# Lights Along the Beach

Read an issue from several perspectives

**6.RI.10** "By the end of the year, independently read and comprehend informational texts representing a variety of genres, cultures, and perspectives that exhibit complexity appropriate for at least grade 6..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Circle the three people whose views are described in the first two paragraphs, and underline what matters to each one. In the last paragraph, number two ways the community could address different needs.

### When Beach Lights Stay On

1. On summer nights, lights along a beach can help people find paths after sunset. Yet those same lights can reach farther than the people who use them. In places where sea turtles nest, hatchlings often head toward the brightest horizon, which is usually the open ocean. Bright buildings and streetlights can draw them inland instead. A wildlife volunteer might ask a town to turn off beachfront lights during nesting season. To that volunteer, darkness is not an inconvenience. It is part of protecting young turtles.

2. A restaurant owner may see the same stretch of beach differently. Guests need to find the entrance, and workers need to leave safely after closing. Turning off every light would solve one problem while creating another. A visitor who uses a cane may also depend on a clearly lit path. These concerns do not mean the owner or visitor opposes turtle protection. They show why a rule about lights must consider people who use the beach at night as well as animals that hatch there.

3. One option is to shield lamps so their light points down instead of toward the sand. Another is to use only the lights needed on paths, or to switch off unused lights after businesses close. Such changes may reduce the glow that confuses hatchlings while keeping important areas visible. Still, each beach has different buildings, paths, and nesting sites. A useful plan would bring residents, business owners, and wildlife workers together to check whether people can move safely and hatchlings can reach the sea.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why does the wildlife volunteer value darkness on the beach? Use a detail from the passage.

2. Why might the restaurant owner and the visitor who uses a cane object to turning off every light? Explain each person's concern.

3. What shows that the restaurant owner and the wildlife volunteer do not have to be on opposite sides of this issue?

4. Choose two changes in the last paragraph. How could each help balance people's needs with the needs of hatchlings?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you help choose a lighting plan for this beach. Write 4 to 5 sentences recommending a plan that addresses two different perspectives from the passage, and explain one detail you would check to see whether it works.

ANSWER KEY

# Lights Along the Beach

GRADE 6 · 6.RI.10

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle the three people whose views are described in the first two paragraphs, and underline what matters to each one. In the last paragraph, number two ways the community could address different needs. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Why does the wildlife volunteer value darkness on the beach? Use a detail from the passage. | **Darkness helps hatchlings head toward the ocean rather than being drawn inland by beachfront lights.** |
| 2 | Why might the restaurant owner and the visitor who uses a cane object to turning off every light? Explain each person's concern. | **The owner needs guests to find the entrance and workers to leave safely. The visitor may need a lit path to move safely.** |
| 3 | What shows that the restaurant owner and the wildlife volunteer do not have to be on opposite sides of this issue? | **The passage says the owner's safety concerns do not mean the owner opposes turtle protection. Shielding lamps could address both concerns.** |
| 4 | Choose two changes in the last paragraph. How could each help balance people's needs with the needs of hatchlings? | **Shielded lamps could light paths without shining toward the sand. Turning off unused lights after closing could reduce confusing glow while leaving needed lights on.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would shield lamps near the sand so their light points down. I would keep the path and restaurant entrance lit because visitors and workers need to move safely. I would turn off lights that no one needs after closing to help hatchlings find the sea. I would check whether the path stays visible and whether hatchlings head toward the water.

Accept plans that accurately address at least two perspectives in the passage and name a relevant way to check the result. Students may choose different lighting changes if their reasoning fits the text.