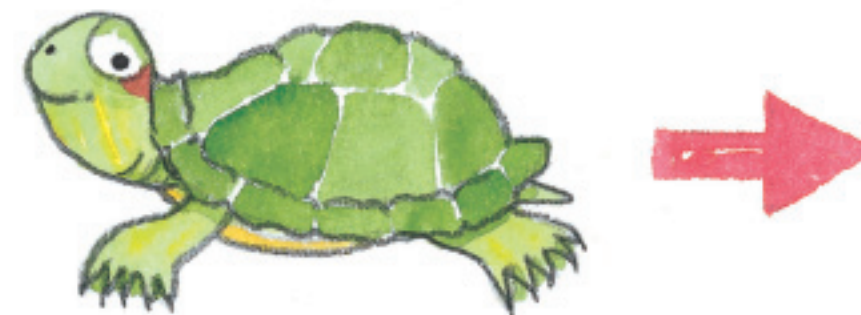




# Green body and red ears

What's John and Sally turtle like? It's a red-eared slider. On both sides of the head, just behind the ears, it has a bright red marking. But they're not ears! Turtles, like all other reptiles like snakes and lizards, don't have ears. It's aquatic and it likes living in a warm environment and sunbathing for most of the day. Furthermore, it's a very good swimmer. When they bought the turtle, it measured about 10 cm. Shops aren't allowed to sell smaller turtles, to guarantee that they are strong and healthy when they arrive home.

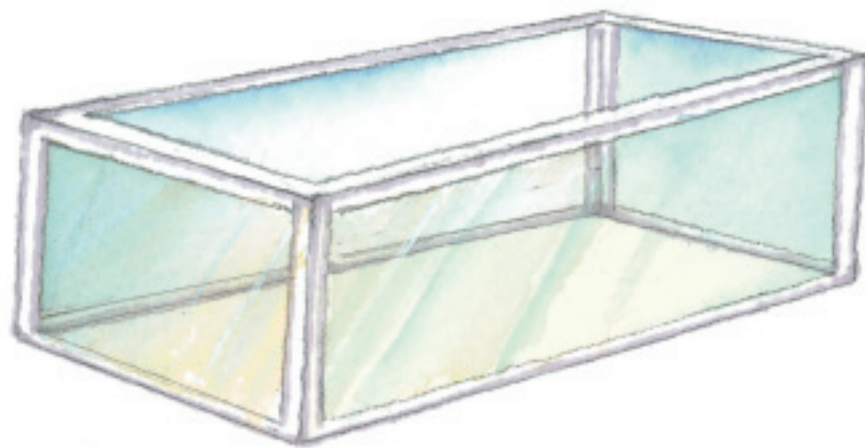






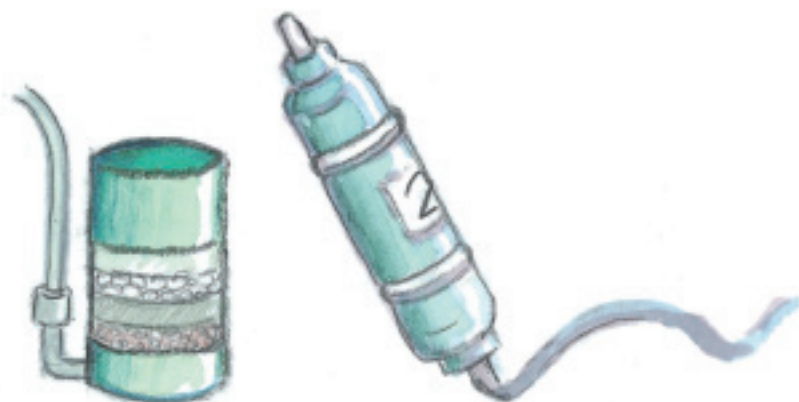
# What is Shelly's house like?

Shelly has found himself in a very cozy aquarium/terrarium:



**Aquarium/terrarium:** must be large enough for it to swim freely when it grows up.

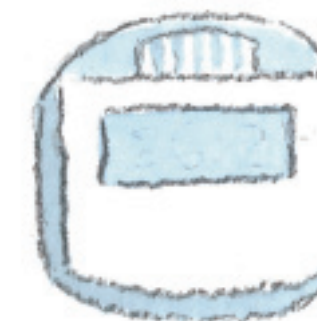
**Equipment:** A water filter must be installed to keep the water clean and a heater for aquariums, to maintain the water at an adequate temperature.



**Lighting:** the turtle needs an ultraviolet light, which will help it to grow big and strong and a normal light (can be a fluorescent one), which must be turned on for 8 to 12 hours per day.



**Sand:** the bottom of the aquarium should be covered with a layer of sand.



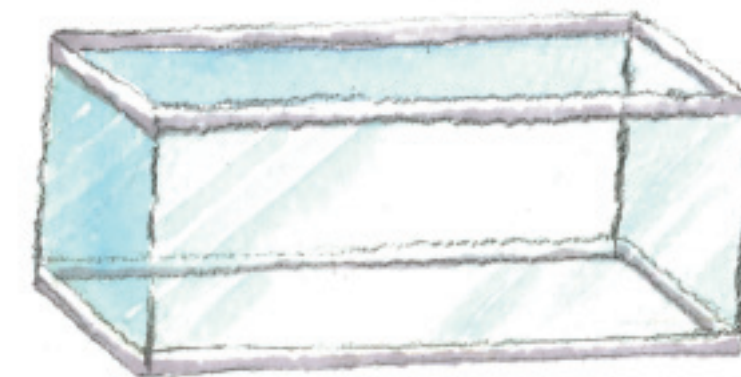
**Thermometers:** one monitors the water temperature and the other that of the dry area.

**Dry area:** This platform allows the turtle to rest on firm ground, bathe in the heat and light and you can give it some of its food here during the first few days.

It can be built in several ways.



**Feeding aquarium:** In order to keep the main aquarium clean for longer, it's better to feed the turtle in a separate small aquarium (with water and a dry area).





# The first bath



The first time that Shelly entered his aquarium, he hid inside his shell. He's a bit scared, because he's just spent a few quite busy days. Little by little, he takes out his little legs and pokes his head out to see what his house is like and if



everything's peaceful. Finally, Shelly decides to dive into the water for the first time. "Look, John! Look at him swimming!" When he gets to the bottom, the turtle hides underneath a roof tile that mum had put there. "Good, but of course, he'll have to come up to breath later!"

