

GERTRUDE

Gertrude came to NLDC in the spring of 2025. She likes to spend her time burrowing in the wood-chips, taking a dip in her water dish, and basking under her heat lamp. Her favorite foods are ripe bananas, earthworms, and meal-worms; she doesn't like to eat invertebrates with legs! She's a little shy, but as she spends more time around people, she's sure to come out of her shell.



3-Toed Box Turtle

Terrapene triunguis

Mikinaak

"mik-in-ahk"



SPECIES PROFILE

State Status - Not native to Wisconsin

Habitat - Mature forests with plenty of openings and fields, preferably where burrowing is easy

Diet - Omnivorous, prefer earthworms and insects, but will also eat plants, fungi, and berries

Average Size - 4-5" shell

Lifespan - Up to 80 years old in captivity and in the wild

Fun Fact - The name "box turtle" originated from observing the hinged plastron, or bottom part of their shell, which they are able to close like a box, protecting their head and limbs.