
Sea Turtle Vocabulary

Alveoli-tiny, thin-walled, capillary-rich sac in the lungs where oxygen and carbon dioxide exchange takes place; air sac

Carapace-upper shell of a turtle

Carnivorous-meat eater

Caruncle-egg-tooth, temporary jaw extension of turtle hatchlings used to break through their eggshell

DNA-deoxyribonucleic acid; substance carrying the genetic information that determines hereditary characteristics

Endangered-threatened with extinction

Extinct-no longer existing

Herbivorous-plant eater

Instinct-an unlearned pattern of behavior that causes complex responses in animals

Lost year-first few years of turtle development

Migration-long-distance, seasonal travel by animal populations

Natal beach-nesting beach where an individual was born

Predator-an animal that hunts for food

Reptile-cold-blooded vertebrate having scales or horny plates

Sargasso weed-a brownish, tropical Atlantic seaweed often forming dense mats

Species-a group of closely related organisms that can interbreed

Satellite telemetry-technology that uses a radio transmitter to send signals to satellites orbiting the earth

Threatened-likely to become endangered

Transmitter-an electronic device that gives out signals that can be followed