

Hello, my Grade 6 students in Philippine History and Culture.

For our first lesson, you watched a couple of very short videos about the PAWIKAN marine turtles and now here are some other interesting facts about these adorable creatures.

1. THEY THINK JELLYFISH ARE DELICIOUS.



EATING JELLYFISH



EATING PLASTIC

Out of the six types of marine turtles, the Leatherback and Hawksbill turtles feed on jellyfish. However, they can mistake floating plastic like jellyfish when it's floating and that's why many turtles die from swallowing plastic—they thought they were going for a tasty snack.

WATCH THIS! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PA66nEJYaAU>

2. THEY CANNOT GO INSIDE AND HIDE CANT HIDE THEIR HEADS AND LEGS INSIDE THE SHELL LIKE OTHER TURTLES.



Tortoise (Land turtle)



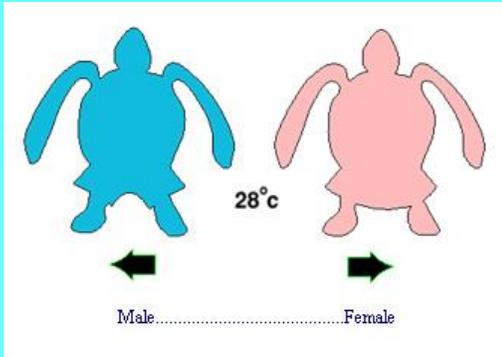
Sea turtle

That makes sea turtles more vulnerable when they come in contact with predators.

WATCH THIS! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EnA-0-b3PM4>

3. THE TEMPERATURE DETERMINES WHETHER THEY END UP MALE OR FEMALE.

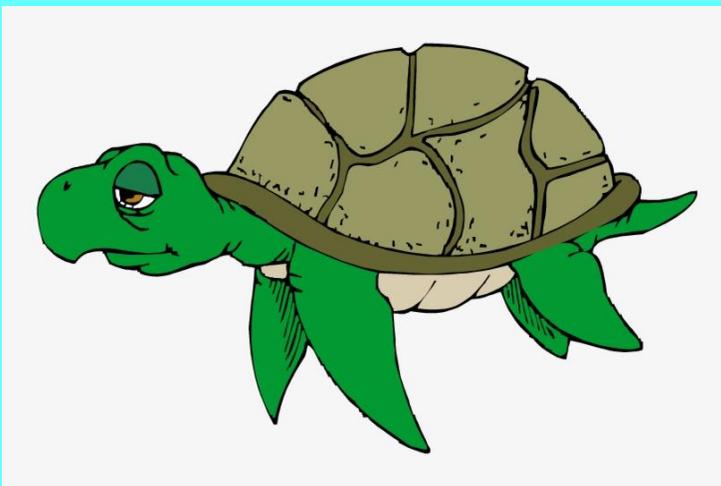
Warmer nests lead to more females and cooler ones lead to more males.



WATCH THIS! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EnA-0-b3PM4>

AND ALSO <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ehTyBdGDjUU>

4. THEY'VE BEEN AROUND FOR A VERY, VERY LONG TIME AND THEY LIVE TO ABOUT 100 YEARS OLD.



The oldest known sea turtle fossils date back about 150 million years, making them some of the oldest creatures on Earth. Just for some context, dinosaurs became extinct 65 million years ago.

5. DOGS ARE NOT A SEA TURTLE'S BEST FRIEND.

Even though they're marine animals, some of their natural predators include dogs who dig up their eggs buried in the sand.



6. THEY HAVE AN EXCELLENT SENSE OF DIRECTION.

During the nesting season, a female turtle will return back to the same beach where she was born. She will find the right beach even after 30 years of absence. Talk about having a good memory.



WATCH!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-zsymWRHEKU>

7. THEY CAN GROW TO BE SUUUUPER HEAVY.

Leatherback sea turtles can weigh up to 900 kgs.!



Giant leatherback turtle in Camarines Sur (Philippines) released back to sea (2018)



WATCH THE VIDEO

<https://www.rappler.com/nation/217350-video-giant-leatherback-turtle-released-back-to-sea-balatan-camarines-sur>

8. THEIR EGGS LOOK AMAZINGLY LIKE PINGPONG BALLS.

But they're not, so don't try to play with them! Females lay up to 150 eggs every two to three years. A couple months later, tiny turtles emerge



WATCH THIS! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=88Ix_dGMskc

9. **SOMETIMES THEY CRY, BUT NOT BECAUSE THEY'RE SAD.**

Sea turtles have glands that help to empty excess salt from their eyes, making it appear as though they're crying, but not to worry, they're just doing some spring cleaning:



10. **FOR THE NEW HATCHLINGS (BABIES), IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ONLY ONE HATCHLING IN A THOUSAND WILL MAKE IT TO ADULTHOOD.**

Young turtles hatch during night and they use moonlight to find their way to the sea. Too many lights that are coming from the beach or from a nearby road can disorient and confuse young turtles.



WATCH THIS:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HYF_vUBFSsA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGGsN-V5swg>

Last point:

They're in deep trouble and it's our fault.

There are seven species of sea turtles, six of which are either threatened or endangered. Humans pose the biggest threat to a sea turtle's survival, which contributes to problems such as entanglement, habitat loss and consumption of their eggs and meat.



Five of the seven known marine turtle species can be found in the Philippines and **THEY ARE ALL ENDANGERED. (MORE ABOUT THIS IN OUR NEXT LESSON!**

FUN ACTIVITY FOR THIS LESSON

1. Choose any **TWO** out of the 10 facts (except the last point).
2. Pretend you are going to teach 5-year-old kids about sea turtles.
3. Now, make your **OWN** drawing for them to better understand the fact with an illustration.
4. As much as possible use plain white paper or you can use the back side of any used white paper. **USE COLORS. WRITE A FEW WORDS TO EXPLAIN THE DRAWING. YOU CAN MAKE YOUR TURTLES "TALK" LIKE IN A COMIC STRIP. MAKE IT FUN. MAKE SURE IT IS NEAT.**

EMAIL ME YOUR WONDERFUL DRAWINGS WITHIN ONE WEEK!

Thank you and keep safe!

Mme. PO

