

Read the article “Baby Sea Turtles” before answering Numbers 1 through 10.

## Baby Sea Turtles

A female sea turtle swims toward land. She has come from hundreds of miles away. Somehow, she finds the beach where she was born.

She is ready to lay her eggs. She waits until night. Then she crawls out of the water onto the beach. This is slow, hard work. Her flippers are perfect for swimming but not for walking. She pulls her body along until she gets to dry sand. Then she starts to dig a nest. She uses her back flippers like shovels to dig a hole.

When the hole is deep enough, she lays her eggs. Different kinds of sea turtles lay different numbers of eggs. But it is always a lot. Sea turtles lay from 80 to 120 eggs at once. The eggs are about the size of ping pong balls. The shells have a tough skin. They bend but do not break.

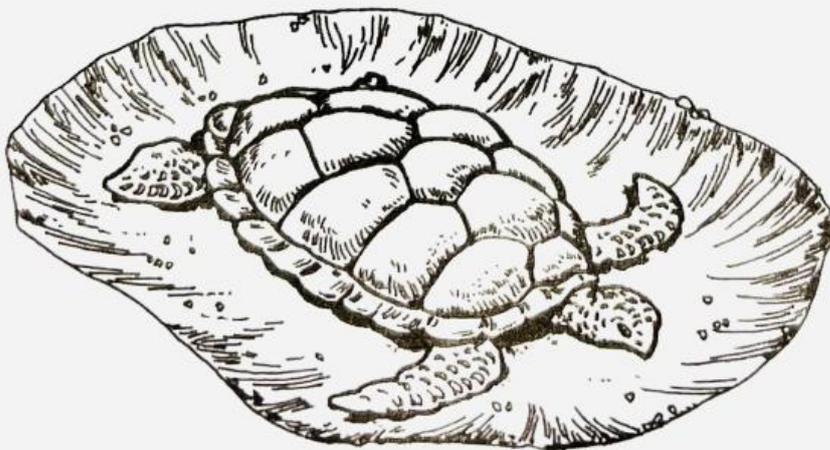
When the eggs are in place, the mother covers them. She throws sand over the hole with her flippers. Then she crawls back to the ocean. Her work is done. She does not sit on her nest. She will not help her babies. They are on their own.

The sun's heat soaks through the sand. It reaches the eggs and the baby turtles grow. After about 60 days, they are ready to hatch. The babies break open their shells. Then they start to dig out of the sand. The whole group works together.

They wait until night to leave the nest. Then they burst out as a group and rush to the sea. They must move quickly. Hungry crabs and gulls dine on baby turtles. But it is dark. The babies are harder to see. And it helps that there are so many of them. Still, many baby turtles do not make it. But many do.

Once they are in the water, the baby turtles swim hard. They must swim through the waves to the open ocean. They must escape sharks and other fish. This is a very big job for little turtles.

The babies that survive grow up slowly in the sea. They spend all their time in the water. After many years, the females are ready to lay eggs. They find the beach where they were born. And it all starts again!



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

Now answer Numbers 1 through 10. Base your answers on “Baby Sea Turtles.”

- 1 What is the topic of “Baby Sea Turtles”?
- Ⓐ how baby sea turtles hatch and survive
  - Ⓑ what sea turtles eat
  - Ⓒ how mother sea turtles survive
  - Ⓓ the sea

- 2 Read this sentence from the article.

**The babies break open their shells.**

Which sentence uses *break* in the SAME way it is used in the sentence above?

- Ⓕ Please do not break the glass.
  - Ⓖ Jen needed a break after taking a long walk.
  - Ⓗ Alex tried to break his habit of chewing his nails.
  - Ⓘ Amy wanted to break the news that the circus was coming.
- 3 Which photo would MOST likely help you understand how a sea turtle makes a nest?
- Ⓐ a photo of many sea turtle eggs
  - Ⓑ a photo of a sea turtle gathering grasses
  - Ⓒ a photo of a sea turtle swimming towards land
  - Ⓓ a photo of a sea turtle digging a hole in the sand with her flippers

- 4 Read these sentences from the article.

**When the eggs are in place, the mother covers them. She throws sand over the hole with her flippers.**

Which sentence uses *covers* the SAME way it is used in the sentence above?

- Ⓕ The titles are on books' covers.
  - Ⓖ She covers her cereal with milk.
  - Ⓗ The newspaper covers all school sports.
  - Ⓘ It was cold, so Nan put two covers on the bed.
- 5 Why do baby turtles rush to the sea after they hatch?
- Ⓐ They like to swim.
  - Ⓑ The sun's heat makes them hot.
  - Ⓒ Hungry crabs and gulls try to eat them.
  - Ⓓ They must swim in the sea to find their mother.

- 6 Read this sentence from the article.

**They must swim through the waves to the open ocean.**

Which meaning of the word *waves* is the SAME one used in the sentence above?

- Ⓕ small curls in someone's hair
- Ⓖ higher areas in moving water
- Ⓗ a sudden change in the weather
- Ⓘ when you move your hand back and forth

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

- 7 What is the topic of the second paragraph on page 97?
- Ⓐ A female sea turtle waits until night.
  - Ⓑ A turtle's flippers are perfect for swimming.
  - Ⓒ A female turtle returns to where she was born.
  - Ⓓ A female sea turtle makes a nest on the beach.

- 8 If *quick* means "fast," *quickly* means
- Ⓐ faster.
  - Ⓑ in a fast way.
  - Ⓒ not fast.
  - Ⓓ being fast again.

- 9 Read this sentence from the article.

**A female sea turtle swims toward land.**

Which meaning of *land* is the SAME one used in the sentence above?

- Ⓐ a country
  - Ⓑ to hit the ground after falling
  - Ⓒ to guide an airplane to the ground
  - Ⓓ part of the earth not covered by water
- 10 When baby female sea turtles grow up, where do they go to lay eggs?
- Ⓐ They go at night.
  - Ⓑ They go to the ocean.
  - Ⓒ They go hundreds of miles.
  - Ⓓ They go to where they were born.