



Where do I live?

- Gopher tortoises dig deep holes into the ground.
- These deep holes are called “burrows.”
- The burrows are around 30 feet deep.



- Gopher tortoises dig and live in these burrows; But many small animals, such as mice, frogs and rabbits, live in them too.
- These burrows protect them from predators and harsh weather.

Where in the United States you can find gopher tortoises:



What do I eat?



- Gopher tortoises are mainly herbivores. They don't like to eat meat!
- Their diet is mostly grass, plants, and various fruits.
- They rarely drink water. Most of the water they get comes from the food they eat.



Why am I in danger?

- The gopher tortoise population is decreasing.
- They are suffering from losing their habitats.
- Their burrows are being destroyed by humans and other animal predators.
- This leaves them without a home for shelter.
- Without shelter, gopher tortoises are at a higher risk of being eaten by predators.



Let's Learn ABOUT the Gopher tortoise...

The gopher tortoise is a land turtle that originated in North America 60 million years ago. That means it is one of the oldest living species on Earth!

But they are in DANGER. Their population is decreasing because their habitats are being destroyed.

They are on the Endangered Species List in the United States.

For more information, CHECK OUT the GOPHER Tortoise Council at: www.gophertortoisecouncil.org



TRY THIS FUN WORD SEARCH!

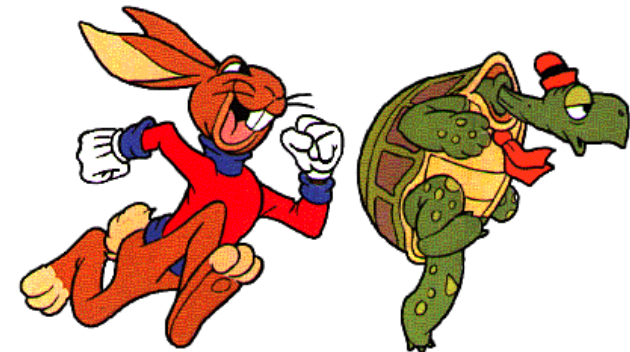
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BURROW	HERBIVORE
ENDANGERED	MEAT
GOPHER	POPULATION
GRASS	SPECIES
HABITAT	TORTOISE

HEY KIDS!

Remember THE STORY OF

the Tortoise and the Hare?



THE tortoise needs YOUR HELP!