

Save the sea turtles



Let's Think

1. How many endangered species can you name?
2. Do you know why they have become endangered?

You are Doris. You are reading a leaflet about sea turtles.

Sea Turtles

What are sea turtles?

Sea turtles have been around for at least 150 million years. They can grow up to 6 feet long and weigh from 300 to 1000 pounds. There are seven species of sea turtles and their size and weight vary from species to species. They mainly eat jellyfish, seaweed, seagrasses and crabs. They can live to 80 years or more!



Why is it difficult for them to survive?

Every time a female sea turtle lays eggs, she lays in the sand about a hundred eggs, which hatch in approximately 60 days. During this period, the eggs are exposed to predators like raccoons and crabs. This is why not all the eggs will make it to the hatching phase. After the lucky baby sea turtles break free from the shells, they start crawling towards the ocean. On their way to the sea, they may be eaten by animals like birds and crabs. Once these little ones get to the water, they would soon be targeted by flesh-eating fish.



What do some humans kill them for?

Sea turtles are usually killed for their meat, shells and skin. In Costa Rica, green sea turtle eggs are eaten as a treat.



How can you help conserve sea turtles?

You should never buy sea turtle products of any sort, which may be found in certain Southeast Asian countries. If you see any sea turtle products in Hong Kong, please call 1823.

Save sea turtles. Start today!

(237 words)

Part A

Answer the following questions using the information from the leaflet. Choose the **BEST** answer and blacken **ONE** circle only.

1. According to the leaflet, which of the following animal profiles is most probably **NOT** a sea turtle's?
 A. Female, 5.4 feet in length, 720 pounds in weight
 B. Male, 13.3 feet in length, 1252 pounds in weight
 C. Male, 3.8 feet in length, 562 pounds in weight
 D. Female, 4.9 feet in length, 667 pounds in weight
2. Female turtles lay eggs _____.
 A. in the sea
 B. on the land
 C. on sandy beaches
 D. on the grass
3. In line 11, 'predators' means '_____'.
 A. animals that do not lay eggs
 B. animals that live in the ocean
 C. animals that feed on only plants
 D. animals that hunt and eat other animals
4. According to the leaflet, _____.
 A. sea turtles live for around 60 years.
 B. sea turtle eggs usually hatch in around 2 months
 C. grown sea turtles like to hunt raccoons and crabs
 D. grown sea turtles tend to eat flesh-eating fish
5. In line 15, 'these little ones' refers to _____.
 A. female sea turtles
 B. small fish that may attack sea turtles
 C. birds and crabs
 D. baby sea turtles

Grammar Corner

We can use the **connective 'and'** to join two words, phrases or clauses.

e.g. *They can grow up to 6 feet long and weigh from 300 to 1000 pounds.*
(Lines 3-4)

e.g. *During this period, the eggs are exposed to predators like raccoons and crabs.*
(Lines 10-11)

Part B

Answer the following questions using the information from the leaflet. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

1. How long have sea turtles been on Earth?

2. According to the leaflet, why do some sea turtle eggs fail to hatch? Explain your answer.

3. Find a verb that means 'to be different with each other'.

4. Maggie, a member of a wildlife conservation organisation, came across a local store that sold jewellery made from sea turtle shells. What might she do then?



5. Complete the following note about sea turtles by filling in each blank with one word.

Sea turtles	
Number of species:	(a) _____
Estimated lifespan:	80 years or more
Main foods:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• jellyfish• (b) _____• (c) _____• (d) _____
Remarks:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Their (e) _____ are (f) _____ in Costa Rica.• Their (g) _____ is used to make leather goods.

Vocabulary Bank

The following are some endangered animals. Match them with the correct pictures. One of the words is not used.

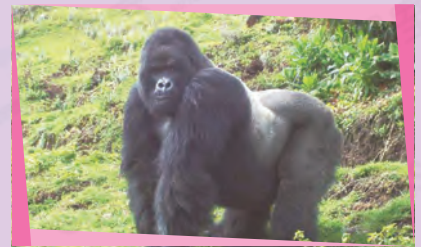
black rhino bluefin tuna pangolin mountain gorilla snow leopard
Pacific walrus African penguin Hector's dolphin blue whale monarch butterfly



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



9.



Let's Discuss

1. Do you know any animal species that has been removed from the endangered species list?
2. Do you think that zoos are ideal places for breeding endangered animals? Why or why not?