

HOPE FOR RARE TURTLE



A FEMALE turtle has been discovered in Vietnam, who might just save her species from extinction!

This is a female Swinhoe's softshell turtle. It is on the brink of extinction.

The only known male lives at Suzhou Zoo in China. There were no known female turtles until this one was discovered in Dong Mo Lake, Vietnam, last year.

Tests have just confirmed that the turtle is definitely a Swinhoe's softshell turtle. She weighs 86kg (13 stone) – that's the same as an adult man!

There are now plans to bring the two turtles together. Scientists hope they will breed and save the turtle from becoming extinct.

Andrew Walde, from a turtle charity, said: "This is the best news of the year, and quite possibly the last decade, for turtle conservation!"

Questions on: 'Hope for rare turtle'

1) Where exactly was this turtle found?

Name of lake: _____

Country: _____

2) This turtle is on the **"brink of extinction"**.
What does this mean?

3) Where does the only known male turtle live?

4) Why does the writer have to keep putting the word 'known' into sentences? For example:

"The only known male lives at Suzhou Zoo in China."

5) Look at the first sentence. Can you explain what the word **'species'** means ("spee-shees")?

6) The picture only shows a close-up. How do you know this is a very big turtle?

7) Who is Andrew Walde?

8) Look at what Andrew says. Which option do you think explains how he feels?

- Very pleased
- Extremely excited
- Mildly concerned
- Very thankful

Do you feel the same?