

Name: _____ Date: _____



Razor-backed Musk Turtle

Sternotherus carinatus

The Razor-backed Musk Turtle is a small, aquatic turtle native to the southern United States, easily recognized by the sharp, distinct ridge running down the center of its domed shell. Its shell is t...

Quick facts

Classification: Reptile

Family: Kinosternidae

Habitat: Freshwater rivers, streams, swamps, and ponds with abundant vegetation

Diet: Omnivore

Conservation status: Least Concern

Lifespan: 20-40 years

Weight: 120-200 grams

Scientific name: *Sternotherus carinatus*

Did you know?

- Unlike many turtles, the Razor-backed Musk Turtle is an excellent climber and has been observed scaling submerged logs and even tank walls in captivi...
- The Razor-backed Musk Turtle is often called the 'stinkpot' because of the strong musky odor it releases for defense. It has a highly keeled shell th...

What I learned
