ask to be blessed with the qualities that you need at the moment. If you feel that you can't visualize the Turtle well, which is important for your meditation process to work, you can think about the qualities you want to embody, and try to feel those qualities growing in you. You have to embrace the Turtle energy in all aspects of it: physically, energetically, spiritually, and emotionally. It may also help to watch a movie with Turtles. Try to feel the specific quality amplifying in you. Act as being a Turtle is your second nature. This is also how you honor your Spirit Guide, Turtle Totem. Conclusion

You may find that during the course of your life, other Spirit Animals will choose to walk with you for a while, to assist you in different areas of your life. Some animals are connected to growth, and some are connected to wisdom. The Green Turtle is associated with longevity, and the Black Tortoise is associated with power and endurance. Different Spirit Animals help you see other paths, that only those can help, and guide through. They also help you develop other qualities, because the purpose is for you to grow. For example, if you will be accompanied by Bear Totem, there is there to help you develop your inner power, your intelligence, and help you overcome obstacles by pure inner strength. Turtle Totem will always be there, even if you won't always have other Spirit Animals. Do you feel a sense of validation only when you are "crazy busy"? Is your world upside down, and you need help setting things right? Are you easily swayed from your true path? Turtle, as a Spirit, Totem, and Power Animal, can help! Turtle teaches you how to work effectively and with proficiency. Delve deeply in Turtle symbolism and meaning to find out how this Animal Spirit Guide can support, assist, and inspire you.

TurtleTable of ContentsTurtle & Tortoisymbolism & MeaningTurtle Spirit moves to an inner drummer that is in no hurry. Seeming to have no worries, Turtle plods along at a cosmic, personal pace. If Turtle had a mantra, it would be "one small step at a time." This Spirit Animal truly lives in the moment – taking one after another with simple, innocent acceptance. This is a powerful lesson for humans who rush about at unhealthy speeds, often missing the mystical gem right in front of them, in the here and now.Turtle's greatest gift to us is learning to slow down and smell the roses (literally and figuratively). Being a water creature, some of the Turtle's symbolism and meaning come from that elemental influence. It is from the water that Turtle gains the attributes of insight and being able to understand and express our deeper emotions.In numerous myths and religions, Turtle & Tortoise takes a distinctly noticeable spot as representing resoluteness and peace. Cosmological traditions speak of a World Turtle that either supports the heavens or transports the Earth safely. If you are a traveler, you couldn't ask for a better spiritual guide.Additionally, Turtle & Tortoise carries its "home" on its back. The Turtle cannot leave its shell. In this, Turtle symbolizes that our earthly body is our home – for now. It can protect and shelter you, so take good care of it. Tortoise's situation gives a whole new meaning to the phrase, "there's no place like home."

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Monogame gives him gills so he can swim safely to the Palace of the Dragon God. He arrived to find a beautiful princess in the position of emperor.He thought he only spent three days in the magical realm, but Rimple Stilsken, finds it's been 300. He is furious and opens the gift from the princess, a priceless box he was told to keep closed.. When he does, he ages. One should listen to the advice of such powerful beings, especially Gods.Egyptian Beliefs about TurtlesEarly representations of the Nile Turtle were used to ward off evil. Artists made amulets of Turtle intended to protect a person's health and life force. Archaeologists unearthed many such items, specifically designed for women and children. Because Turtle is aquatic it had associations with the underworld and God Set. Artwork portrayed Set in the prow of Ra's boat, slaying enemies.Hindu Meaning and Symbolism of TurtlesAs a water creature, Turtle is associated with the water element. It is considered a divine creature, and a temple dedicated to him in Andhra Pradesh, India. Kurma was, after all, the first living being whose shell symbolized the cosmos,Turtle & Tortoise DreamsThere are a variety of interpretations for Turtle & Tortoise in the dream space. If Turtle scuttles slowly into your dream...It is a reminder that you either need to slow down or speed up, depending on the current situation. This is especially true in relationships - don't drag your feet 9or go so fast that you scare someone off.Seeing a Turtle in your dream indicates a difficult transition. Everything is going slower than you wish, and you've become impatient. Stop for a moment and remember that high-quality success takes time and ongoing effort. You will get there when you get there.If the Turtle's shell is front and center in your dream, it speaks of self-care. Look at your environment. Remove negatives and open the path for a better tomorrow.Should the Turtle in the dream seem to attack you, something is amiss. You feel overwhelmed, Reexamine the situation. Are you making things worse in your mind? There is certainly something requiring action, but don't go looking for problems.A Turtle resting happily in the sun means you have deep peace of mind. Comfort surrounds, and your heart is filled with joy. Take that wonderful energy as you move forward.The Sea Turtle is a nomad, there may be some travel in your future. A door opens to global experiences and thinking. If you've been considering making plans, the Universe says, go for it.When you're feeding Turtles in your dream, it turns your attention to emotional "feeding." Are you getting the love and support you need? If not, tell people! Others cannot help you fix something if they have no idea a problem exists.Several Turtles appearing together in your dream implies an increase in your Circle. Perhaps there is a birth or wedding ahead. Or, you may find a new friend.Running from a Turtle in the dream, besides being a surprising sight, means you're avoiding something in all ways possible.Stop procrastinating and postponing. So doing may end up in missed opportunities.If you see yourself saving a Turtle in your dream, stop and consider why. Perhaps you're giving aid to someone in need, or perhaps you're helping someone out of a bad habit. What a wonderful allusion to people having "change shells," or grow and transform.Turtle & TortoiseLive in the North Quarter of CreationThe progression continues into infinity. In earlier times, if someone asked what the world stands for, they could get the reply, "on a rock in the sea." The Turtle is drawn to the world with a better mindset and aren't afraid to hope for all the bells and whistles of the "good life." An empty Turtle shell in your dream represents the things you've left behind. There are times in life when you must transition to new proverbial shells with room to grow. This is a fresh start.Turtle eggs in your dream portend an idea. It coalesces slowly into something spectacular. Take your time nurturing your idea. If the eggs hatch, it's time to bring the concept forward.Turtles use the beach as a breeding space. Seeing them on the sand means working with others to create a fertile environment in which dreams and goals

to move past challenges Who's Your Sea Turtle, Terrapins, Tortoise, Turtle and a rarer critter with a shell, it's a turtle! A Tortoise? A Terrapin? A Turtle? A Terrapin or a Tortoise? Your answer is understandable. Their appearance is incredibly similar until you look closer. Sea turtles are rarely seen on land except when they want to sunbathe or lay their eggs. Terrapins are more likely to go to land. They like living in swampy areas. Terrapins, despite their environment, understand the need to come out of the muck.Tortoises are not water creatures. They spend their life on land, happily enjoying terra-firma.Tortoise Spiritual MeaningWhat can we learn from Turtle Spirit? The best way of discerning any creature's lessons is by observing natural behaviors and characteristics. For example, their long life makes them an ideal icon for durability and stability. As a creature who observed humankind grow and change, appearing on the Earth some 200 million years ago, Turtle imparts an appreciation for history and the wisdom it provides.Turtle and the Water element have strong connections. In times when there is a fierce focus on environmentalism, Turtle becomes the poster animal for marine conservation. Approximately ¼ of the Turtle and Tortoise species are vulnerable or endangered, and it strives to impart awareness to you.Many of the world's stories, myths, and folklore have Turtle as a starring actor or support cast. There are keynote energies ascribed to Tortoise in these tales, which you can focus on when you work with this Animal Guide. They are: Knowledge Longevity Lunar energies Perseverance Persistence Protection Steadfastness Tranquility Transformation WisdomAnd so much more. The Tortoise and Turtle are sun lovers. They will position themselves in a spot and just enjoy it. They look like tranquil passivists.Meanwhile, the sea Turtle and Tortoise take to the water. If you follow their energetic signature, you can dive into your subconscious and expand self-awareness.Native American Turtle & Tortoise Symbolic MeaningsThe creation myth among Lenape and Iroquois people includes the peaceful Turtle at center stage. Soil was gathered and piled on the back of a Great Sea Turtle. The mound continues growing, completing the Earth. To this day, many tribes in North America speak of their continent as Turtle Island.Among the Mohawk, a giant Turtle also carries the earth. When earthquakes come, it's the Turtle adjusting the weight on its back. There is a saying that goes, "when your world seems shaky, perhaps it is Spirit Shaking you." Like the Turtle, it's time for adjustments.Native American document illustrates Turtle as the Sacred Feminine who lives in harmony with Earth. She is a protector who carried humankind on her back during a great flood.The story goes on to say that should Humankind or the earth ever get in serious trouble, Turtle will save and protect them again. However, Turtle medicine reminds us that we must also walk gently in this world, remembering its sacredness. We cannot separate ourselves from Mother and how we affect the planet any more than Turtle can detach its shell.Because Turtle's belly has 13 sections, Native American custom aligns this creature with the mysterious and magical full moon that appears 13 times a year.Turtle & Tortoise as a Celtic Animal SymbolCeltic mystics tell us that Turtle stands guard over the entrance to the world of the Fey. This creates an intimate connection with magic and other realms normally just beyond our awareness. Celts esteemed the Turtle's senses and steady methodology. Their art often depicts Turtle as an emblem of fertility. The Celtic shamans used Turtle energy to help keep them grounded when traveling between the Planes.Far Eastern Turtle Symbolic MeaningsPeople in China believe that Turtle & Tortoise have a spirit just like humans do. They often used Turtle shells for divination. At the beginning of time, it was a Turtle who helped P'an Ku form the world. There is also another folk tale that tells us a Turtle holds the flat earth on its back.Perhaps this dignified duty is the reason why Chinese philosophers and mystics consider the Turtle among the Four Fabulous Animals. Some even say Tortoises disappear in winter. They then reappear in spring after changing their shell. What a wonderful allusion to people having to "change shells" as they grow and transform.Turtle & Tortoise rule the Northern quarter of creation, representing long life, endurance, and strength. These admirable attributes are why the Chinese army bore flags with images of Turtle as a show of power and endurance. In Feng Shui, Turtle & Tortoise align with the water element.In this art of placement, a Black Turtle represents a happy home, family, and good relationships. To this day people place a Turtle figure near the back door for positive Chi attracting luck and blessings. Japan has similar high praise for Turtle. Legend says Turtle can bear the weight of an imitation. They represent longevity, good food, and provision. This Animal Ally is sacred to Kumpira, the God of fishers and sailors in Japan, there is a Cryptid called Minogame which can live up to 10,000 years. Depictions show them as having a tail composed of algae and seaweed. It plays a role in the legend of Urashima Taro. The story goes Taro rescued a turtle on the beach one day. When he visits again, Minogame tells him the emperor wants to see him and offer thanks. Monogame gives him gills so he can swim safely to the Palace of the Dragon God. He arrived to find a beautiful princess in the position of emperor.He thought he only spent three days in the magical realm, but like Rumpel Stilsken, finds it's been 300. He is furious and opens the gift from the princess, a priceless box he was told to keep closed. When he does, he ages. One should listen to the advice of such powerful beings, especially Gods.Egyptian Beliefs about TurtlesEarly representations of the Nile Turtle were used to ward off evil. Artists made amulets of Turtle intended to protect a person's health and life force. Archaeologists unearthed many such items, specifically designed for women and children. Because Turtle is aquatic it had associations with the underworld and God Set. Artwork portrayed Set in the prow of Ra's boat, slaying enemies.Hindu Meaning and Symbolism of Turtleas with Native Americans, Hindu myths claim the world rides on a giant Turtle. However, these legends add four elephants who stand on the shell, offering their strength to uphold the earth.Vishnu has a giant turtle mount name Kruma. So important was this creature, it had a temple dedicated to him in Andhra Pradesh, India. Kurma was, after all, the first living being whose shell symbolized the cosmos.Turtle & Tortoise DreamsThere are a variety of interpretations for Turtle & Tortoise in the dream space. If Turtle scuttles slowly into your dream, it is a reminder that you either need to slow down or speed up, depending on the current situation. This is especially true in relationships - don't drag your feet 9or go so fast that you scare someone off.Seeing a Turtle in your dream indicates a difficult transition. Everything is going slower than you wish, and you've become impatient. Stop for a moment and remember that high-quality success takes time and ongoing effort. You will get there when you get there. If the Turtle's shell is bright and central in your dream, it speaks of self-care. Look at your environment. Remove negatives and open the path for a better tomorrow.Should the Turtle in the dream seem to attack you, something is amiss. You feel overwhelmed. Reexamine the situation. Are you making things worse in your mind? There is certainly something requiring action, but don't go looking for problems.A Turtle resting happily in the sun means you have deep peace of mind. Comfort surrounds, and your heart is filled with joy. Take that wonderful energy as you move forward.The Sea Turtle is a nomad, there may be some travel in your future.

A door opens to global experiences and thinking. If you've been considering making plans, the Universe says, go for it.When you're feeding Turtles in your dream, it turns your attention to emotional "feeding." Are you getting the love and support you need? If not, tell people!Others cannot help you fix something if they have no idea a problem exists.Several Turtles appearing together in your dream implies an increase in your Circle. Perhaps there is a birth or wedding ahead. Or, you may find a new friend.Running from a Turtle in the dream, besides being a surprising sight, means you're avoiding something in all ways possible.Stop procrastinating and postponing. So doing may end up in missed opportunities.If you see yourself saving a Turtle in your dream, stop and consider who or what that Turtle represents. Someone or something needs your attention or help. Be aware that someone might be YOU. One of the most common dreams people experience about Turtle is touching or stroking them. It means you're in a period of pleasure and beauty. You look at the world with a better mindset and aren't afraid to hope for all the bells and whistles of the "good life."An empty Turtle shell in your dream represents the things you've left behind. There are times in life when you must transition to new proverbial shells with room to grow. This is a fresh start.Turtle eggs in your dream portend an idea. It coalesces slowly into something spectacular. Take your time nurturing your idea. If the eggs hatch, it's time to bring the concept forward.Turtles use the beach as a breeding space. Seeing them on the sand means working with others to create a fertile environment in which dreams and goals manifest. Find those who not only have talents and skills but feel right in the group dynamic.When a Turtle moves away from you at a normal pace, something is coming to a natural conclusion. It's time to accept endings and say your goodbyes. This dream doesn't have to seem daunting. The situation could be as simple as accepting a new job.The color of the Turtle in a dream impacts the interpretation. Golden Turtles are omens of prosperity and luck. Green Turtles have connections with personal growth and good health.Learn more about Turtle Spirit by reading What Do Dreams About Turtles Mean? on WhatsMySpiritAnimal.com/Tortoise and the HareAesop's fable, the Tortoise and the Hare, has a common folktale theme balancing trickery and cleverness. Tortoise is slow-moving, and the Hare ridicules him. Eventually, Tortoise kindles his pride and challenges Hare to a race. Hare, of course, thought this would be easy. In fact, he took a nap along the way. When he woke up, the Tortoise had arrived at the finish line.Symbolically Tortoise stands up to a bully, and the Hare is arrogant and foolishly audacious. Thus the saying, "slow and steady wins the race." "Turtles All the Way Down" ConnotationThis saying has to do with cosmology and infinity. The mythological premise is that a World Turtle carries the Earth on its back. Beneath it, there's an even larger Turtle. The progression continues into infinity. In earlier times, if someone asked what the world stands for, they could get the reply, "on a Tortoise." But then the natural next two questions are, "on what does the Tortoise stand? How does it not fall from its place in the cosmos? The answer is, the creature stands on another Tortoise.... There are Tortoises "all the way down." Turtle Quotes and SayingsBehold the Turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out. -James Bryant Conan(Try to be like the turtle - at ease in your own shell. Bill Copeland Take a walk with a turtle. And behold the world in pause. - Bruce Feiler)m like an old turtle these days. I don't run wide-open everywhere, but at the end of the day, I'll be where I'm supposed to be. - Tracy LawrenceTurtle Island is the name of this continent we live on... that's right, not 'America... as in North America', but the name given by the first peoples of this land. - John DensmoreI am now a turtle. Virtually everything I own is on my back and suffice it to say I am one ton lighter and, therefore, 2,000 pounds happier. All houses are gone. - Bobby DarinThe Sea Turtle Conservancy strives to ensure the health and well-being of Sea Turtles in the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Pacific regions. They engage in research and education and endeavor to protect the Sea Turtle's natural habitat.Next, the Turtle Conservancy has a tagline: save Turtles; save the planet. Their goal is to protect threatened Tortoises and Turtles worldwide. This organization participates in nesting projects, conservatories, outreach, and education and offers summer internships. There is also the Turtle Foundation. They protected threatened Turtles in seven countries. Their programs include environmental education, beach clean-ups, holistic community projects.Turtle Symbolic Meanings Key Steadiness Pacing Peace Earth Element Sacred Feminine Full Moon Yearly Cycles Magic Otherworldly Realms Divination Native language Native American Indian culture Indian names Turtle play positive roles in the folklore of many Native American tribes. In the creation myths of some East Coast tribes (such as the Iroquois and Lenape), the Great Spirit created their homeland by placing earth on the back of a giant turtle. This is why some contemporary Native Americans refer to North America by the name "Turtle Island." Turtles are a symbol of the earth in many different Native cultures. To Plains Indians, turtles are associated with long life, protection, and fertility. In some Plains tribes, a newborn girl's umbilical cord was sewn into a figure in the shape of a turtle to ensure her health and safety. In other tribes, turtles are often associated with healing, wisdom, and spirituality. Sponsored Links Turtles are also used as clan animals in some Native American cultures. Tribes with Turtle Clans include the Chippewa (whose Turtle Clan and its totem are called Mikinaak.) the Menominee (whose Mud Turtle Clan is named Maehkaenah.) the Huron-Wyandot (who at one point had four different turtle clans: mud turtle, water turtle, striped turtle, and great turtle.) and the Abenaki, Shawnee, and Iroquois tribes. The turtle was also the special tribal emblem of the Lenape Delaware, who have a Turtle Dance among their tribal dance traditions. On the Northeast Coast, the sea turtle is sometimes used as a totem pole crest. Kahala (Hopi) Mikichech Toib (Abenaki) Indian Turtle Island Legend The Turtle and the Flood Abenaki Creation Story Turtle Island Lenape Creation Back to Native American water spirits Indian jewelry Antique Indian baskets Menominee tribe Navajo chief blankets Tribal tattoo art Would you like to help support our organization's work with endangered American Indian languages? Native Languages of the Americas website © 1998-2020 contacts and FAQ page The turtle is a fascinating creature that has captured the attention of humans across the world since time immemorial. In Native American culture, the turtle is regarded as a prominent symbol with significant cultural and spiritual importance. From the creation stories to ancient myths and legends, turtles have been revered as a powerful symbol that represents a range of values and beliefs. One of the most remarkable qualities of turtles is their longevity. They are known for their ability to live for extended periods, and this attribute has made them a symbol of strength and resilience. In Native American culture, the turtle represents wisdom, patience, and determination. These values are crucial in a society that believes in the cyclical order of life, death, and rebirth. Another fascinating attribute of turtles is their adaptability. They can live in various types of environments such as oceans, wetlands, and deserts. This incredible ability has earned them a reputation for being a symbol of adaptability, stability, and balance. They embody the idea that we should strive to live in harmony with nature, and that we should adapt to changes in our environment to survive. The turtle's significance in Native American culture is a testament to the deep connection that cultures across the world have with the natural world. Turtle as a Symbol of Creation In Native American culture, turtles symbolize creation. Many tribes believe that the world was created on the back of a turtle. This idea is depicted in various Native American myths and folklore. The turtle represents the Earth, as it carries the weight of the world on its shell. Additionally, turtles symbolize longevity and wisdom due to their long lifespan, slow and steady movement, and wrinkled appearance. Symbolic Meanings of Turtles in Native American Culture Turtles are known for their slow and steady movement, which signifies patience and endurance, which are valued traits in Native American cultures. Interpretation of Turtle Imagery Turtles are frequently depicted in Native American artwork and jewelry. One can interpret the turtle's imagery to represent various concepts, such as fertility, creation, and guidance. Turtle imagery can also signify the importance of self-care and taking things slow and steady in life. Moreover, turtles' symbolism can be seen in traditional Native American dances and rituals. The Turtle Dance, for example, is performed by some tribes as a prayer for rain and a bountiful harvest. During the dance, performers wear turtle shells on their backs and dance in a circle, mimicking the movements of turtles. Turtle Legends and Mythology In some Native American legends, turtles are considered to be mediators between the spirit world and the physical world. One such story is the Cherokee creation myth, where the world was formed on the back of a giant turtle named Grandmother Turtle. The turtle's shell represented the four directions, and its legs symbolized the sacred pillars that held up the sky. These stories exemplify the importance of turtles in Native American culture and the significance of their symbolism. Turtle Symbolism in Native American Culture Creation The world was believed by some tribes to be created on the back of a turtle. Protection The turtle's shell represents protection from negative energy and evil spirits. Patience Turtles are revered for their slow and steady movements that signify patience and endurance. Wisdom The turtle's long lifespan, wrinkled appearance, and slow movement represent wisdom. Overall, turtles hold significant importance in Native American culture, representing various concepts, such as creation, protection, patience, and wisdom. Different Meanings of Turtles Among Various Native American Tribes Throughout the history of Native American culture, the turtle has been an important symbol. It is regarded as a sacred creature that represents a variety of concepts including longevity, wisdom, stability, and resilience. However, the specific meanings of turtles vary among different Native American tribes. Below, we explore some of the different meanings of turtles among various tribes. Eastern Woodland tribes: Among the Eastern Woodland tribes, turtles represent the Earth and were believed to have been created during the process of forming the land. They are considered to be one of the oldest and wisest animal symbols that teach us about patience and persistence. Hopi tribe: The Hopi tribe uses the turtle as a symbol for their creation story. According to their legend, the Creator Goddess was walking on water when she saw a turtle's back emerge from beneath the water. She put mud on the turtle's back and soon the world was created. In Hopi symbolism, the turtle represents the Earth and is associated with the colors yellow and black. Iroquois tribe: For the Iroquois tribe, the turtle represents both wisdom and the power of women. Their creation story tells of a turtle that dove to the bottom of the ocean and brought forth mud that was used to create the world. They believe that the turtle carries the weight of the world on its back, which represents the strength, stability, and resilience of the Earth. It's important to note that these are just a few examples of the many meanings of turtles within Native American culture. They serve as a reminder that the Natural world is always at the forefront of Native American tradition, and it is through these cultural stories that they are kept alive. Below is a table showing the different symbolic meanings of turtles in different tribes: Tribes Turtle symbolism Eastern Woodland Earth, wisdom, and patience Hopi Creation, Earth, and associated with yellow and black Iroquois World creation, symbol of wisdom and power of women Overall, the turtle's symbolism varies among different Native American tribes. Despite the differences, the turtle remains an important and revered creature that teaches valuable lessons about the natural world and serves as a persistent reminder of our interdependence with it. Turtles as Guardians of the Earth The turtle has been revered by Native Americans as a symbol of the earth. The belief is that the turtle carries the weight of the land and supports the four corners of the world. The turtle is seen as grounding, as it carries its home on its back and moves at a slow, steady pace as it navigates the waters. The turtles' strong association with the earth has made them a powerful symbol of guardianship in Native American culture. What Do Turtles Symbolize in Native American Culture? The shell of a turtle represents protection and serves as a shield against negative energy and evil spirits. The slow and steady movement of turtles signifies patience and endurance, which are valued traits in Native American cultures. Interpretation of Turtle Imagery Turtles are frequently depicted in Native American artwork and jewelry. One can interpret the turtle's imagery to represent various concepts, such as fertility, creation, and guidance. Turtle imagery can also signify the importance of self-care and taking things slow and steady in life. Moreover, turtles' symbolism can be seen in traditional Native American dances and rituals. 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