



Guess what painted turtles do when their ponds freeze over in the winter?

They breathe through their butts!

Painted turtles hibernate in the water and their bodies **slow WAY down**. Hibernating turtles don't need much oxygen—but they still need some.

The blood vessels in their butts take oxygen from the water, keeping the turtles alive.

Painted turtles can survive in
an ice-covered pond for more
than **100** days!

