

Picture the Journey

Use mental images to understand a changing path.

6.5.D "create mental images to deepen understanding;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that help you picture the turtle's body, movement and surroundings. Imagine each scene, then number three details you will use in your sketches.

A Hatchling's First Night

- ① On a summer night, a green sea turtle hatchling emerges from a nest in the sand. Its front flippers push loose grains aside. On an undeveloped beach, the open horizon above the ocean is brighter than the dark dunes and plants behind the turtle. This contrast helps the hatchling find the water, even without a visible moon. Picture its small body crossing the wide beach, leaving flipper marks behind it.
- ② A bright light from a building can disrupt that route. Some hatchlings crawl toward lights on land instead of toward the sea. Picture two possible paths: one toward the surf, and one leading away from it. Turning off or shielding beach-facing lights helps keep the ocean horizon clear. Wildlife observers stay back and leave handling to trained responders. A confusing light can turn a short crossing into a dangerous detour.
- ③ At the water's edge, a wave lifts the hatchling into foamy surf. Its flippers paddle as it swims offshore. Young green turtles can spend their early years among floating seaweed, which provides food and shelter. The scene changes from open sand to moving water and a seaweed habitat. Imagining these changes helps readers understand that reaching the sea begins another stage of the turtle's journey.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which two details help you imagine how the hatchling moves across the sand?

2 Describe the contrast between the ocean horizon and the land. How does this mental image help explain the normal route?

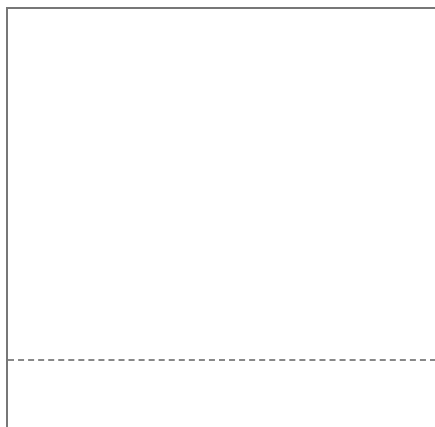
3 Picture a bright building light. How could it change the turtle's path, and why would that matter?

4 Imagine the change from beach to seaweed habitat. How does it deepen your understanding of the journey?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Make three labeled sketches: (1) the normal beach route, (2) a possible detour caused by a building light, and (3) the ocean and seaweed habitat. Use one passage detail in each panel. Below, write two sentences explaining how your images help you understand the route and its challenges.

		
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PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that help you picture the turtle's body, movement and surroundings. Imagine each scene, then number three details you will use in your sketches. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two details help you imagine how the hatchling moves across the sand?	Its front flippers push grains aside, and it leaves flipper marks as it crosses the beach.
2	Describe the contrast between the ocean horizon and the land. How does this mental image help explain the normal route?	The open ocean horizon is brighter than the dark dunes and vegetation. Imagining that contrast helps explain why the hatchling moves toward the water.
3	Picture a bright building light. How could it change the turtle's path, and why would that matter?	A light could draw the turtle onto land instead of toward the sea, causing a dangerous detour. This is a possible disruption, not a step every turtle takes.
4	Imagine the change from beach to seaweed habitat. How does it deepen your understanding of the journey?	The turtle moves from crawling on sand to swimming in water and living among seaweed. Reaching the sea begins another stage with different movement and surroundings.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Panel 1: flipper marks heading toward the brighter ocean horizon. Panel 2: a possible arrow toward a bright building, away from the sea. Panel 3: a swimming turtle beside floating seaweed. These images show how light can change the turtle's path. The change from sand to water also shows that reaching the sea is only one stage of its journey.

Accept simple labeled sketches and text-grounded explanations; assess mental imaging and understanding, not art skill. Panel 2 shows a possible disruption, not a required event. Students may describe their imagined scenes orally with drawing support. Background: NOAA Fisheries, Green Turtle, <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/green-turtle>; NOAA green turtle habitat biological report (2023), on light cues and early offshore habitats.