

In biology, size matters. Often, smaller organisms are preyed upon more frequently than larger ones. A mechanism of both predation and defense for many organisms of varying sizes is biting behavior. Bite behavior is often quantified as a performance measurement of bite force. Bite force has been shown to be related to many aspects of size including overall body size, head size, and head shape; it has also been shown to be related to the type of prey eaten. This relationship between bite force, size, and shape, is known to exist for many species. However, little data exists for one of the animal lineages in which it is likely highly important – the turtles. By trapping numerous common snapping turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*), we aim to capture and measure bite performance and various aspects of size and shape to better understand the relationship between form and function.