The Journey of a Mother Turtle

Every year, a mother turtle returns to the same sandy beach where she was born. She comes at night when the beach is quiet and safe. Using her strong flippers, she digs a deep nest in the soft sand. She lays about one hundred eggs in the nest and carefully covers them with sand. The warm sand keeps the eggs safe until they hatch.

After laying the eggs, the mother turtle goes back to the sea. She does not stay with her babies. The hidden nest protects the eggs from birds, crabs, and other animals. After several weeks, the baby turtles hatch and crawl out of the nest. They quickly move toward the sea because many predators are waiting for them on the beach.

When the young turtles reach the ocean, they begin searching for food. They eat seaweed, tiny fish, jellyfish, and other small sea animals. As they grow, they learn to swim, find food, and stay away from danger. A safe nest, protection from enemies, and healthy food help the young turtles become strong and healthy adults.

WH Questions

1. Where does the mother turtle lay her eggs?

2. Why does the mother turtle cover the eggs with sand?

3. What do the young turtles eat after they reach the ocean?

4. Why do the baby turtles crawl quickly toward the sea?

LIVEWORKSHEETS