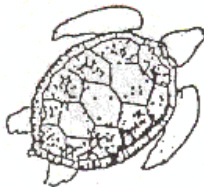


Sea Turtle Fun Pack

Sea turtles are reptile species that have been on Earth since the time of the dinosaurs, 110 million years ago. There are seven different species of sea turtles, five of which live in the Florida waters.

Loggerhead Turtle (*Caretta caretta*)

The average loggerhead weighs about 275 pounds and is a reddish-brown color. Like other turtles, it has no teeth, but it uses its powerful jaws to dine on clams, crabs, and other crustaceans. It is slower than other turtles yet it does have stamina. One loggerhead tagged on Melbourne Beach in Florida was recaptured 11 days later in Cuba!



Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)

Though adult green turtles mostly eat a vegetarian diet of seagrasses and algae, their average weight is about 350 pounds. The largest green turtle ever found was 5 feet in length and 871 pounds! They live along the coasts, spending their days in seagrass meadows and their nights along rock ledges, oyster bars, and coral reefs.

Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)

Most leatherbacks average 6 feet in length and weigh from 500 to 1,500 pounds. The largest leatherback on record was nearly 10 feet long and weighed more than 2,000 pounds. (That's as big as a car!) Leatherbacks have a firm, leathery skin with seven ridges running lengthwise down their backs. They are capable of going as deep as 3,000 feet and traveling more than 3,000 miles from their nesting beach. They dine on jellyfish, making it very important to keep plastic bags out of the water!



Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)

The hawksbill is small compared to the other species of turtles, weighing from 100 to 200 pounds. They eat sponges and are found living along reefs, lagoons, bays, and estuaries in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian oceans.

Kemp's ridley Turtle (*Lepidochelys kempi*)

The Kemp's ridley is the rarest sea turtle in the world. They nest on only one beach in Rancho Nuevo, Mexico, and only about 1,000 nesting females are left. The smallest of the sea turtles, they weigh 85-100 pounds.



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Seek and Find

T G J O M Y G O L O I B E N I R A M R
 H U W A D V N U P S U L I O W H T K E
 A O L H K W M H A S R M M P U R Y O Q
 T S O R S A T E L L I T E T A G C P B
 C H G B J L B I R W Z V L D N N E J N
 H Z G W L C H N M T B I K L H I K S E
 L K E M P S R I D L E Y D W E R I F E
 I S R E R P O N H O D U E A G O G W R
 N B H I S T R D G E L N R L G M K O G
 G E E C I W S O N X D V E S N R O M L
 C H A E H N L E R A A Z S O L A I N H
 H G D L B A T L N V G E E B E L R Y X
 M J T H L A W G S N F S A I A A R I E
 U K X C E E E K T O V S R H D T Y K A
 S E W R O R C N S R S T C H T S W M B
 S Q H B E G H T E B S H H W C A Q Y E
 A T A D G E S Y U E I R E S Z O U H A
 G P W V U R P N F F S L N C R C J O C
 R B D A E M B D G M G P L H W I L O H
 A R T I F I C I A L L I G H T I N G D
 S E E J X R E Q O S W V E R H A E I Y
 M Y K C A B R E H T A E L K O M K L P

Find the following words...

Look up and down, sideways, diagonally, and even backward.

Green
 Loggerhead
 Leatherback
 Hawksbill

Kemp's ridley
 Hatchling
 Sargassum
 Artificial Lighting

Coastal Armoring
 Threatened
 Endangered
 Beach

Nest
 Satellite tag
 Marine Biology
 Research

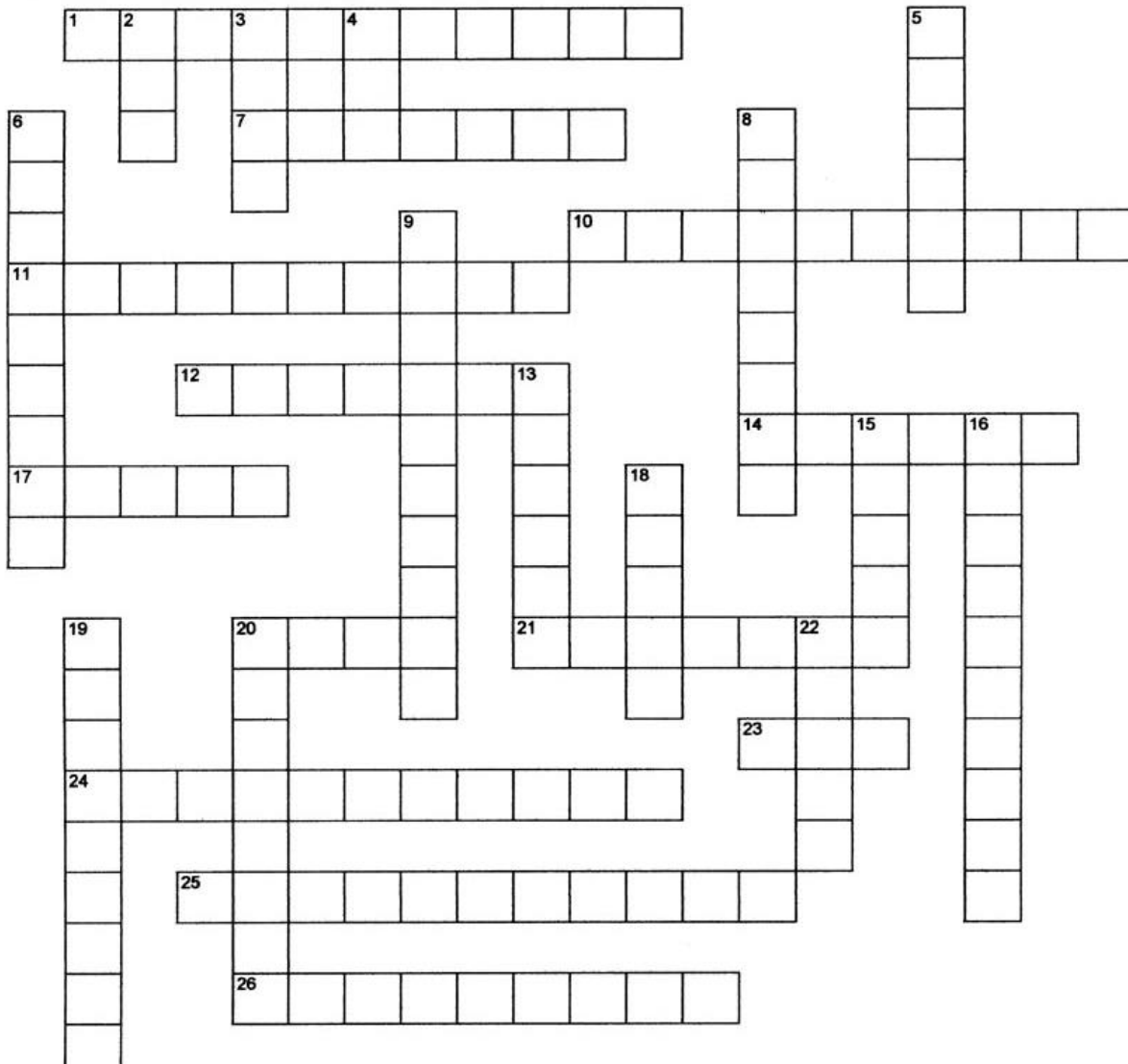
Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1. The beach where Kemp's ridleys nest
7. A leatherback may mistake this for a jellyfish and choke to death.
10. The green, leatherback, hawksbill, and Kemp's ridley turtle are all listed as _____.
11. This reddish-brown turtle likes to eat clams and crabs.
12. Hawksbills eat these.
14. These distract hatchlings from crawling to the ocean after they are born.
17. This protects turtles.
20. How many species of sea turtles are found in Florida?
21. Animal that eats turtle eggs
23. Turtle Excluder Device (abbreviation).
24. The smallest and rarest sea turtle
25. This turtle has ridges along its back.
26. Turtles spend the first years of their lives in this floating island habitat.

DOWN

2. What turtles breathe
3. One Loggerhead traveled here from Melbourne in 11 days.
4. This is spilled into the water, polluting turtle habitat.
5. Trash
6. Leatherbacks mistake plastic bags and balloons for this meal.
8. These block beaches where turtles nest.
9. Green turtles like to eat these.
13. The season when turtles nest
15. The "vegetarian" sea turtle
16. The loggerhead is listed as _____.
18. Nesting females lay their eggs here.
19. These turtles live in reefs and lagoons.
20. These help turtles swim.
22. Hatchlings leave their nest and crawl towards this.

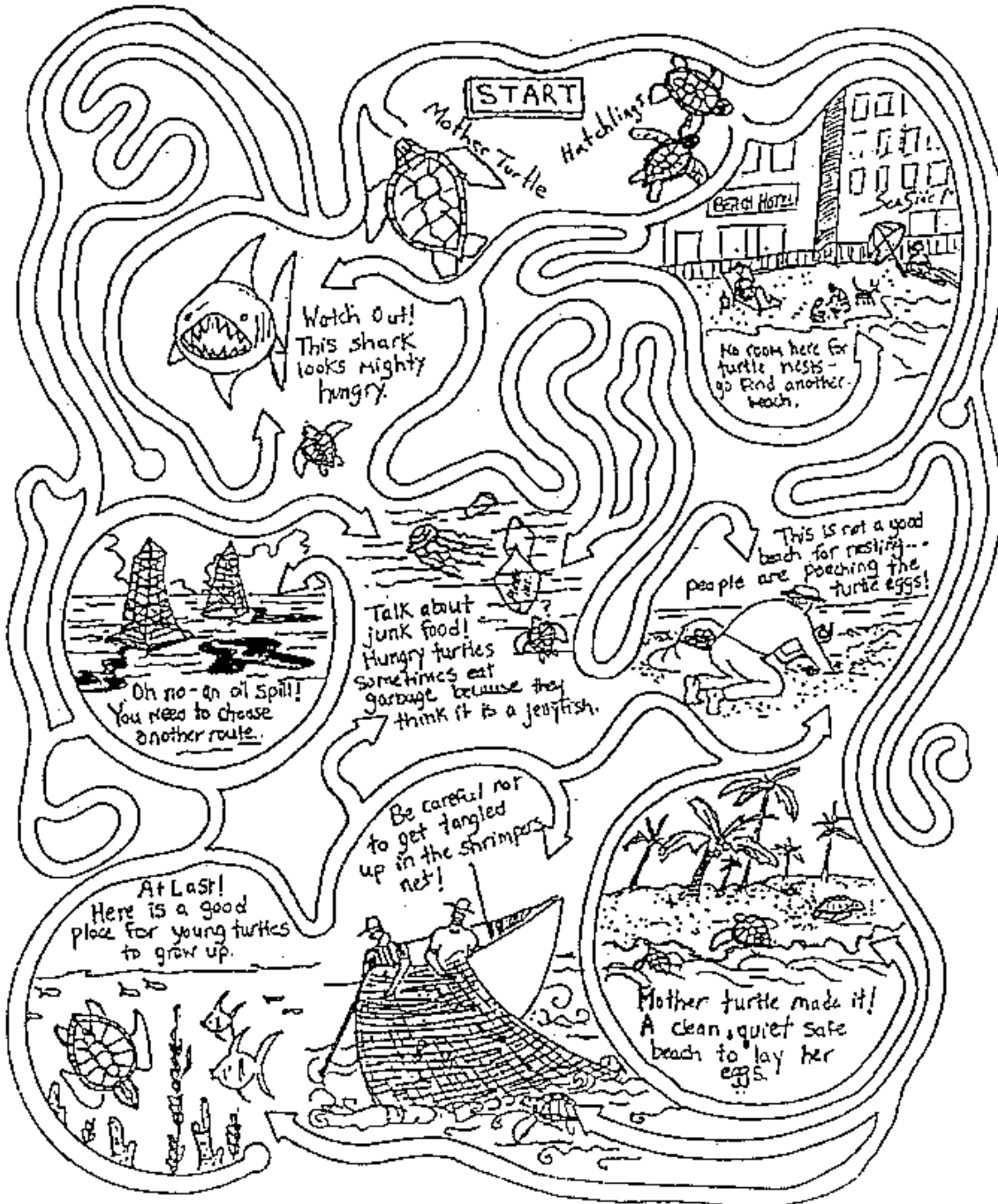


Sea Turtles:



Classroom Worksheet #2

See if you can help the mother turtle and her hatchlings find their way to suitable habitat. The hatchlings must make it to a healthy ocean habitat with plenty of food. The adult female turtle is trying to find a dark, quiet nesting beach on which to build a nest. Beware of all the potential threats that can keep them from reaching their destinations.



**Help the hatchlings escape danger and
guide them to the safety of the sargassum**

