

Bolt the wonder tortoise



Species

A Russian horsefield tortoise (*Agrionemys horsfieldii*)

Habitat

Native to Russia, Iran, China and Pakistan. They prefer drier soil with lots of grass and vegetation to snack on.

Care

Tortoises need a lot of space, even the small breeds like Bolt. Bolt has large indoor and outdoor enclosures. He likes to be outside, but in bad weather he goes inside and warms up under a special heat and UV lamp.

Food

Bolt tucks into veggies and certain plants like dandelion, sprinkled with calcium to keep his shell healthy. His favourite treat is strawberries. He likes these so much he will squish his whole head into the fruit and come out with a red face.

Characteristics

Bolt is a small tortoise with a dark shell. He's got blunt claws for digging and climbing and a curved mouth for chomping on plants.

Why we love Bolt

Bolt is a survivor, as you'll see from his story. He's also very adventurous, an expert climber and a cheeky strawberry thief, so watch out if you've got some on you!

Read Bolt's story on the next page...

Bolt's story



Named after the special rivets that hold his shell together, Bolt is laidback and very curious. You can stroke his shell and, if you're gentle, tickle his head.

Bolt is a rescue tortoise and has had a rough tough time of it in the past. He was brought into Lion Learners HQ, South Angle Farm, after being found in a park with his shell smashed. He was in a critical state and needed immediate medical care.

Tortoises' shells are fused to their body so Bolt would not have survived without intervention. Fortunately for Bolt, a very clever vet was able to literally bolt his shell back together. You can think of it as a bit like when someone breaks their arm and needs a plaster cast.

Bolt now has permanent rivets holding his shell in place but despite his injuries, he's made an amazing recovery and acts like nothing has happened. He still loves to climb, dig and travel at faster speeds than you'd expect from a tortoise.



Nobody came to claim Bolt so he joined the Lion Learners East Anglia family and we love having him here! He's a little character and we love watching him saunter around like he owns the place.



Bolt's bolts

