New York State is home to many kinds of **amphibians** (salamanders, frogs, and toads) and **reptiles** (snakes, turtles, and lizards). This is because New York has many types of **habitats**. Each has different kinds of amphibians and reptiles.

**Scientists** and volunteers go on field trips to search for reptiles and amphibians. They use maps to show where they find each kind. A book that collects many maps together is called an **atlas**. So the collection of maps showing where these animals live is called the Amphibian and Reptile Atlas.

Maps in the Atlas show New York’s counties. The tiny squares are sections of the maps in which reptiles or amphibians were found. The maps below show where northern leopard frogs and southern leopard frogs were found.

The southern leopard frog map shows that this frog lives — surprise! — mostly in the southeastern part of New York. The northern leopard frog map shows that this frog is not common in southeastern New York. However, it is found over much of the rest of the state.
Some of New York’s reptiles and amphibians are not very choosy about where they live. Others require warmer or colder temperatures, or certain kinds of streams and ponds. On this page are maps showing where three kinds of frogs live in New York. Use these maps to answer questions 1 to 3 below.

1. Which of these frogs lives only in southern New York?

2. Which frog is found mostly in the Adirondack Mountains? (Use your relief map to locate the Adirondacks.)

3. Which frog is found almost everywhere in New York State?
Each reptile and amphibian prefers a certain habitat. That habitat might occur in just one small part of each square. But by looking at where the squares are located, one can guess what habitat each animal likes. These three turtles live in water, but each needs a different kind of water habitat. Use the Atlas maps and the relief map to answer questions 4-6.

4. Which turtle lives in the ocean?

5. Which turtle lives in large lakes and rivers where the water is fresh, not salty?

6. Which turtle lives in estuaries - places like the Hudson River where fresh water and salty ocean water mix?
Imagine that you are going for a hike in each of the following counties. Use this Atlas map and the relief map with county names to say if there is a chance that you might see a timber rattlesnake. Circle yes or no next to the name of each county.

(Note: Even in counties that have timber rattlesnakes, it would be a special event to see one. These snakes are uncommon and live only in a few places with the right habitat.)

7. Albany   yes no
8. Dutchess yes no
9. Orange   yes no
10. Rensselaer yes no
11. Saratoga yes no
12. Ulster  yes no
13. Bronx   yes no