ESOL Resources

Entry 3 ESOL

Unit 19

Turtles on the beach

Aims

Goal	Goal 14: Life below water
Reading	Read a true story. Match questions to paragraphs, then find facts and details.
Words	volunteer, rubbish, hatch, tonne
Grammar	Use the present perfect with for and since.
Speaking	Plan a clean-up of a place near your school.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Before reading

Discussion
Lead-in: class discussion

Talk about these questions in groups. Then share your ideas.

1. Do you like going to the beach? What do you do there?
2. Have you ever helped to clean a street, a park or a beach?

Words from the text
Pre-teaching blocking vocabulary: gap fill

Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

volunteer	rubbish	hatch	tonne

1. A _____ works for free to help other people.
2. Please put your _____ in the bin.
3. Baby birds _____ from eggs.
4. A _____ is a very heavy weight: 1,000 kilograms.

Prediction
Lead-in: completing sentences

Look at the title. Complete the sentences with your ideas.

1. The turtles went away because _____ .
2. The turtles came back because _____ .

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reading text: Turtles on the beach

A Versova is a long beach in Mumbai, one of the biggest cities in India. Until a few years ago, it was covered in plastic bags, bottles, old shoes and other rubbish. The smell was bad, and few people wanted to walk there. Much of the rubbish came from the sea and from the city's rivers, and every day the waves brought more. It looked like a problem that was too big for anyone to solve.

B In 2015, a lawyer called Afroz Shah, who lives near the beach, started to clean it with a neighbour. Soon, hundreds of volunteers joined them: students, families and office workers. They have worked on the beach every weekend since 2015, and they have removed many tonnes of rubbish. Slowly, the sand has come back, and the volunteers have cleaned Versova for years.

C In March 2018, volunteers found baby turtles on the beach. About 80 olive ridley turtles hatched there, and they walked across the sand to the sea. For nearly 20 years, there were no baby turtles on Versova beach. Olive ridley turtles are a protected kind of sea turtle, so the news was exciting for scientists and for local people. Many people think this is the best reward the volunteers could have.

D The volunteers have learned some hard lessons since they started. Rubbish still arrives from the sea every day, so they cannot stop. Cleaning is hard work, and it never really finishes. Many of them say that using less plastic is as important as cleaning. A clean beach is good for fishermen, for families who walk there in the evening and for the animals that live in the sea. Even so, the story has given hope to many people in India and in other countries: when people work together for a long time, nature can come back.



Baby turtles on a clean beach

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Tasks

1 Task 1 Gist: matching questions to paragraphs

Read the text quickly. Which paragraph answers each question? Write A, B, C or D.

1. What was wrong with the beach? _____ .
2. What did people do about it? _____ .
3. What was the happy surprise? _____ .
4. What is still difficult, and what is the lesson? _____ .

2 Task 2 Scanning: short answers

Find the answers in the text quickly. Write a few words or numbers.

1. Which city is Versova beach in? _____ .
2. In which year did Afroz Shah start cleaning? _____ .
3. How many turtles hatched? _____ .
4. How many years were there no baby turtles on the beach? _____ .

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 Task 3 Detail: true or false

Read the text again. Are the sentences true or false? Circle the answer.

1. The beach was very dirty a few years ago.	True	False
2. Afroz Shah cleaned the beach alone.	True	False
3. Volunteers work on the beach at the weekend.	True	False
4. The turtles hatched in the winter of 2015.	True	False
5. Using less plastic is one of the volunteers' ideas.	True	False
6. The turtles walked to the sea after they hatched.	True	False

4 Task 4 Detail: fact or opinion

Read the sentences. Is each one a fact or an opinion? Circle the answer.

1. About 80 turtles hatched in March 2018.	Fact	Opinion
2. It looked like a problem that was too big to solve.	Fact	Opinion
3. Volunteers have worked on the beach since 2015.	Fact	Opinion
4. This is the best reward the volunteers could have.	Fact	Opinion
5. Using less plastic is as important as cleaning.	Fact	Opinion

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5 Task 5 Noticing

Look at the sentences from the text. Underline for or since. Circle the time word or number after it.

1. They have worked on the beach every weekend since 2015.

2. The volunteers have cleaned Versova for years.

3. The volunteers have learned some hard lessons since they started.

6 Task 6 Guided discovery

Write each time expression in the correct column. Then complete the rules.

two years	2015	Monday	a long time
last March	ten minutes	this morning	

for	since

We use _____ with a length of time (how long).

We use _____ with the point in time when something started.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

7 Task 7 Controlled practice: circling for or since

Circle for or since.

1. I have lived in this city **for / since** five years.
2. My neighbour has worked at the hospital **for / since** 2019.
3. We have studied English **for / since** September.
4. The bus has been late **for / since** twenty minutes.
5. She has had her phone **for / since** last year.
6. They have known each other **for / since** a long time.

8 Task 8 Controlled practice: writing the present perfect

Write have or has + the verb. Then write for or since.

1. I _____ (live) in this area ____ 2019.
2. My daughter _____ (study) English ____ six months.
3. We _____ (know) our neighbours ____ a long time.
4. He _____ (work) at the college ____ September.
5. They _____ (be) married ____ ten years.
6. My phone _____ (not work) ____ Monday.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

9 Task 9 Speaking

Plan a clean-up of a place near your school. Work in groups. Complete the plan. Then tell the class.

	Our plan
Place	
The problem: how long has it been a problem?	
Date and time	
What do we need?	
Who does what?	

You can say:

The park has been dirty for … / since …

We need gloves, bags and …

Let's meet on … at …

Can you bring …?

LIVEWORKSHEETS