

# Green Sea Turtles

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Second Grade::

### Craft and Structure

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.5. Know and use various text features (e.g., captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, indexes, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text efficiently.

### Key Ideas and Details

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.1 Ask and answer such questions as *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, *why*, and *how* to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

## Table of Contents

### Chapter 1: Types/Characteristics

1.1: Body shape and function

### Chapter 2: Habitat

2.1: Where do they live?

2.2: what do they Eat?

2.3: Reproduction

### Chapter 3: How long do turtles live?

3.1: How is age determined

3.2: What causes death/extinction

## Chapter 1:Characteristics

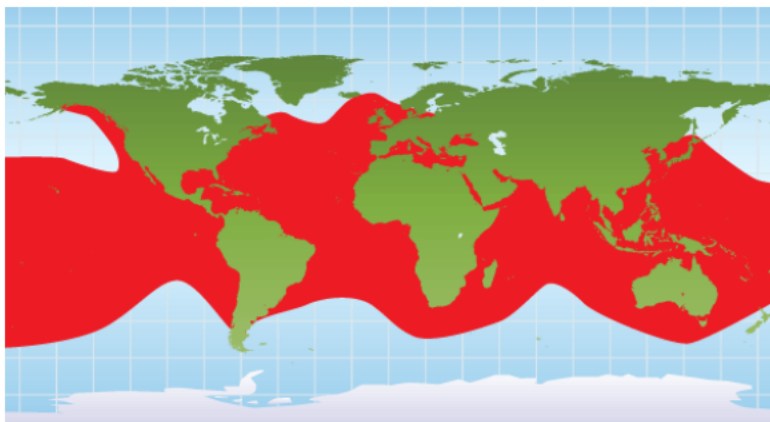
When green sea turtles are born they are only 2 inches long. they can reach up to 5 feet in length and 700 pounds.

### *Characteristics:*

- *Sea turtles are characterized by a large streamlined shell.*
- *The green sea turtle gets its name from the color of its body fat.*
- *Limbs are flippers adapted for swimming. The hind rudders serve as stability and direction.*
- *They swim with powerful wing-like beats of its flippers.*
- *These turtles cannot retract their heads and flipper underneath its shell like other turtles.*
- *The dorsal (top) side of the shell is called the carapace.*
- *The ventral (bottom) side of the shell is called the plastron.*



## Chapter 2: Habitat



Sea turtles live in where the in all the **red zones** indicated in the graph. Green Sea Turtles are found in the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian oceans. They are sensitive to heat and cold; they prefer warm water areas.

Green Turtles are mostly found in shallow, coastal waters, bays, lagoons, and estuaries.

## Daily Living:

Sea turtles hardly leave the water. They are not coordinated on land. Female turtles only leave the water every two years to lay eggs. A fun fact about turtles is they lay up to 130 eggs at a time, about the size of a ping pong ball, on the beach. The females always return to the beach where they were hatched. Baby turtles stay in their shell for two months and they know to survive they must get to water. While the mother is nesting she builds a decoy nest so that predators don't attack her eggs.



## What do Sea Turtles Eat?

*Adult turtles eat:*

- Herbivorous-Plant eating
- Sea grass and alga

*Young turtles eat:*

- Invertebrates-animals without a backbone
- crabs
- jellyfish
- sponges

*Green sea turtles are the only herbivorous sea turtles.*



## Chapter 3: How long do Green Sea Turtles live?

- Green Sea Turtles can live up to 100 years!
- To determine age, scientist count growth rings on a turtles shell, just like determining the age for a tree.

**The oldest recorded age of a turtle was 250 years in India.**





## What causes the death of sea turtles?

- Natural predators like sharks
- *Fibropapillomas*: A tumor like growth on the skin
- Natural disasters
- Human impact like pollution



*Did you know sea turtles are endangered?  
What ways could we help save these  
animals?*

## Fun Facts:

- Turtles have existed for around 215 million years. They managed to survive weather changes which killed the dinosaurs.
- In some species of turtle the temperature determines if the egg will develop into a male or female, lower temperatures lead to a male while higher temperatures lead to a female.
- Sea turtles don't have teeth
- Crush, the turtle from Finding Nemo, is in fact **A GREEN TURTLE!**



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