

Lesson 7: Worksheet B

Name: _____

Date: _____

Your challenge is to investigate the following topics related to the desert tortoise:

1. What is the *scientific name* for desert tortoise?
2. Identify the taxonomy of desert tortoise:
 - a. Kingdom:
 - b. Phylum:
 - c. Class:
 - d. Order:
 - e. Family:
 - f. Genus:
 - g. Species:
3. If you were to observe the front limbs of a desert tortoise, what would you have noticed?
4. Where are the natural habitats for desert tortoises?
5. The shell is a defining feature in turtles and tortoises. Another name for the shell is _____.
6. Why do desert tortoises dig burrows?

Lesson 7: Worksheet B - Answer Key

Name: _____

Date: _____

Your challenge is to investigate the following topics related to the desert tortoise:

7. What is the *scientific name* for desert tortoise? *Gopherus agassizii*

8. Identify the taxonomy of desert tortoise:

- a. Kingdom: Animalia
- b. Phylum: Chordata
- c. Class: Reptilia
- d. Order: Testudines
- e. Family: Testudinidae
- f. Genus: *Gopherus*

9. If you were to observe the front limbs of a desert tortoise, what would you have noticed?

The front limbs are thick and shovel-like.

10. Where can you find desert tortoises in the U.S?

Mojave Desert, Sonoran Desert, Colorado River/Grand Canyon

11. The shell is a defining feature in turtles and tortoises. Another name for the shell is _____ Carapace_____.

12. Why do desert tortoises dig burrows?

To escape the extreme heat in the desert. It also offers protection from predators.