



WILD CLASSROOM



WWF's Wild Classroom connects educators and parents with the tools and resources they need to help kids explore and understand the world around them. Visit wildclassroom.org to choose from a growing library of animal- and nature-related teacher's guides, fact sheets, and activity plans that you can use to enhance your science, writing, art, and other lessons.

Together we can inspire the next generation to build a future where people and nature thrive!

SEA TURTLES

● Sea Turtle Fun Facts

- Sea turtles are reptiles that have existed on Earth for over 100 million years. This means their ancestors were around at the time of the dinosaurs!
- Sea turtles cannot breathe underwater and need to come to the surface for air. They can hold their breath underwater for as long as 4–7 hours if they are resting or sleeping.
- Sea turtles are the only reptile to travel extensively. Some migrate thousands of miles across entire oceans between feeding and nesting grounds.
- Male sea turtles typically never leave the ocean. Females come ashore to lay their eggs—usually on the exact same beaches where they were born!
- During sea turtle nesting season, a female can lay up to 180 eggs at a time, as often as six times!
- While sea turtles mostly live in shallow waters, they are known to dive to deeper depths in search of food, cooler temperatures, or protection from predators. Leatherback sea turtles can dive 4,035 feet deep—almost a mile!
- Depending on the species, a sea turtle's diet can consist of seagrasses, jellyfish, sponges, sea urchins, sea anemones, mollusks, or crabs and other crustaceans.
- Green sea turtles are named for the greenish color of their cartilage and fat—not their shells! On the other hand, the olive ridley turtle is named for the olive color of its shell.
- Loggerhead turtles carry colonies of small plants and animals on their shells. As many as 100 species of animals and plants have been recorded living on a single loggerhead.
- Hawksbill sea turtles are named for their narrow, pointed beaks, which they use to eat sponges and sea anemones from coral reefs.
- Sea turtles typically live up to 50 years or more. Most marine turtles take decades to mature to adulthood—between 20 and 30 years.

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SEA TURTLES



Name: _____ Date: _____

SEA TURTLE Fill-in-the-Blank

Complete the puzzle with words related to the sea turtle. Use your sea turtle fact sheet to help you.

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Sea turtles are ___ that have existed on Earth for over 100 million years. | _____ P _____ |
| 2. Sea turtles can hold their _____ for several hours. | _____ R _____ |
| 3. Sea turtles have been around since the time of the _____. | _____ O _____ |
| 4. Green sea turtles are named for the color of their ___ and fat. | _____ T _____ |
| 5. Sea turtles have been known to ___ deep into the ocean. | _____ E _____ |
| 6. Sea turtles cannot _____ their head and legs. | _____ C _____ |
| 7. Very few sea turtle _____ survive to adulthood. | _____ T _____ |
| 8. There are _____ species of sea turtle. | _____ S _____ |
| 9. ___ sea turtles almost never leave the ocean. | _____ E _____ |
| 10. Females lay their eggs on the ___ beach where they were born. | _____ A _____ |
| 11. ___ from roads and buildings disorients hatchlings. | _____ T _____ |
| 12. The gender of a sea turtle can be affected by _____. | _____ U _____ |
| 13. Sea turtles can _____ for thousands of miles. | _____ R _____ |
| 14. The largest species of sea turtle is the _____. | _____ T _____ |
| 15. You can find sea turtles in most oceans except cold ___ seas. | _____ L _____ |
| 16. A favorite food of sea turtles, it commonly gets mistaken for plastic bags. | _____ E _____ |
| 17. Females come ashore to lay their _____. | _____ S _____ |



SEA TURTLES



SEA TURTLE Fill-in-the-Blank | ANSWER KEY

Complete the puzzle with words related to the sea turtle. Use your sea turtle fact sheet to help you.

- Sea turtles are ___ that have existed on Earth for over 100 million years.
- Sea turtles can hold their _____ for several hours.
- Sea turtles have been around since the time of the _____.
- Green sea turtles are named for the color of their ___ and fat.
- Sea turtles have been known to ___ deep into the ocean.
- Sea turtles cannot _____ their head and legs.
- Very few sea turtle _____ survive to adulthood.
- There are _____ species of sea turtle.
- ___ sea turtles almost never leave the ocean.
- Females lay their eggs on the ___ beach where they were born.
- ___ from roads and buildings disorients hatchlings.
- The gender of a sea turtle can be affected by ____.
- Sea turtles can _____ for thousands of miles.
- The largest species of sea turtle is the _____.
- You can find sea turtles in most oceans except cold ___ seas.
- A favorite food of sea turtles, it commonly gets mistaken for plastic bags.
- Females come ashore to lay their _____.

R E P T I L E S

B R E A T H

D I N O S A U R S

C A R T I L A G E

D I V E

R E T R A C T

H A T C H L I N G S

S E V E N

M A L E

S A M E

L I G H T

T E M P U R A T U R E

M I G R A T E

L E A T H E R B A C K

P O L A R

J E L L Y F I S H

E G G S