

WINTER CARE GUIDE FOR BABY TURTLES

A Comprehensive Overview



UNDERSTANDING HIBERNATION RISKS FOR BABY TURTLES

Baby turtles, being ectothermic or cold-blooded, cannot generate internal heat.

The process involves slowing down metabolism, relying on stored energy, and absorbing oxygen through the skin.

SETTING UP THE WINTER ENCLOSURE:

THE PERFECT TANK

55-gallon tank may be suitable for **2 or 3 baby turtles**.

30-gallon tank can work well for smaller hatchlings.

HEATER

During winter period, the heater must be on **24/7**.

BASKING LIGHT

During winter, keeping the basking **light on 24/7** ensures that the hatchlings have access to the necessary warmth.

UV LAMP FOR ESSENTIAL NUTRIENTS

Installing a quality UV bulb and maintaining **exposure for 8 to 12 hours daily** is crucial during the winter season.

MAINTAINING IDEAL TEMPERATURES

Aiming for a water temperature **between 78 to 82 degrees Fahrenheit** and a basking temperature of **85 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit** is recommended.

TANK SIZE	POWER OF WATER TANK HEATER
20 gallon	75 watt
40 gallon	150 watt
65 gallon	250 watt
75 gallon	300 watt

EATING HABIT IN THE WINTER

The baby turtles will only stop eating if you fail to provide them **with the perfect temperature**. Due to the cold, they will start slowing down their metabolism and preparing to hibernate.



Green leafy vegetables



Romaine lettuce



Spinach



Feeder fish



Flake



Pellets



Mealworms



Earthworms



Black worms



Water hyacinths



Shrimp



Grapes



Melons



Apples



Strawberries



Kale

BABY TURTLE'S HEALTH DURING THE WINTER

The baby turtles can be very sensitive. They can fall sick even if they are exposed to a little cold. That is why you have to ensure the best care for the hatchlings.

The signs of sickness can be:

- Loss of appetite
- Inflammation
- Fluid discharging from mouth, eyes or nose
- Sleeping too much
- Laying inactive on the dock