



Sea Turtles — Old Travelers of the Ocean

Reading Worksheet — Level C | tahricteaches.com

A sea turtle is a **large** animal that lives in the **sea**. It has a hard shell on its back. The shell keeps the turtle **safe**. Sea turtles can be very old. Some live for more than 80 years! They swim well in the water, but they move very **slow** on land.

Mother sea turtles lay their **eggs** on a **beach**. At night, the mother comes out of the sea. She uses her flippers to **dig** a hole in the sand. She lays many eggs in the hole and covers them. Then she goes back into the water. She does not see her babies again.

After about two months, the **baby** sea turtles come out of the eggs. They are very small. They must run to the sea before birds or crabs catch them. The trip is **dangerous**. Many baby turtles do not make it. But the lucky ones reach the water and start their long life at sea.

Sea turtles eat sea grass, small fish, and jellyfish. They swim very far across the ocean. Some swim from one **island** to another. Sea turtles know the way back to the same beach where they were born — even after many, many years!

Today, sea turtles need our help. People can hurt the sea with plastic and trash. We must keep our beaches clean to **save** them. Sea turtles have lived on Earth for millions of years. Let's help them stay!

A. Vocabulary

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. sea ____ | a. a flat area of sand next to the sea |
| 2. large ____ | b. a very young animal or child |
| 3. safe ____ | c. a piece of land with water all around it |
| 4. slow ____ | d. big in size |
| 5. egg ____ | e. not in danger; protected |
| 6. beach ____ | f. not moving fast |
| 7. dig ____ | g. a small round thing that a baby animal grows inside |
| 8. baby ____ | h. to make a hole in the ground |
| 9. dangerous ____ | i. not safe; able to hurt you |
| 10. island ____ | j. a large area of salt water |



B. True or False

1. A sea turtle has a hard shell on its back. ____
2. Sea turtles move fast on land. ____
3. Mother sea turtles lay their eggs in the water. ____
4. The mother turtle digs a hole in the sand for her eggs. ____
5. Baby turtles come out of the eggs after about two months. ____
6. The trip from the nest to the sea is safe for baby turtles. ____
7. Sea turtles eat sea grass, small fish, and jellyfish. ____
8. Some sea turtles swim from one island to another. ____
9. Sea turtles have lived on Earth for only a few years. ____



C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: sea, beach, eggs, dig, save

1. A sea turtle is a large animal that lives in the _____.
2. Mother sea turtles lay their eggs on a _____.

3. Mother turtles use their flippers to _____ a hole in the sand.
4. Baby turtles come out of their _____ after about two months.
5. We must keep our beaches clean to _____ the sea turtles.

D. Comprehension Questions

1. Where does a sea turtle live, and what is on its back?
2. How does a mother turtle make a nest for her eggs?
3. Why is the trip from the nest to the sea dangerous for baby turtles?
4. What do sea turtles eat?
5. How can people help save sea turtles?

E. Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever seen a turtle? Where was it?
2. Why is it important to keep beaches clean?
3. What other animals lay eggs?



Answer Key

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A. Vocabulary: 1-j, 2-d, 3-e, 4-f, 5-g, 6-a, 7-h, 8-b, 9-i, 10-c

B. True/False: 1-T, 2-F, 3-F, 4-T, 5-T, 6-F, 7-T, 8-T, 9-F

C. Fill Blanks: 1-sea, 2-beach, 3-dig, 4-eggs, 5-save

D. Comprehension:

1. A sea turtle lives in the sea, and it has a hard shell on its back that keeps it safe.
2. She comes out of the sea at night, digs a hole in the sand with her flippers, lays many eggs, and covers them.
3. Birds, crabs, and other animals can catch the baby turtles before they reach the water.
4. Sea turtles eat sea grass, small fish, and jellyfish.
5. People can keep beaches clean and stop putting plastic and trash in the sea.

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