



Journey of the Sea Turtle Teacher's Guide

Program Summary

A sea turtle? What's a sea turtle? Join us for a journey into the mysterious world of these ancient marine reptiles to learn some basic information about sea turtles. Students will learn about where sea turtles live, what they eat and their amazing journey from egg to adulthood. They will also learn about the natural and human-associated threats that sea turtles face during their lifetime and what we can all do to help them. .



Key Vocabulary

Sargasso Sea—A body of water in the middle of the North Atlantic Gyre System of currents

Sargassum weed—type of seaweed floating in the Sargasso Sea, hatchlings blend in very well

Life Stage—Stage of development of a living organism

Hatchling—A sea turtle that has just hatched out of its egg

Juvenile—A young sea turtle in its teenage years

Sub-adult—A sea turtle that is around 20-25 years old

Adult—A sea turtle that is over 30-35 years old

Predator—An animal that hunts and eats another animal

Migration—movement across an area

Magnetic Orientation—migration or movement based on the magnetic pull of the Earth

Visual Orientation—migration or movement based on sight

Activities

Discuss the life cycle of another type of animal. How does that animal begin its life, where do they live, and how do they spend their life. You could talk about the life cycle of a frog by saying that it starts off as an egg in the water, they turn into a tadpole, and finally a full grown frog. Have the students draw out their life cycle on a piece of paper and talk about their different stages of life.

Pre and Post Tests

To help the Georgia Sea Turtle Center improve our educational programs we are including a pre and post test with this guide. The test should be given before your students come to the center, and after they return from their visit. Please return the pre and post tests to us at:

Georgia Sea Turtle Center
214 Stable Road
Jekyll Island, GA 31527

If you have any questions, feel free to give us a call at (912) 635-4076.

This program was designed to align with the Georgia Performance Standards. Each applicable standard is shown in the table to the right.

Grade Level	6th	7th	8th
Correlating Georgia Performance Standards	S6CS5.b, S6CS9.d, S6CS9.e, S6CS10.c, ELA6R1.b, ELA6R1.c, ELA6R1.e	S7CS5.a, S7SC5.b, S7CS9.f, S7CS9.g, S7CS10.c, S7CS10.d, S7L4.c, S7L4.d, S7L4.e, S7L5.a, S7L5.b, S7L5.c, ELA7R1.b, ELA7R1.c	S8CS5.b, S8CS9.f, S8CS9.g, S8CS10.c, S8CS10.d

Journey of the Sea Turtle Pre/Post Test

Name: _____

True or False: Circle the correct answer.

True or False An adult sea turtle is one that is less than 45 cm long.

True or False Sea turtles have magnetite crystals in their brain to aid in migration.

True or False Sub-adult sea turtles live in the Sargasso Sea.

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

- 1) Which of these is a predator for an adult sea turtle?
 - A. Raccoon
 - B. Large fish
 - C. Shark
 - D. Fire ants

- 2) What sea turtle life stage can be compared to a college student in human years?
 - A. Hatchling
 - B. Adult
 - C. Sub-adult
 - D. Juvenile

- 3) What would a juvenile sea turtle eat?
 - A. Fish and bugs
 - B. Blue crabs
 - C. Yolk sack
 - D. Horseshoe crab

- 4) About how many eggs does a female sea turtle lay in her nest?
 - A. 70
 - B. 120
 - C. 200
 - D. 12

- 5) What is the survival rate for a hatchling to become an adult?
 - A. 1 in 400
 - B. 200 in 4000
 - C. 1000 in 4000
 - D. 1 in 4000

Matching: Draw lines to connect the life stage with its migration pattern.

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Hatchling | I use magnetic orientation to migrate to mating grounds and/or nesting beaches. |
| Juvenile | I use visual orientation to migrate to the ocean. |
| Sub-adult | I use magnetic orientation to migrate along the coast. |
| Adult | I use magnetic orientation to migrate back to the coast. |

Journey of the Sea Turtle Pre/Post Test Answers

Name: _____

True or False: Circle the correct answer.

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True or False Sea turtles have magnetite crystals in their brain to aid in migration.

True or False Sub-adult sea turtles live in the Sargasso Sea.

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

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Juvenile	_____	I use visual orientation to migrate to the ocean.
Sub-adult	_____	I use magnetic orientation to migrate along the coast.
Adult	_____	I use magnetic orientation to migrate back to the coast.