

Science Story Adventures



Turtles & Tortoises

Learning outcomes

» Students know different plants and animals inhabit different kinds of environments and have external features that help them thrive in different kinds of places.

(Grade 1 - Life Sciences)

» Students know that organisms reproduce offspring of their own kind and that the offspring resemble their parents and one another. (Grade 2 - Life Sciences)

» Students know living things cause changes in the environment in which they live: some of these changes are detrimental to the organism or other organisms, and some are beneficial. (Grade 3 - Life Sciences)

From: California's Science Content Standards

Books we read

Box Turtle at Long Pond by William T. George

Turtle, Turtle, Watch Out! by April Pulley Sayre

Activities we did

» We examined turtle and tortoise specimens and talked about their similarities and differences.

» We talked about characteristics of reptiles in general.

» We learned about some of the threats to sea turtles and what people can do to help protect them.

Today's craft: Sea Turtle Fortune Teller



For this week's craft we made sea turtle fortune tellers and played the "Turtle, Turtle, Watch Out!" game, which were from the book, *Picture Perfect Science Lessons: Using Children's Books to Guide Inquiry* by Karen Rohrich Ansberry.

Want to find out more?

Here is a selection of further resources to explore in the Naturalist Center, in the public library or at home. Please ask if you can't find what you're looking for.

Books

Chelonia: Return of the Sea Turtle: Based on a True Story by Dawn E. Navarro, Robert E. Snodgrass and Wallace J. Nichols. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL666.C536 S66 2000
The story of a girl named Nina who rescues an endangered green sea turtle.

Clever Tortoise: A Traditional African Tale by Francesca Martin. Nat. Ctr. Juv. PZ8.1 .M368 CI 2000
This traditional folk tale tells how Tortoise outwits Hippo and Elephant, proving that brains beat brawn.

Cómo Crece una Tortuga by Pam Zollman. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL666.C5 Z6518 2008*
Colorful photos and simple text describe the life cycle of a turtle.

Turtles by Patrick Merrick. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL666.C5 M47 2007
Answers to eight important questions about turtles, including "Are turtles and tortoises different?"

Turtles by Trudi Strain Trueit. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL666.C5 T78 2003
This book is full of a wide range of turtle facts, from anatomy to family life to conservation.

Media

Amazing Armored Animals. Nat. Ctr. Media QL940 .A43 1996 (VHS)
Henry the lizard teaches about animals with defenses such as hard shells, spiky skins or horns.

Voyage of the Lonely Turtle. Nat. Ctr. Media QL666.C536 N38 2008 (DVD)
Journey with a loggerhead turtle as she makes a 9,000 mile voyage to lay eggs on the beach where she was born. Originally broadcast on the PBS program *Nature*.

Websites

All About Turtles

The Gulf of Maine Research Institute provides stories, craft ideas and ways to get involved with helping turtles.

<http://www.gma.org/turtles/>

California Turtle and Tortoise Club

A site for pet owners and conservationists. Includes a photo gallery and care sheets.

<http://tortoise.org/index.html>

EuroTurtle

A sea turtle conservation site, with some great turtle games and songs under the environmental education tab.

<http://www.euroturtle.org/index.htm>

Galapagos Tortoises

National Geographic's fun facts about Galapagos Tortoises. Click around to see what other animals are featured.

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/animals/creaturefeature/galapagos-tortoise/>

**Libro en español.*