## Be a shell for the Balkan Terrapin!

Just as deserts have palm tree oasis, so does the waterless Mediterranean karst has its ponds. Ponds that were made by hardworking locals, for drinking water, irrigation, and treasured livestock. While the ponds are maintained and taken care of, the Balkan Terrapin lives there happily. Despite her affinity for swimming in the ponds, during springtime, she emerges to bask in the meadows and locate a suitable spot to lay her precious eggs. Whether we refer to her as a flat terrapin, make playful remarks about her odour, or even confuse her with a frog, she remains our beloved *Mauremys rivulata*.

Other than degradation of her habitats, competition for space and resources with invasive alien species, the Balkan Terrapin is endangered by predators, such as wild boars, that raid nesting sites to eat the eggs. Follow the instructions and make your own model of the Balkan Terrapin Mara and place her on the nesting site. Show her proudly to your friends and tell them what you learned about this iconic species.

This way you become a part of LIFE for Mauremys project to conserve the Balkan Terrapin in Croatia.





- 1. Cut out and fold the marked parts of the shell and the head of the Balkan Terrapin female.
- 2. Glue all the indicated parts, following the numbers. Attach the head to the lower part of the shell.
- 3. Tuck the part of the neck that sticks out on the front of the shell, under the rear part of the head.
- 4. Cut out the nest and help Mara hide it well from predators.

Recommendation - for easier folding, print the model on 150 g, A3 matte paper.

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The model was created by Dora Ajduković (DA, DA, a graphic design and business service company)

















Scan the QR code to find out more about the project:

