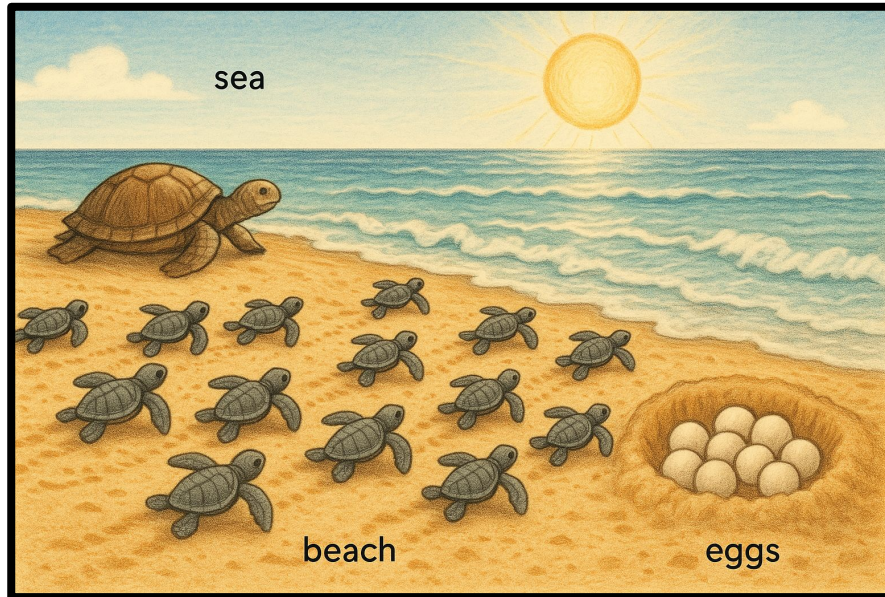


Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ea (fear)

"This story focuses on the 'ea' sound as in 'sea.' Watch for words like 'sea,' 'beach,' and 'each' as you read!"



The Life of a Sea Turtle

Sea turtles live in oceans all around the world. They swim with long flippers and can float for hours near the beach.

Each year, mother turtles leave the sea and crawl onto the sand. They dig deep holes to lay their eggs.

After the eggs hatch, tiny turtles race to the sea. They must move fast to stay safe.

When they grow up, these turtles will return to the same beach where they were born.

After reading the story, have your child point to and slowly sound out each practice word.

beach

sea

each

leave

year



Name: _____

The Life of a Sea Turtle

1. Where do sea turtles lay their eggs?

- A. In the grass
- B. On the beach
- C. Under big rocks
- D. Near rivers

2. Why must baby turtles move fast after they hatch?

- A. To stay safe
- B. To find their parents
- C. To play in the sand
- D. To hide under the beach

3. Fill in the blank:

Mother turtles dig deep holes to lay their _____.

4. Why do you think mother turtles return to the same beach where they were born?

5. What do you think would be hard about being a baby sea turtle?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Long Vowel Team 'ea'

Genre: Nonfiction – Animals & Nature

High-Frequency Words: the, they, to, their, when

Before Reading

1. Remind them of the target skill: "We're working on words with the 'ea' sound today!"
 2. Have you ever seen a sea turtle or learned about them?
 3. Why do you think turtles might need to move fast?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Remind kids that 'ea' makes the long /ē/ sound like in 'sea.' Try that sound first when you see 'ea.'
 2. Watch for 'ea' words and stretch the sounds slowly.
 3. What happens after the baby turtles hatch?
 4. Try reading the race to the sea part with lots of excitement!
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After Reading

1. Can you retell how sea turtles grow and return to the beach?
 2. Why is the journey from the sand to the sea so important for baby turtles?
 3. Do you think sea turtles have a good memory to return to the same beach? Why or why not?
 4. Skill mastery prompt: "Find and circle 5 'ea' words in the story!"
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again like you are a scientist teaching others about sea turtles!
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Activity Idea

Draw a simple map showing the journey of a baby sea turtle from the sand to the sea. Label places with 'ea' words like beach, sea, and reach.

Coaching Tip

Praise the reader for noticing patterns and using them to figure out tricky words—that's how strong readers grow!

