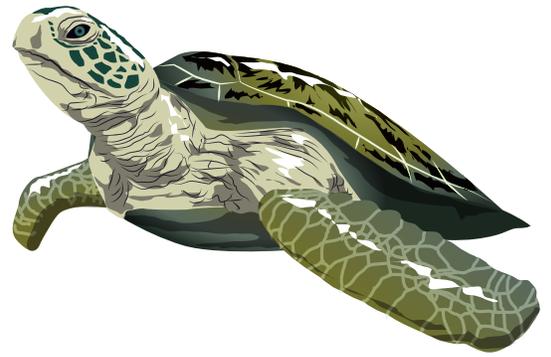


# Pacific Green Sea Turtle



- Also called the green sea turtle or the black sea turtle
- They have a large, teardrop-shaped shell and paddle-like flippers
- They can weigh up to 317.5 kilograms (700 pounds)
- They are one of the largest sea turtles in the world
- They are one of the few marine turtles that will leave the water to bask in the sun
- Unlike most sea turtles, adults eat mostly plants
- They live in shallow lagoons and eat seagrasses
- Young turtles will also eat crabs, jellyfish and sponges
- They migrate long distances between where they feed and where they lay their eggs
- Females climb onto beaches, dig nests and lay eggs at night
- Hatchlings emerge 2 months later and crawl to the water
- The journey from nest to sea is the most dangerous time of the turtle's life, when they are attacked by gulls and crabs
- Pacific green sea turtles that survive the journey to the sea may live for up to 80 years in the wild

# Pacific Green Sea Turtle

## Aquatic Herbivore



- The Pacific green sea turtle is also known as the green (sea) turtle or black (sea) turtle
- They are heavy sea turtles with large, smooth, teardrop-shaped shells and paddle-like flippers
- They can weigh up to 317.5 kilograms (700 pounds) and are among the largest sea turtles in the world
- They are one of the few marine turtles that will leave the water outside of nesting time, and are sometimes seen basking in the sun beside seals and albatrosses
- Unlike most sea turtles, adult green turtles are herbivorous, living in shallow lagoons and feeding on sea grasses and algae
- Juvenile green turtles will also eat invertebrates like crabs, jellyfish, and sponges
- Like other sea turtles, green turtles make long journeys from their feeding sites to their nesting grounds, which are usually on sandy beaches
- Females leave the sea and choose an area to nest, often on the same beach where they were born
- In the night they dig a pit in the sand with their flippers and fill it with 100 – 200 eggs, then cover the pit and return to the sea
- The eggs hatch in about 2 months, and the baby turtles must crawl to the ocean
- The most dangerous time of a green sea turtle's life is the journey from nest to sea, when they are attacked by multiple predators, including crabs and flocks of gulls
- Pacific green sea turtles that survive the journey to the sea may live for up to 80 years in the wild. They are listed as an endangered species