



# Reading Comprehension

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Read the short passage below and answer the questions that follow.**

The green sea turtle is one of the largest sea turtles and is found in tropical and subtropical waters throughout the world. It has a small head, a smooth shell and a pointed back. It uses its long front flippers to swim gracefully in the water. They are normally found near coral reefs and shallow lagoons.

The green sea turtles gets its name from the green coloured fat tissue under its shell. The fat is green in colour because the adult turtle's diet consists of seagrass and algae. Sea turtles are protected from predators by their large size, thick scaly skin and hard shells. They spend most of their lives underwater for several hours before surfacing for air.

A female sea turtle nests at the beach. It crawls out of the ocean and onto the sand to find a safe spot to lay eggs. It uses its flippers to dig a hole and then lays a clutch of 100 to 200 eggs. The female then covers its eggs with sand and returns to the water. Once the eggs have hatched, the hatchlings head straight for the ocean. Baby turtles are at risk of being eaten by gulls and crabs so they must scurry to water as quickly as possible.

The green sea turtles are listed as endangered. Therefore, they are protected from exploitation from many countries. It is illegal to collect, harm or kill them. In addition, many countries have laws and ordinances to protect their nesting areas.

Write **True** or **False** in the spaces provided.

(a) The green sea turtles is one of the largest sea turtles.

(b) The green sea turtle swims with its legs.

(c) Give two examples of sea creatures that lay eggs like the green sea turtles.

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

The green sea turtles are listed as **endangered**.

(d) Explain the word **endangered**.

(e) Why have the green sea turtles become endangered? Give a reason to support your answer.