



South American Red Footed Tortoise

Chelonoidis Carbonarius

- Toot is currently about 13 years old.
- Red-footed tortoises have a concave, bumpy shell. They are mostly black with young tortoises having small distinct areas of yellow or tan coloring surrounding or covering each bump. Bright red marks may appear on the head.
- They are named for the coloration on their feet, often as patches of orange, yellow, or red.
- Males and females use head movements as signals to identify each other.
- Our tortoises get a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables daily some of which are grown in our aquaponics system right next door!

TOOT (Tootles) was relocated to the Catawba Science Center after being rescued. His misshapen shell is due to malnutrition in his past, this deformity is called “banding”. Due to the intense nutritional demands of young animals during their main growth periods, deformities like his are unfortunately common in animals that are kept as pets with little understanding of their needs. He came to live at the Catawba Science Center at around 15 years old.



Tootles