

# 5 REASONS

## NOT TO BUY A TURTLE OR TORTOISE AS GIFTS



### 1. TURTLES ARE BORING FOR CHILDREN

Kids will not find everlasting love in an animal that basically sits still most of the day sunning itself or hides in leaves. Many kids tire of a turtle in a tank and don't want to clean the habitat and change the water. Turtles and tortoises poop.



### 2. MOST TURTLES & TORTOISES HIBERNATE THIS TIME OF YEAR

It's unnatural for them to be awake and available for sale when they should be sleeping from about October through April. It's cruel to sell wild animals that need to hibernate to stay healthy.



### 3. TURTLES & TORTOISES SHOULD NOT BE CONFINED

It's like a human spending their entire life in a bathtub. The only proper habitat for these animals is outside. The sun exposure helps maintain a healthy shell and is necessary for the animal to grow and thrive.



### 4. ADOPTION IS THE IDEAL OPTION

During the spring, when the animals awake, rescues help place them in good "forever homes" with proper habitats. In most cases, there is no charge to adopt, only the promise that the animal will be given exceptional care for the rest of its life.



### 5. TURTLES LIVE A LONG TIME

Turtles can easily live 25 - 50 years or more and tortoises can top 100 years! An impulse buy without a thought to the future is not in the best interest of the animal. Plans need to be made in wills and with family members since the animals can outlive their owners.



*Adapted from American Tortoise Rescue  
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