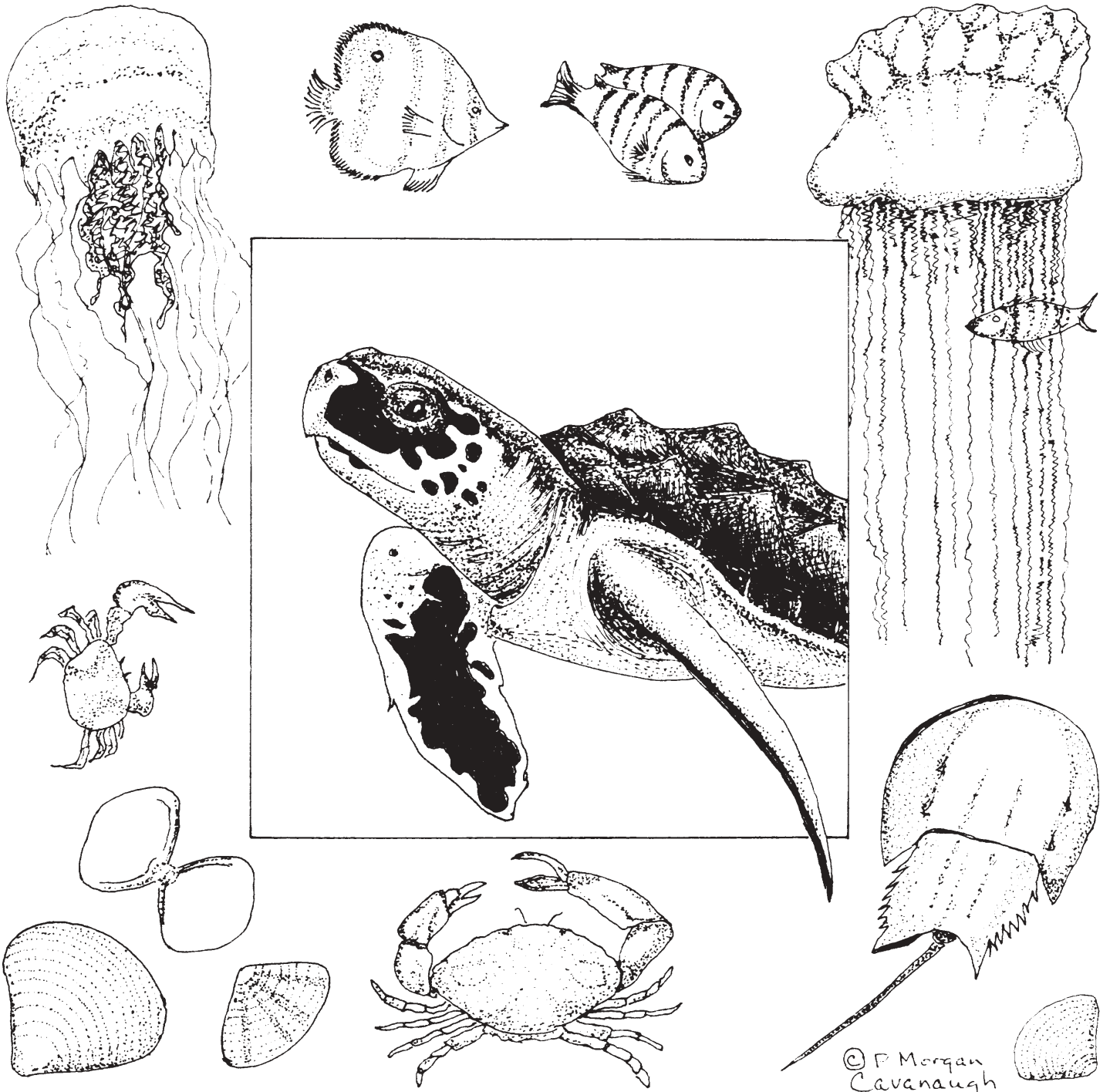


# Sea Turtle

## Coloring & Activity Book



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Cavanaugh



**Developed and Produced by the  
Caribbean Conservation Corporation**

# Glossary of Sea Turtle Related Terms:

**Accretion** - the addition of sand to a beach by a gradual, natural process.

**Arribada** - Spanish for "arrival," used to refer to the mass, synchronized emergence of nesting sea turtles.

**Artificial Lighting** - Light created by human-made sources, such as lamp posts and porch lights.

**Beach Renourishment** - the addition of sand to a beach by humans to replace sand lost through erosion.

**Body Pit** - the upper part of a turtle nest where the turtle removes the surface layers of sand before digging the egg chamber.

**Brackish** - somewhat salty water usually found in marshes, lagoons and estuaries along the coast.

**Carapace** - the dorsal or upper portion of a turtle's shell.

**Carnivore** - an organism that eats only other animals.

**Caruncle** - a temporary, sharp egg-tooth on hatchlings used to tear open the egg shell.

**Clutch** - a nest of eggs.

**Coastal Armoring** - anything built along a beach to protect structures from beach erosion.

**Community** - a group of animal and plant species that live in the same area and interact with each other through food chains and other interrelationships.

**Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)** - agreement to control the international trade of endangered and threatened species.

**Ecosystem** - a system made up of biological communities and the physical and chemical environment.

**Egg Chamber (Cavity)** - the part of a turtle nest where the eggs incubate.

**Endangered Species** - an organism that is in danger of becoming extinct.

**Endangered Species Act (ESA)** - a law that protects endangered and threatened species in the United States.

**Erosion** - the removal of sand from a beach by either a gradual process or during a storm event.

**Estuary** - an area where fresh water and salt water mix with a strong tidal flow and little standing water.

**Exotic Species** - species that are introduced into an area where they are not naturally occurring.

**Extinct** - when the last living individual of a species dies, causing the species to no longer exist.

**False Crawl** - term used to describe when a turtle crawls onto the beach but does not nest.

**Fibropapillomas** - a disease that causes cauliflower-like tumors to grow on sea turtles and other animals.

**Habitat** - a place where a plant or animal naturally lives.

**Herbivore** - an organism that eats only plants.

**Incubate** - process during which eggs develop into hatchlings.

**Lagoon** - an area where fresh water and salt water mix with a weak tidal flow and standing water.

**Latitude** - distance in degrees north or south of the equator.

**Longitude** - distance in degrees east or west on the Earth's axis.

**Magnetic Field** - a region in which there is a magnetic force, found in the materials of the earth's crust.

**Migration** - the act of moving from one place to another.

**Natal Beach** - the beach where a sea turtle was born.

**Nest** - the structure made for laying and incubating eggs.

**Plastron** - the lower or ventral portion of a turtle's shell.

**Poach** - to hunt illegally.

**Predator** - an organism that lives by capturing and feeding on other animals or their eggs

**Pristine** - an area that is untouched or unspoiled.

**Satellite Telemetry** - technology that uses a radio transmitter to transmits signal to satellites orbiting the Earth.

**Scutes** - the hard scales covering a turtle's shell.

**Storm Event** - a disturbance, usually having strong winds, rain, thunder and lightning.

**Threatened Species** - an organism that may become endangered.

**Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs)** - a device attached to a shrimp net to allow sea turtles and other large organisms to escape from the net while allowing shrimp to be caught.

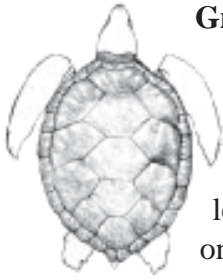
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## Where's the Turtle?

Can you find the turtle? Look for the turtle logo somewhere on each page. This is what it looks like -->

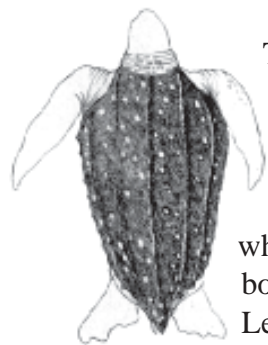


## Information About Sea Turtles:



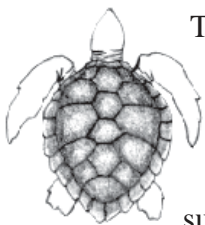
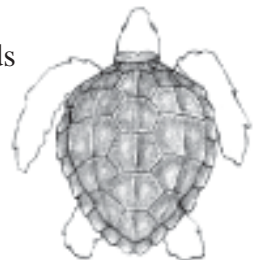
**Green turtles** (*Chelonia mydas*) are an endangered species around the world and are easily distinguished from other sea turtles because they have a single pair of scales in front of their eyes rather than two pairs as the other sea turtles have. The green turtle is the largest of the hard-shelled sea turtles. Female green turtles average more than three feet in carapace length, and average about 300 pounds in weight. The largest green turtle ever found was five feet in length and 871 pounds. As adults, green turtles mostly eat sea grass and algae, making it the only sea turtle that is strictly herbivorous.

**Hawksbills** (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) are endangered in large part because people kill them to get their beautiful shells, which are used to make jewelry and other products. Although they are found in U.S. waters, they rarely nest in North America. The hawksbill is one of the smaller sea turtles, measuring up to three feet in carapace length and weighing 100 to 150 pounds. The hawksbill has a narrow head and jaws shaped like a beak. This allows the hawksbill to get food from crevices in coral reefs. They eat sponges, anemones, squid and shrimp. Although they nest on beaches throughout the Caribbean, they are no longer found anywhere in large numbers.



The **leatherback** (*Dermochelys coriacea*) is also endangered. It grows the largest, dives the deepest, and travels the farthest of all sea turtles. Mature leatherbacks typically reach about four to eight feet in length and weigh from 650 to 1,300 pounds. The largest leatherback ever recorded was almost 10 feet from the tip of its beak to the tip of its tail! The leatherback is the only sea turtle that lacks a hard shell. It is named for its large, elongate shell which is composed of a layer of thin, tough, rubbery skin, strengthened by thousands of tiny bone plates. The body of a leatherback is barrel shaped, tapering at the rear to a blunt point. Leatherbacks have delicate, scissor-like jaws. Their jaws would be damaged by anything other than a diet of soft-bodied animals, so they feed almost exclusively on jellyfish.

The **loggerhead** (*Caretta caretta*) gets its name from its exceptionally large head. Adult loggerheads weigh up to 350 pounds and have a reddish-brown carapace (upper shell) and a dull brown to yellow plastron (lower shell). Fully grown, a loggerhead's carapace is typically two and a half to three and a half feet. Loggerheads are primarily carnivorous and feed mostly on shellfish that live on the bottom of the ocean. They eat horseshoe crabs, clams, mussels, and other invertebrates. Their powerful jaw muscles help them to easily crush the shellfish.



The **Kemp's ridley** (*Lepidochelys kempii*) is named after Richard Kemp, who helped discover and study the species. Kemp's ridleys are the smallest (about 2 feet long and less than 100 pounds) and most endangered of all sea turtles. They nest in mass synchronized nestings called arribadas (Spanish for "arrival"). Kemp's ridleys feed mostly on crabs, clams, mussels, and shrimp. They also like to eat fish, sea urchins, squid and jellyfish. The greatest threat to their survival continues to be incidental capture in shrimp trawler nets.

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## Information About You:

MY NAME IS: \_\_\_\_\_ I AM \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS OLD 

MY HOBBIES ARE: \_\_\_\_\_

MY FAVORITE FOOD IS: \_\_\_\_\_

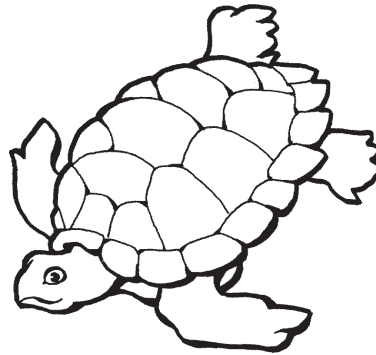
MY FAVORITE ANIMAL IS: \_\_\_\_\_

See if you can find the words listed in the box, in the Wordsearch Puzzle below. The words can go up, down, across, diagonally or backward. Once you find all the words, see if you can explain what each has to do with sea turtles and efforts to protect them. If you don't know, visit the Caribbean Conservation Corporation website at [www.cccturtle.org](http://www.cccturtle.org) to find an answer.

- |                 |             |            |             |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| crabs           | leatherback | endangered | migrate     |
| pollution       | plastic     | nest       | hatchlings  |
| turtle excluder | habitat     | loggerhead | shrimp nets |
| beach           | sea wall    | satellite  | lights      |

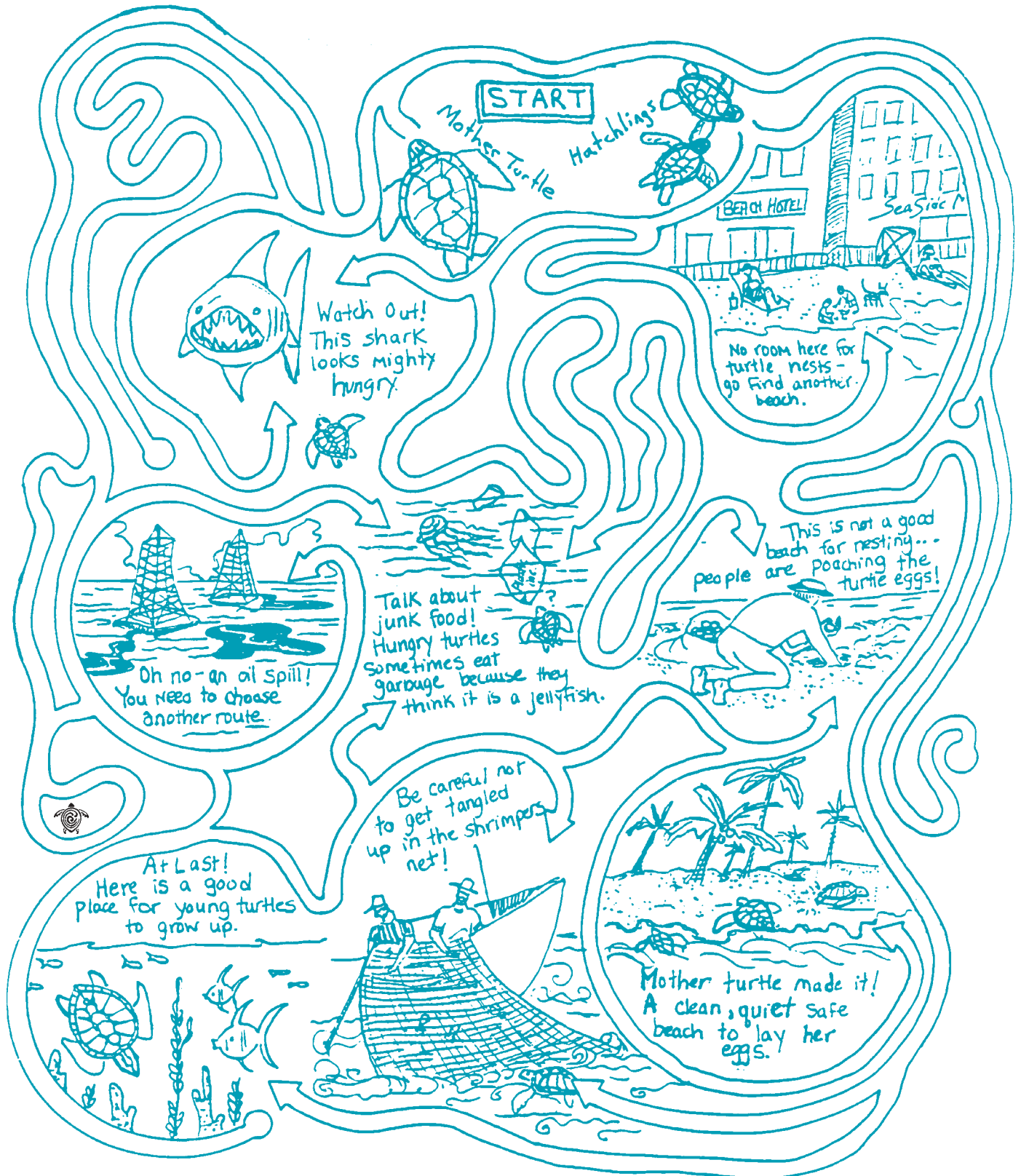
H D A E H R E G G O L U N R  
 E A S H R I M P N E T S E M  
 R N T S L E P M I W Q D S R  
 A K D C O F L B C H U U T K  
 L M M A H C A E B L C K A C  
 I O I T N L E Y C Y H T S A  
 G O G U F G I X C R A B S B  
 H C R R L W E N P O B A E R  
 T W A T K E Q R G H I N A E  
 S A T E L L I T E S T E W H  
 E Z E T U W T A D D A O A T  
 T L R N P O C Q H D T T L A  
 A U R P L A S T I C I W L E  
 T S X E P O L L U T I O N L  
 A K H Y T V M O S W X Q Z P  
 O  N B V O I U U H D Z M L J

What do you think this turtle is doing? With your crayons or colored pencils, draw in a background to tell a story about this turtle. Is this a female turtle getting ready to nest? Or a turtle looking for food? Is this turtle swimming with other ocean creatures? Or just looking for a place to take a nap?

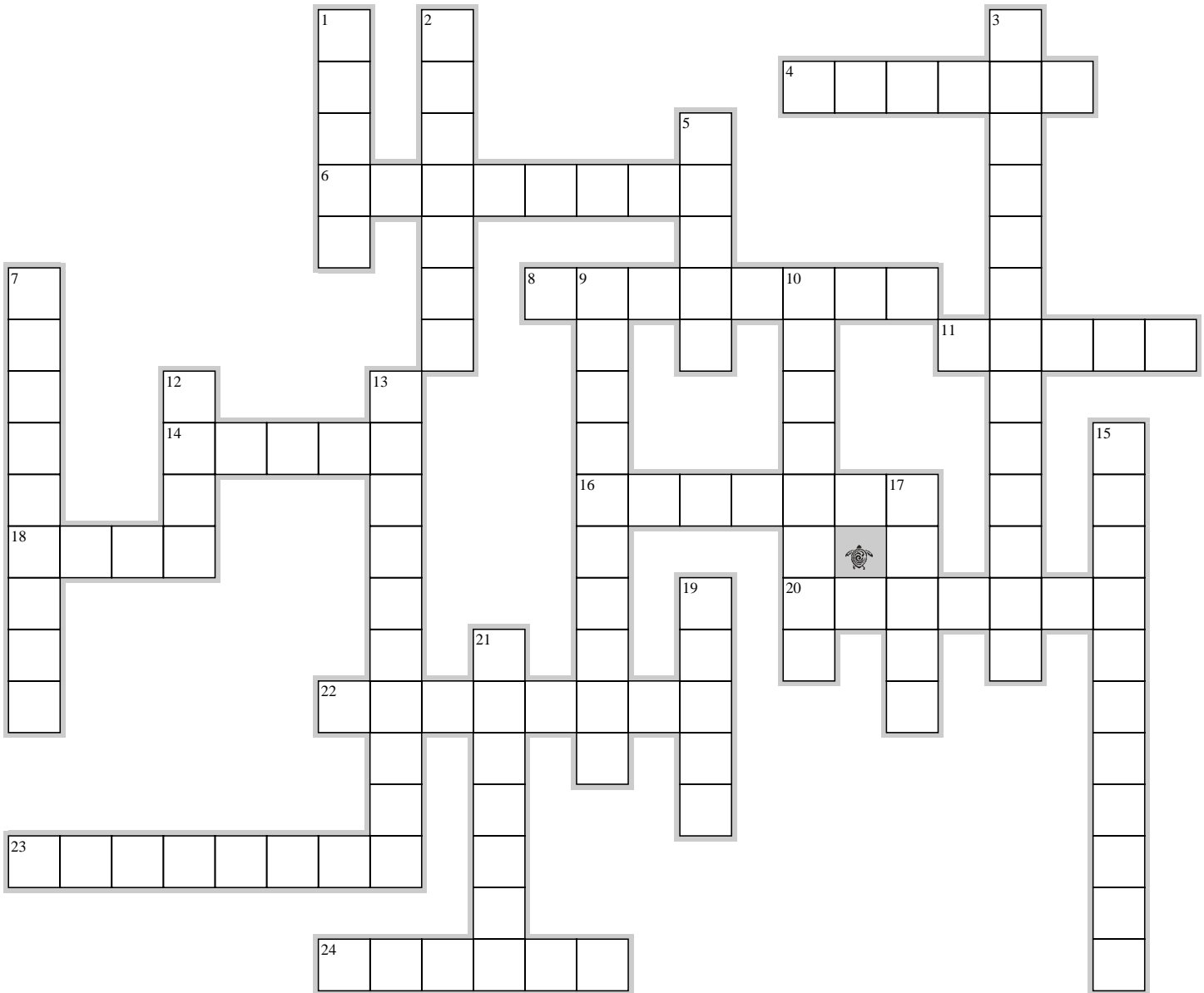




See if you can help the mother turtle and her hatchlings find their way to suitable habitat. The hatchlings must make it to a healthy ocean habitat. The adult female turtle is trying to find a dark, quiet nesting beach on which to build a nest. Beware of all the potential threats that can keep them from reaching their destinations.



Use your answers to the clues about sea turtles and their habitats to fill in the crossword. Need help? Take a look at the Glossary of Terms at the beginning of the book! The solution is on the inside back cover of the book.



## Clues to Crossword

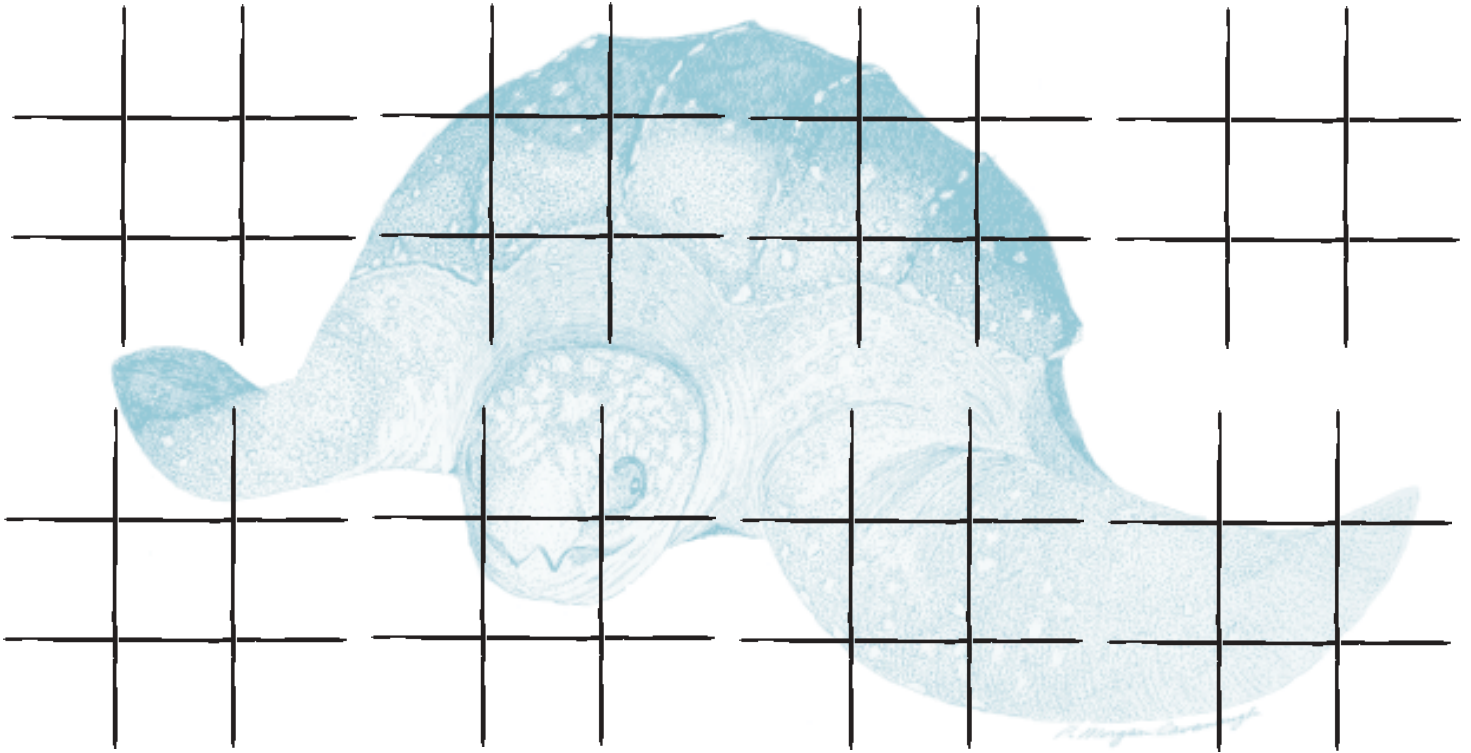
### ACROSS

4. The hard scales covering a turtle's shell.
6. Spanish for "arrival," used to refer to the mass, synchronized emergence of nesting sea turtles.
8. Underside of a sea turtle's shell.
11. Artificial \_\_\_\_\_ may cause hatchling sea turtles to become disorientated after hatching out of a nest.
14. Turtle that is named for the color of the fat underneath its shell.
16. This is the removal of sand from a beach by either a gradual process or during a storm event.
18. Plastic \_\_\_\_\_ are often mistakenly eaten by sea turtles, often causing them to die.
20. When the last living individual of a species dies, causing the species to no longer exist, it is called \_\_\_\_\_.
22. The upper part, or back, of a sea turtle's shell.
23. An organism that lives by feeding on other animals.
24. A nest of eggs

### DOWN

1. Sea turtles are one of the few types of reptiles found living in this habitat.
2. Sea turtles \_\_\_\_\_ hundred or even thousands of miles to get from their feeding grounds to their nesting beaches.
3. Beach \_\_\_\_\_ is the addition of sand to a beach by humans to replace sand lost through erosion.
5. When a female turtle crawls out of the ocean onto a beach, but for some reason does not nest, it is called a \_\_\_\_\_ crawl.
7. Sea turtle that gets its name because its mouth is shaped like a beak.
9. This species of sea turtle gets its name from its very large head.
10. Sea turtles are air breathing \_\_\_\_\_.
12. In many countries, people still eat sea turtle meat and \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Sea turtles spend over 90% of their lives \_\_\_\_\_.
15. The largest species of sea turtle.
17. The beach where female sea turtles were born and return to lay their eggs is called a \_\_\_\_\_ beach.
19. The primary reason hawksbill sea turtles are killed.
21. A place where a plant or animal lives.

How about a game of Tick-Tack-Toe? One player is X and the other is O. Each player takes turns by placing an X or O in a square. To win, you must have three X's or O's in a row!



**T**ry a Turtle Anagram! An anagram is a puzzle in which you make new words from one original word. Below are the common names of four different species of sea turtles. See how many new words, there are at least 15, you can create from these names. Need some help, try asking a family member. We made a few just to get you started and included some ideas on the inside back cover of the book.

**LEATHERBACK**

1. BATHE
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_

**LOGGERHEAD**

1. GOLD
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_

**GREEN TURTLE**

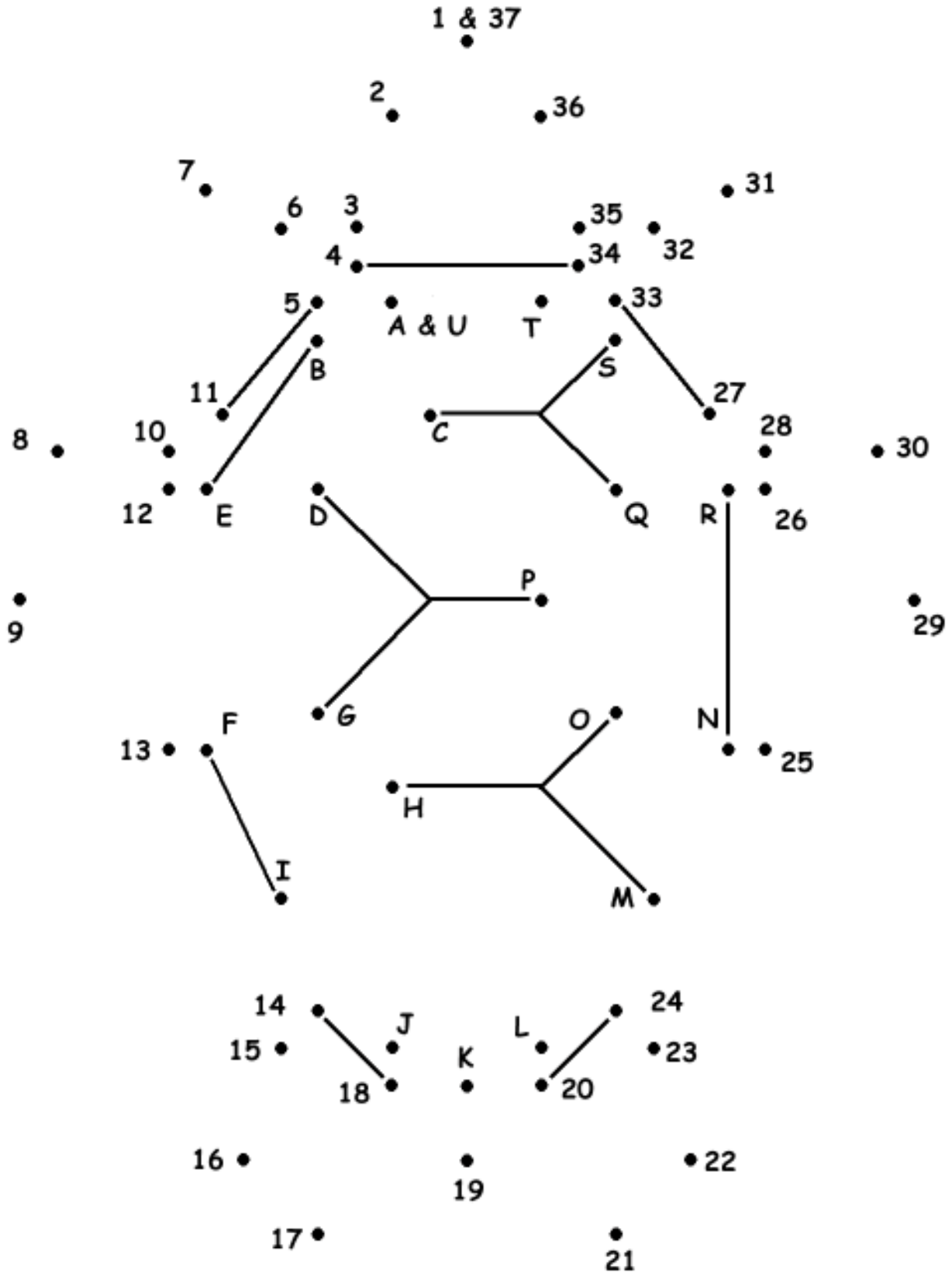
1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_

**HAWKSBILL**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_



This drawing is not complete. Connect the dots to finish the picture by connecting the dots with numbers first, then connecting the dots with letters. Once you are done, add some color!



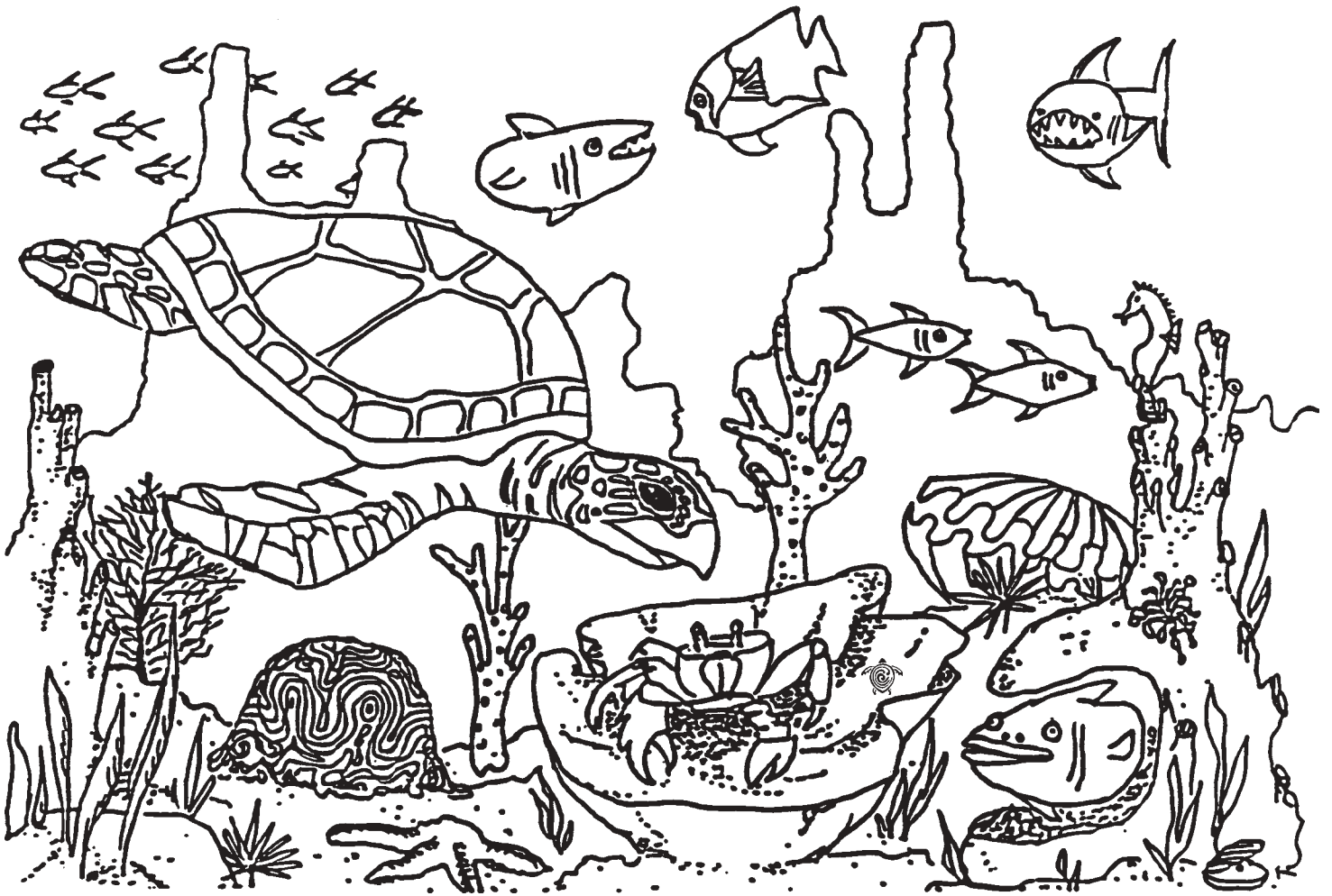
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reptiles	disorientation	green	predators	loggerhead
shrimp	armoring	eggs	hatchling	herbivores
jellyfish	kemps ridley	pollution	threatened	carapace
hawksbill	leatherback	migrate	endangered	

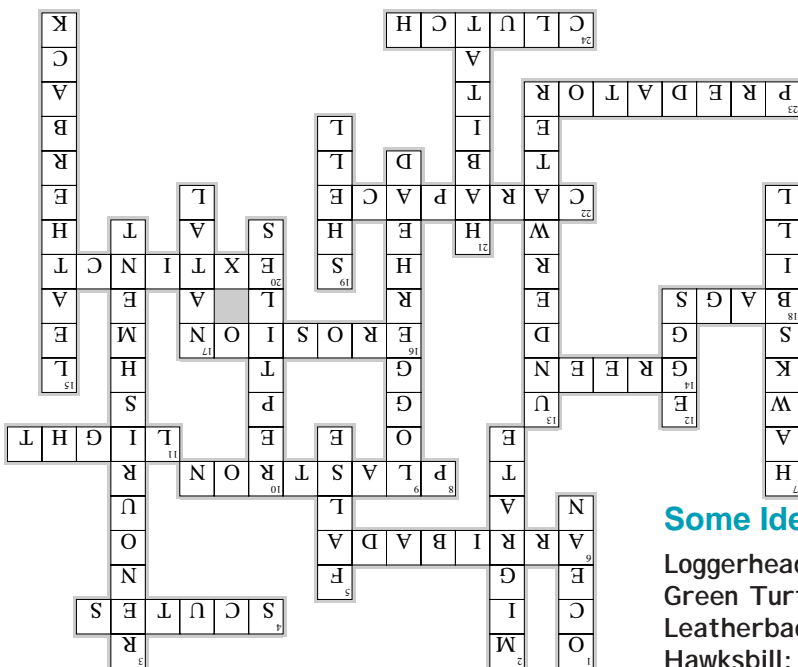


T R A B W H A W K S B I L L M R X A S E  
M F B W F C K M U W N I G R E E N K D E  
F D N E T H R E A T E N E D S W L L D M  
Z I H N Y T T F M Q C A R A P A C E R O  
F S J D Y U V I V P L S D K D L C A S Y  
I O E A L Y B B C G S H L G Y A O T Y C  
X R L N J P Z H R S V R H O B L P H O K  
F I L G M A B F N D L I I Q O O C E Z P  
F E Y E D I W P I W G M P D A G U R K J  
H N F R D S G M O J E P R E L G T B U H  
A T I E G X H R S L H H E W B E A A H S  
T A S D O A E K A O L R D M I R Y C K Q  
C T H S Y D R K Q T R U A N Y H E K A D  
H I F A W E B M Z D E O T V E E T R O H  
L O W A K S I S O B P F O I N A E F U M  
I N I E Y X V S G R T U R E O D G W E M  
N J U S D T O A X C I A S B S N G A C N  
G W F Y T S R Y G M L N Z H C T S J B K  
T B Q P I X E B K M E G G F O S L Y Z P  
Q U L X E N S Z G G S P E E J F D H A W

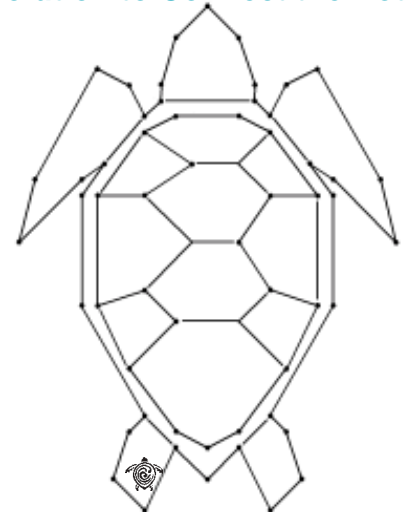
**T**ime to add a little color to this sea turtle's life. Use crayons, markers or colored pencils to color in this tropical reef however you see fit. While you are at it, see if you can name all the different kinds of sea life shown in this picture.



### Solution to Crossword



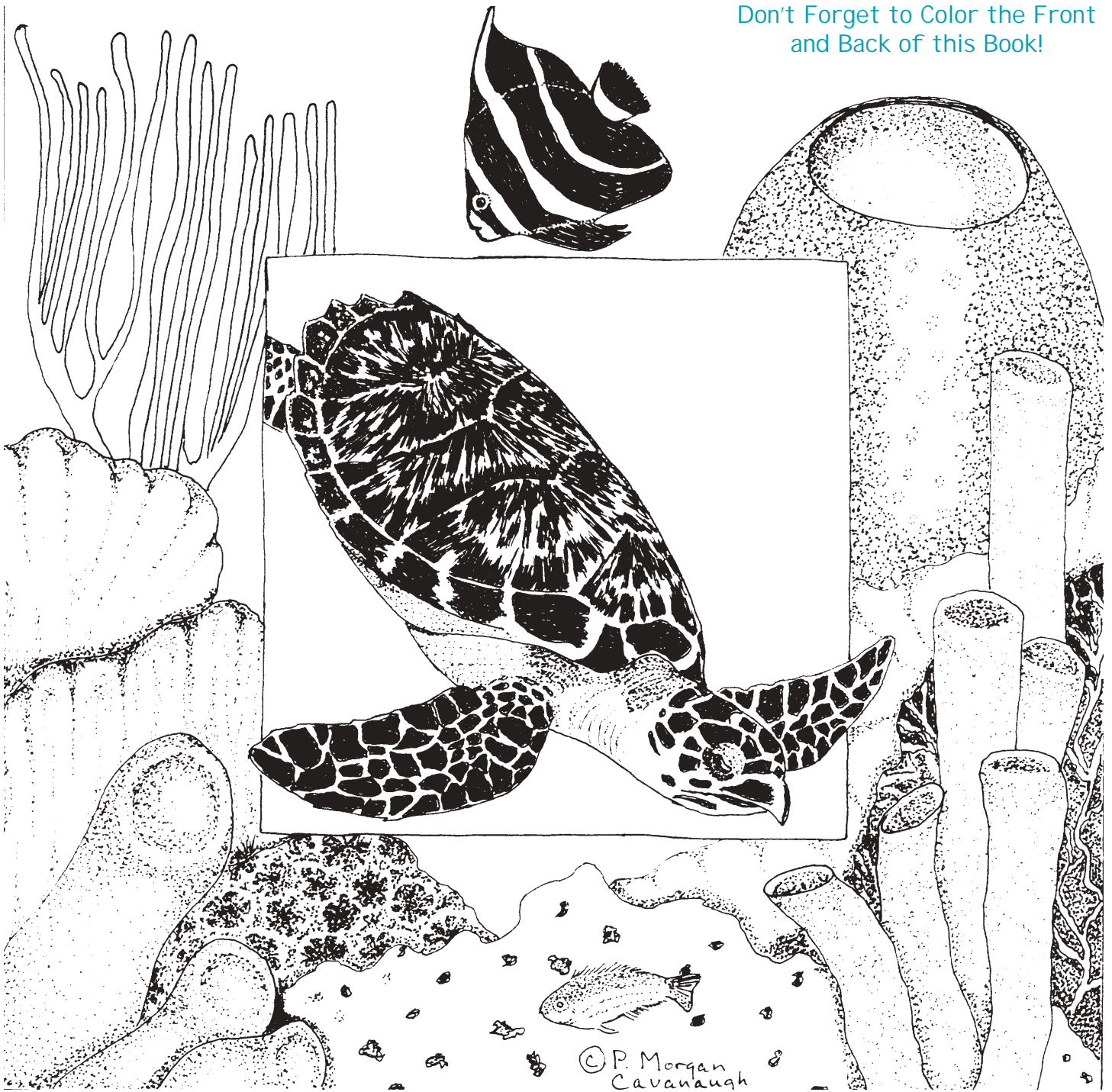
### Solution to Connect the Dots



### Some Ideas for the Turtle Anagrams

- Loggerhead:** greed, haggle, holder, helper, ledge, leader
- Green Turtle:** gruel, gutter, letter, reenter, relent, tureen
- Leatherback:** bathe, blather, breathe, heather, leather, there
- Hawksbill:** balk, bask, hawk, shawl, swab, swill

Don't Forget to Color the Front  
and Back of this Book!



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