

NEWS BREAK

Wednesday's News Break selects an article from Monday, March 7 of The Seattle Times e-Edition for an in-depth reading of the news. Read the selected article and answer the attached study questions. **Please remember to always preview the content of the article before sharing with your students.**

Tucker the Turtle, on the mend (NW Monday, **page B1**).

Pre-Reading and Vocabulary

1. What are some of the physical characteristics of turtles? Name one thing you know about sea turtles and one thing you would like to find out.

2. Vocabulary: Match the words to the numbered definitions below.

- A. acclimate
- B. beachcomber
- C. bedeviled
- D. buoyancy
- E. conservation
- F. currents
- G. domoic acid
- H. exposure
- I. hyperbaric chamber
- J. immersion
- K. inert
- L. navigate
- M. poacher
- N. rehabilitation
- O. ventilator

- 1. to trouble (someone or something) in a constant or repeated way; to cause repeated problems for (someone or something)
- 2. a compartment capable of high-pressure oxygenation, used to treat decompression sickness and anaerobic infections
- 3. to travel on, over, or through (an area or place)
- 4. a person who walks along beaches looking for things
- 5. to bring (someone or something) back to a normal, healthy condition after an illness, injury, drug problem, etc.
- 6. a naturally occurring toxin produced by certain types of algae and accumulates in shellfish, sardines, and anchovies which are then eaten by sea lions, otters, cetaceans, and humans, among others
- 7. unable to move

8. the ability of an object to float in water or air; the power of a liquid to make someone or something float
9. a device for helping a person to breathe
10. a continuous movement of water or air in the same direction
11. the fact or condition of being affected by something or experiencing something
12. a person who trespasses on private property, especially to catch fish or game illegally.
13. to adjust or adapt to a new climate, place, or situation
14. the act of putting someone or something completely in a liquid or the state of being completely in a liquid
15. the protection of animals, plants, and natural resources

Comprehension

1. To what state's shore did ocean currents carry Tucker away from his warm home waters off the Pacific Coast of Mexico?
2. Who found Tucker?
3. After Tucker was found local authorities were called and they called the Seattle Aquarium. What did Lesanna Lahner, the aquarium's veterinarian do to see if Tucker was even alive?
4. How did Tucker get his name?
5. Lahner said that Tucker was "cold stunned" when he was brought in. Explain what she meant by that.
6. Tucker was not breathing on his own and had severe pneumonia. The aquarium had no ventilator suitable for an animal like Tucker who only breathes twice a minute so what did the staff do?
7. Tucker finally took a breath on his own after a week – **true or false?**
8. Lahner and her team slowly warmed Tucker up by raising his body temperature by about how many degrees per day? **(Multiple Choice)**
 - a) 1 degree
 - b) 2 degrees
 - c) 3 degrees
9. Next for Tucker will be a trip to a hyperbaric chamber to correct his _____. **(Fill in the blank)**
10. Tucker is an olive ridley sea turtle which is listed as what under the Endangered Species Act?
11. Female sea turtles come ashore every year in mass to lay their eggs together on the same beaches. This is called the arribada, or arrival, and is thought to boost survival of turtle hatchlings by doing what?

Additional Activities

1. Have students choose, or assign students by groups, to research one of the seven species of sea turtles: **Flatback, Green, Hawksbill, Kemp's Ridley, Leatherback, Loggerhead, and Olive Ridley**. Then have each student or group create a poster about their sea turtle species. Students should research

the physical characteristics (including size, color, and weight), reproduction, migration, lifespan and diet. Students should include any other facts about the sea turtle they find interesting. Below are some websites related to sea turtles:

<http://www.seaturtle-world.com/>

<http://www.seeturtles.org/sea-turtle-facts/>

<http://www.conserveturtles.org/seaturtleinformation.php>

2. Have students watch the following short documentary about olive ridley turtles, including the arribada:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmhR1WDoIM4>
3. As a class, have students identify all of the threats to sea turtles mentioned in the article. Then list each of the seven species of sea turtles and next to each write whether that species is endangered or threatened. Next have students brainstorm to identify additional threats to sea turtles. Students can look up each species status at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/esa/listed.htm>

News Break is posted to the Web on Wednesday and Friday. Please share this NIE News Break program with other teachers. To sign-up for the electronic edition for your class, please register on-line or call 206/652-6290 or toll-free 1-888/775-2655. Copyright © 2016 The Seattle Times Company

Answer Key to Vocabulary

- A. 13
- B. 4
- C. 1
- D. 8
- E. 15
- F. 10
- G. 6
- H. 11
- I. 2
- J. 14
- K. 7
- L. 3
- M. 12
- N. 5
- O. 9

Answer Key to Comprehension Questions

- 1. Oregon
- 2. Tucker was found by a beachcomber.
- 3. She administered a proof of life test touching Tucker around his eyes to see if he would blink.
- 4. The veterinarian pinched his tail and he tucked it.
- 5. His internal temperature was half of what it was supposed to be and his organs (were in a holding pattern) had basically shut down and he was not breathing on his own. **(Answers may vary)**
- 6. The staff took turns pressing a bulb on a tube in his mouth to puff air into Tucker's lungs. **(Answers may vary)**
- 7. True
- 8. b) 2 degrees
- 9. buoyancy
- 10. They are listed as a threatened species.
- 11. It is thought to boost the survival of hatchlings by overwhelming predators with the large numbers of scrambling baby turtles (hurling themselves along the sand to the sea).