

## Survival of the Sea Turtles

Sea turtles have survived for at least 150 million years. Although they look a little clumsy on land, they swim with grace and speed in the oceans, eating jellyfish, sponges, grasses, or crabs. A female sea turtle will go up on a beach, dig a hole in the sand. These eggs will hatch in about 60 days.

Although most sea turtles grow to a size of three to four feet, they will begin life as tiny creatures and crawl quickly toward the sea after they hatch from their eggs. Those baby sea turtles have less than one-percent chance of living long enough to become adults. If they are fortunate enough to not to be eaten by birds, small animals, and creatures living in the ocean, they still have to spend at least a year drifting on the high seas, migrating hundreds of miles to feed and fight in the environment before they become young adults. They gather offshore to mate, and then the females swim to a particular beach to lay eggs.

Now the greatest threat to the survival of sea turtles seems to be the fact that human beings are collecting too many of the eggs. They are endangered by the hunting, development, and indifference of people. In the future, there might not be any more sea turtles on Earth. So we must take the responsibility for saving these ancient creatures.