

# SHELLY

Carvers:

Pony Keepers Carvers and Painters

Missoula, Montana

Sponsor: The Urell Family

Shelly is one of the most detailed carvings on the carousel. Look her over closely. Front to back and top to bottom, she is spectacular!

The shell (carapace) of most common snapping turtles will grow to be around 12 inches long but there have been wild snapping turtles that measure twice that and weigh over 75 pounds. Shelly is one of the carousel animals that could be close to actual size. The largest common snapping turtle in captivity is considerably larger than our Shelly is.



Ladybugs can land on water and are very good at paddling around. Like people, they can “hold their breath underwater, but not for very long. That’s why Shelly’s Ladybug has her own snorkel! Can you think of a good name for Shelly’s Ladybug? We’d love to hear it!

## COMMON SNAPPING TURTLE

The Snapping Turtle is New York State’s official state reptile and it is the most commonly observed turtle in The Adirondack Park. They spend much of their lives in aquatic habitats, including marshes, ponds, large lakes, reservoirs, and rivers. Although they can be found in almost every kind of freshwater habitat, they prefer slow-moving water. They tend to be most at home in shallow, marshy swamps with a soft mud bottom containing submerged and emergent plants. They overwinter on the muddy bottoms of water bodies, usually not too far from shore. In the water, snapping turtles will usually dive, or swim away when encountering a human. On land they can be very aggressive.

### How hard do they bite?

Not that hard!

**A human can generate 5 times more biting force than a snapping turtle can. But that SNAP is no joke! It is the combination of biting force, the speed of the snap, and the very sharp hooked jaw that has resulted in many lost fingers.**

