

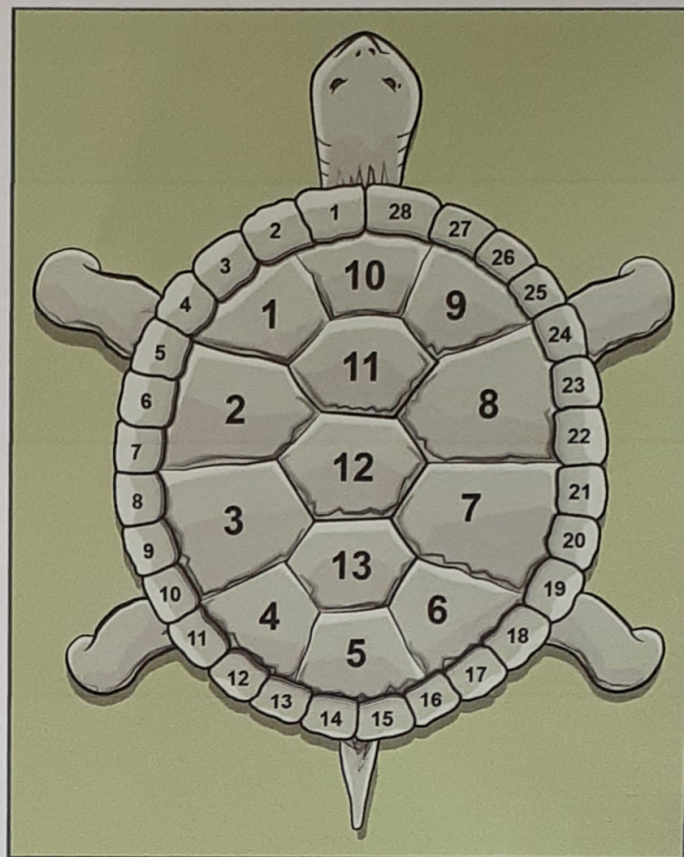
Create!

Speaking of measuring time, for generations, many Indigenous Peoples have measured the year by a lunar cycle of 13 full moons, which are visible every 28 days, over the course of the 365 days that make up a year. The names of the 13 moons describe different aspects of nature depending on the time of year. The names vary from Nation to Nation, and from region to region, because of the diversity of the natural landscape and languages across regions.

Do you want to see something cool? Here is the way many Indigenous Peoples have drawn their calendar! They see the 13 middle parts of the shell as the 13 moons of the year, and the 28 smaller parts on the outside of the shell are the number of days in each of the 13 lunar cycles of the year.

$$13 \times 28 = ?$$

Draw your own Turtle with 13 moons and 28 segments. Are the moons and segments approximately the same size? Did you use anything to help you measure the sizes of the moons and segments on the turtle's back?

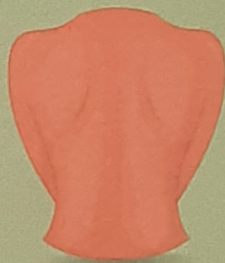


You can watch two videos on YouTube about the Indigenous Peoples way of understanding a calendar year. The first [explains why the Indigenous Peoples use a turtle shell to understand the calendar](#). This speaker is from the American state of Wisconsin, but this way of measuring time has been used throughout Turtle Island (North America).

The second is [a man reading the story called Thirteen Moons on Turtle's Back](#) by Jonathan London and Joseph Bruchac. One of the names of the moons in the book comes from the Mi'kmaq Nation!



Turtle
la tortue



Back
le dos

13

Thirteen
treize

28

Twenty-eight
vingt-huit