reptile

an animal that has scaly skin and lays soft-shelled eggs on land

turtle

a slow-moving reptile with webbed feet and a domed shell; spends most of its time in water

tortoise

a slow-moving reptile with round stumpy feet and a domed shell; spends most of its time on land

terrapin

a reptile with a domed shell; lives near swampy water, but spends time on land and water

cold-blooded

keeping a body temperature that is almost the same as the surrounding air

lizard

a reptile closely related to snakes; usually have a small head, short neck and long body and tail; most have moveable eyelids

snake

a reptile with a long slender flexible body, and no legs, eyelids or ear flaps

crocodile

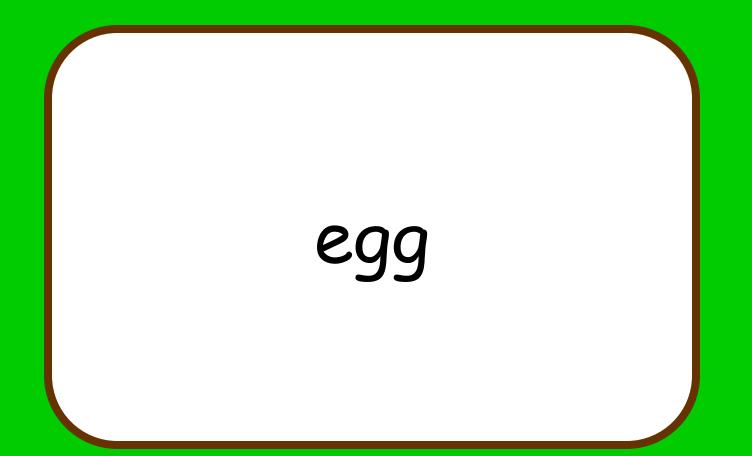
a thick-skinned reptile with a long pointed v-shaped snout; lives mostly in salt water; fourth tooth in lower jaw sticks up over upper lip

alligator

a thick-skinned reptile with a wide u-shaped snout; lives mostly in fresh water

tuatara

a one-of-a-kind reptile found only in New Zealand; looks like a lizard, but most closely related to a species of extinct dinosaur; has crest of spiky scales down the center of its back and a "third eye" on top of its head



an oval or round object from which a smaller version of a reptile is born

vertebrate

an animal with a backbone; reptiles are vertebrates

scales

small stiff plates made of keratin that grow out of a reptile's skin to help provide protection and keep the skin from drying out

herpetologist

a person who studies reptiles