

A Turtle's Life Throughout The Seasons

Grade 1 – Science and Technology



Lesson Details

Grade Level:	1	Curriculum Links:	Science and Technology	Time Needed:	1 hour
Learning Goal	To understand the different activities that turtles do during each of the four seasons (Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter) such as hibernating, making a nest, eating, mating, and basking in the sun. Students will also relate a turtle's life to other animals.				
Success Criteria	By the end of this lesson, students will understand what a turtle does during each of the four seasons and how this relates to other animals in nature, including humans.				
Specific Expectations	<p><i>Understanding Earth and Space Systems: Daily and Seasonal Changes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess ways in which daily and seasonal changes have an impact on society and the environment; Use appropriate science and technology vocabulary, including investigate, temperature, hibernate, dormant, energy, and survival, in oral and written communication; Describe and compare the four seasons; Describe changes in the appearance or behaviour of living things that are adaptations to seasonal changes. 				
Materials Needed	Worksheet (attached), Pencil, Crayons, Pencil Crayons, Markers.				

Lesson Description

Overview	After a discussion about the four seasons (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter), students will fill in the blanks on their worksheets completing the information regarding what a turtle does during each season.
Activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> As a group, discuss what the four seasons are and ask what activities we (humans) do during each of these times. Next, ask the class what a turtle might do during each of the four seasons. Hand out the attached worksheet and have the students fill in the blanks either independently or in small groups. The students may colour the pages after. End the lesson by discussing how the turtle's activities during each season relates to humans as well as other animals.
Background Information	Turtles emerge from hibernation in late April/early May and generally reach peak nesting times during the first two weeks in June. At this time females are heading to their annual nesting sites across roads, and some of these sites are actually on road shoulders. This is the most dangerous time for turtles. After nesting in the late summer, turtles spend their time in wetlands to stay cool and to eat. In the fall, before hibernation, turtles will stop eating because their metabolism slows down as they cannot have undigested food in their intestines. Then, they make their way to hibernation sites. In the winter they are bruminating (awake and walking around but at a much slower pace).
Blacklist Masters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worksheet (attached) Video Link(s): The Turtle Life Cycle and Turtle Nesting For more information, please visit https://www.turtleguardians.com/sample-page/

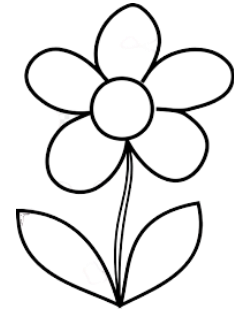
Lesson Description

Place-Based Learning	Throughout this activity, ask the students to imagine they are in a natural setting, looking for clues that will tell them what an animal might be up to during this season and what resources that animal is using. After the lesson, take the students to a playground, forest, or park and ask them to use their newly gained knowledge to look for clues of an animal's presence and discuss what those animals might be doing (during your current season).
Inquiry-Based Learning	Using Open Inquiry , the students will complete the attached worksheet – either independently or in small groups. Ask the students: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the four seasons?• What do we (humans) do during each season?• What do turtles do during each season? What about other animals?• What resources/features/tools do animals use each season during their different activities in order to survive?
Turtle Stories	After the lesson, have the students ask their family and friends what they do during each season and/or encourage them to visit a museum or a conservation organization and ask them about animal activities during each season. Students are encouraged to share their experience, pictures, and worksheets on the Turtle Stories website, found here: https://www.turtlestories.ca/
Turtle Guardian Program Links	In Level 1 (Ontario Turtle Identification) of the Turtle Guardian Program , students will learn how to identify all 8 species of Ontario's turtles and the life cycle of a turtle. In Level 3 (Road Researchers) students will learn how to help turtles during each season. For more information, please visit https://www.turtleguardians.com/what-is-a-turtle-guardian/

My Notes

A Turtle's Life Throughout The Seasons

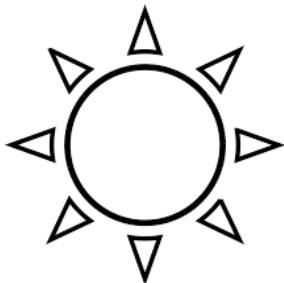
A Fill-In-The-Blank Worksheet and Colouring Pages

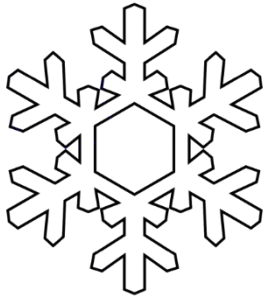


There are 4 seasons in Canada.

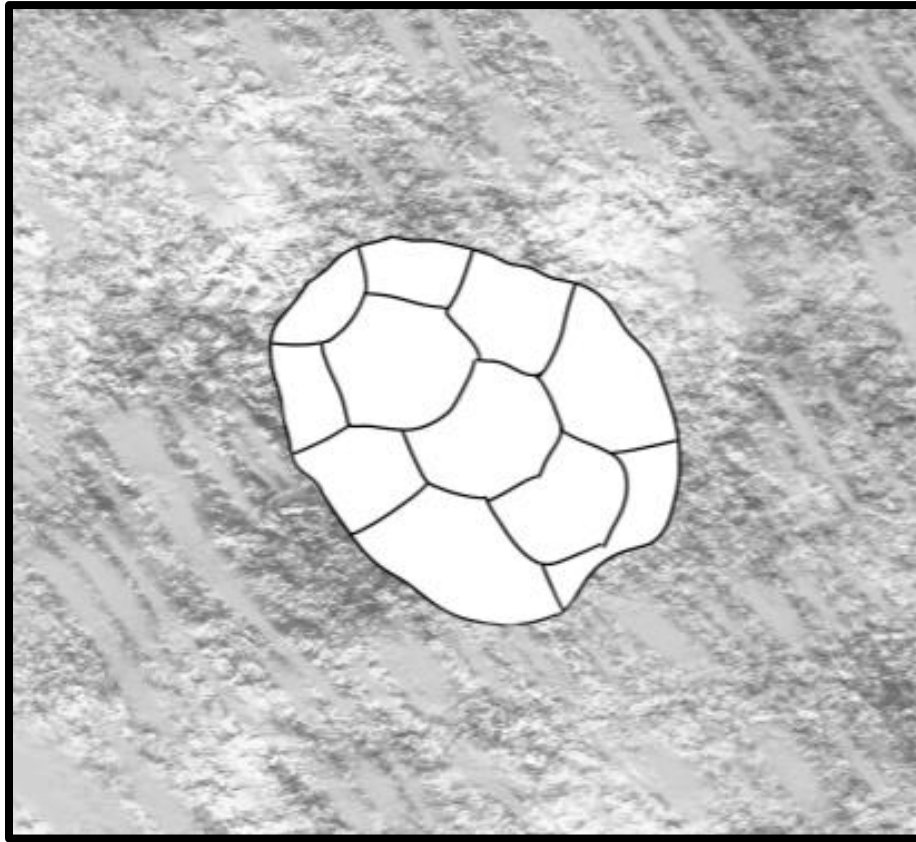
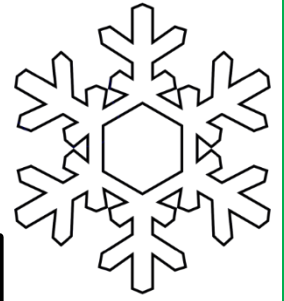
The seasons are: Winter, Spring,
Summer, and Fall.

We know what people do during the different seasons, but what do turtles do? Let's go through each season and find out!





WINTER



Word Bank:

Lakes

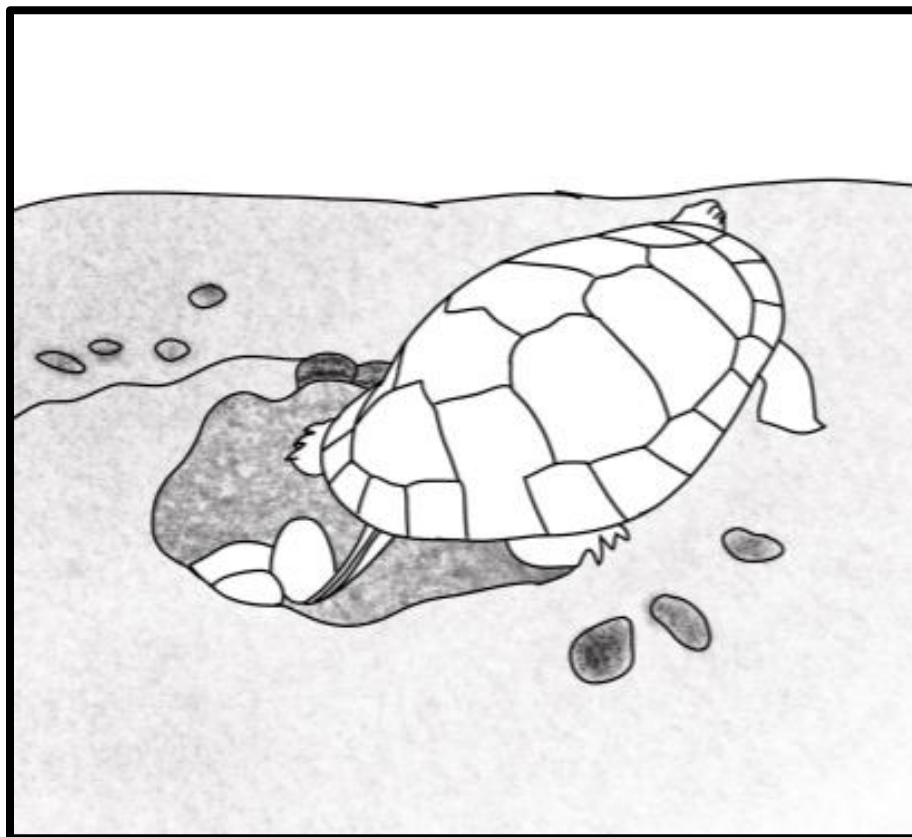
Hibernate

Air

Turtles hibernate in the winter. They burry themselves at the bottom of lakes and wetlands in the mud. Since they are underwater, turtles can not breathe air. Instead they breathe through their butts!



SPRING



Word Bank:

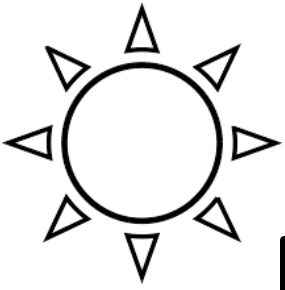
Eggs

Spring

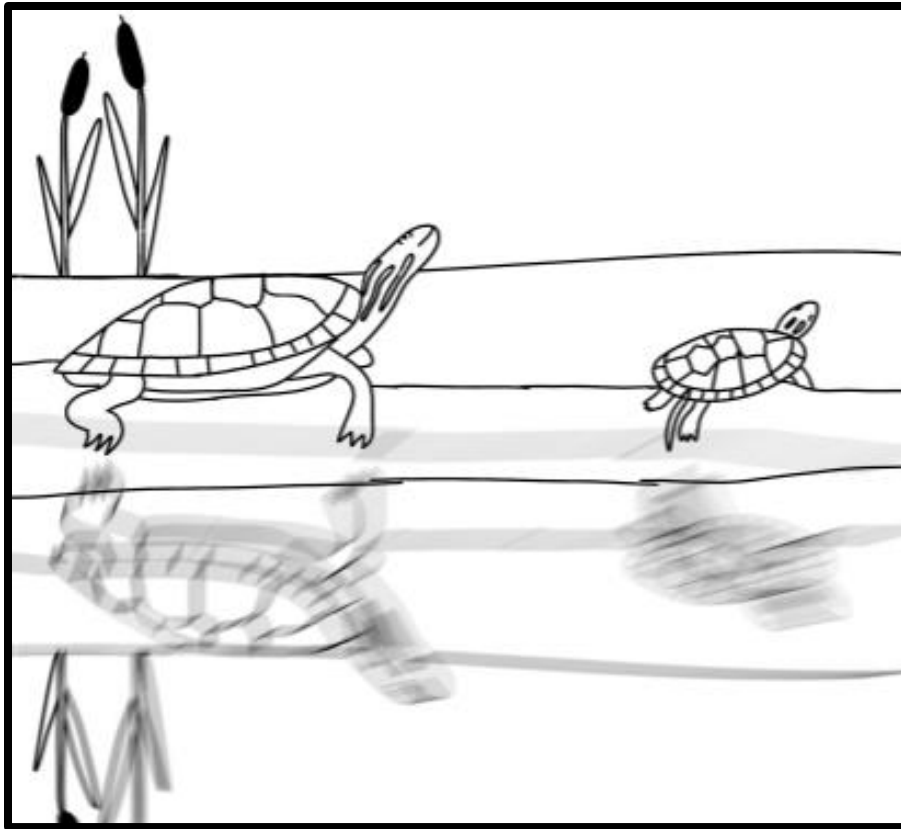
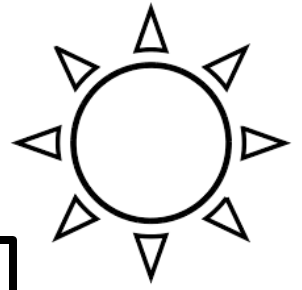
Mate

Road

Turtles wake up in spring. They are on the move to look for a mate. Turtles lay eggs in the dirt. Watch for turtles on the road.



SUMMER



Word Bank:

Plants

Hatch

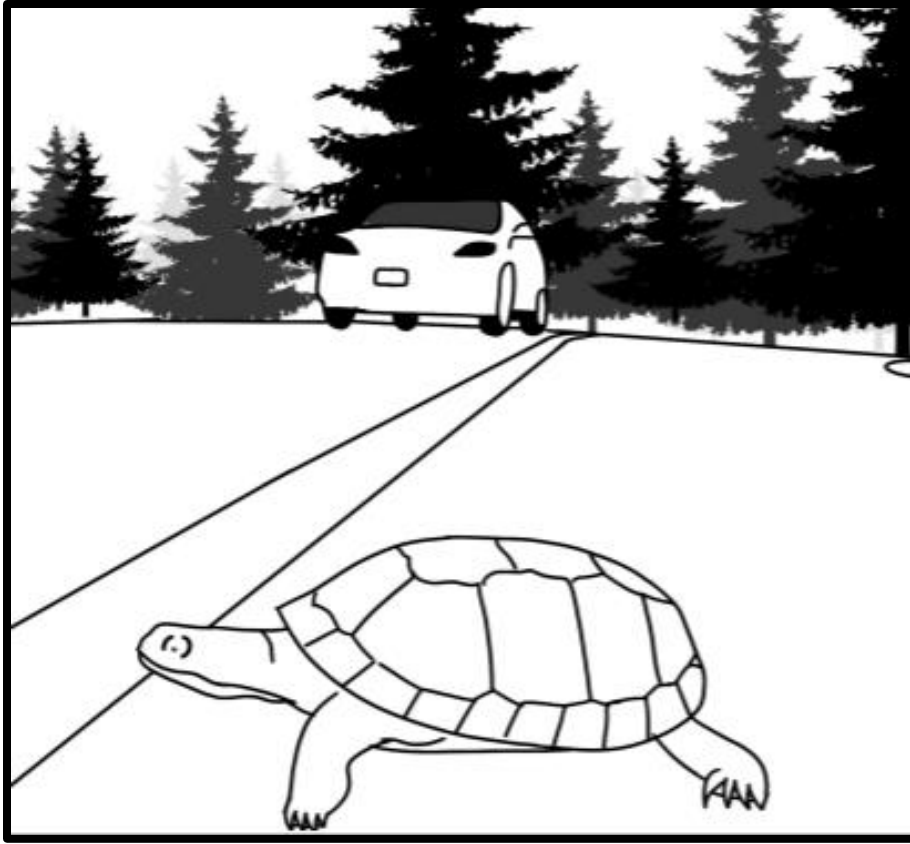
Bask

Hot

In the morning, turtles bask on logs and rocks to get warm. When it is hot turtles hide under plants, like water lilies. In late summer, the eggs hatch, and the babies search for water.



FALL



Word Bank:

Turtle

Move

Road

In fall, turtles move to where they will hibernate. They might have to cross a road. This can be dangerous! You can help a turtle cross the road by lifting it and taking it the way it was already heading.

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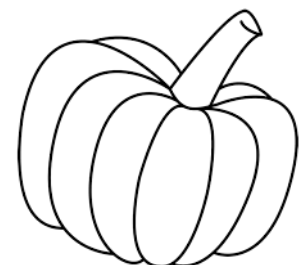
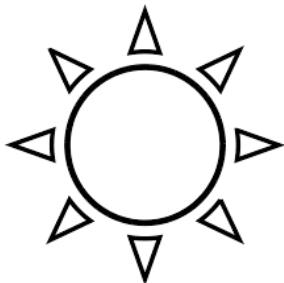
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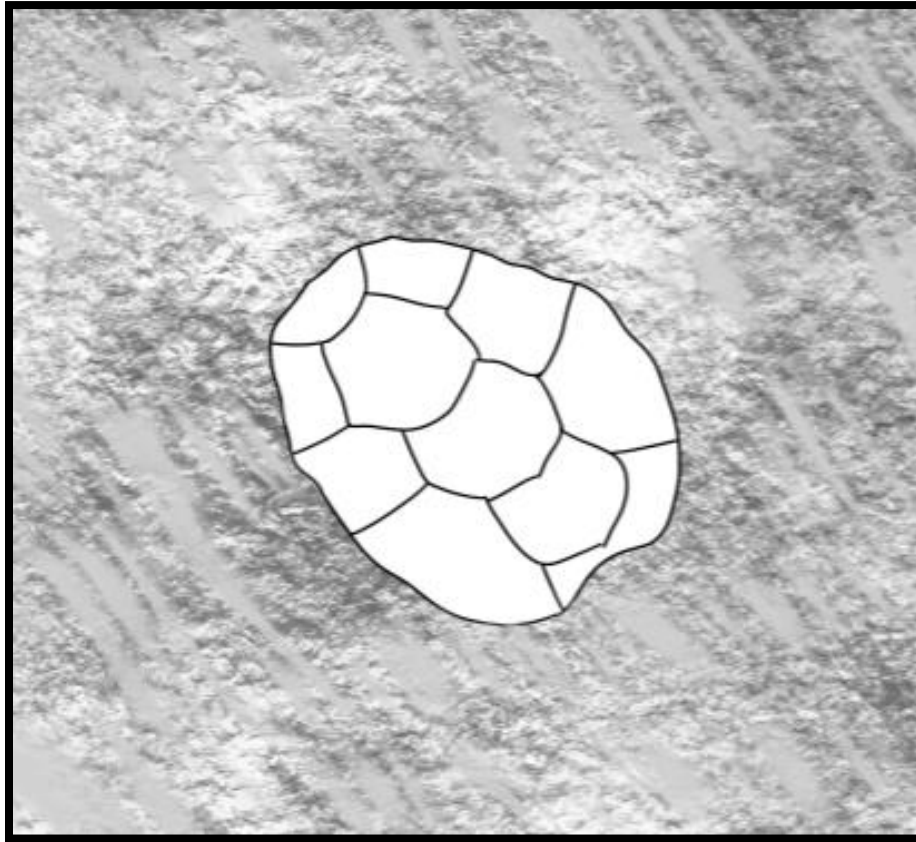
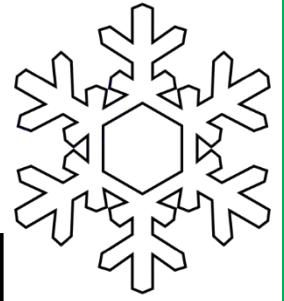
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We know what people do during the different seasons, but what do turtles do? Let's go through each season and find out!





WINTER



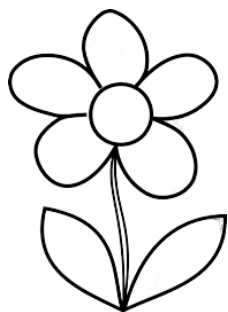
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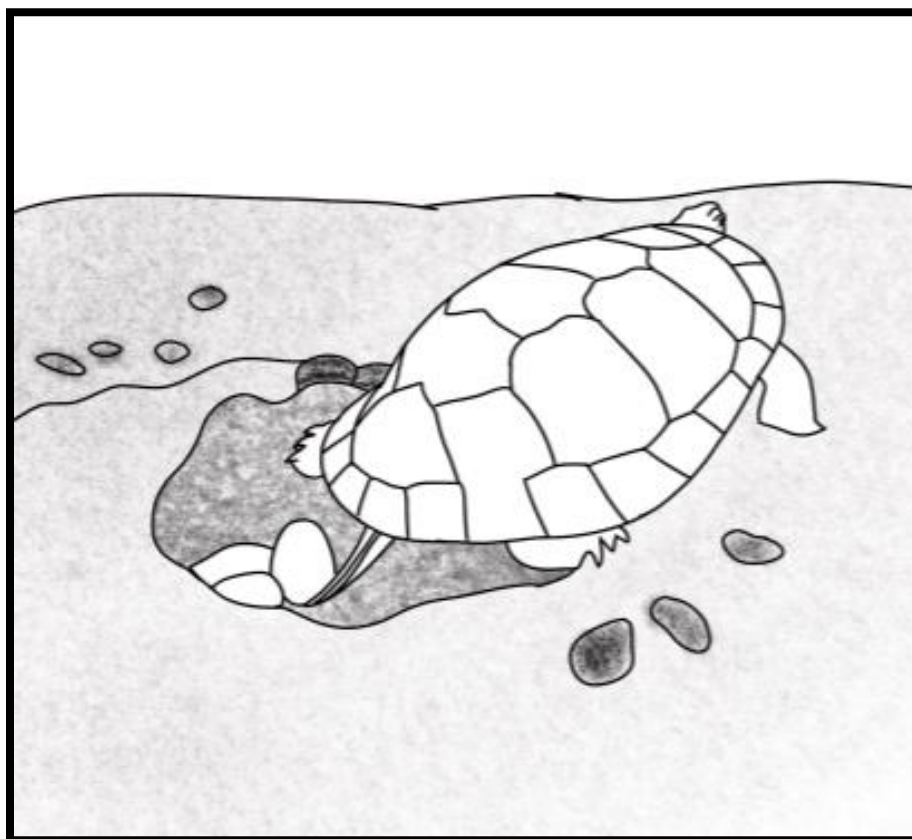
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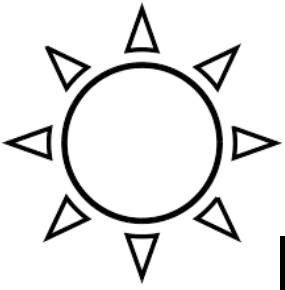
Eggs

Spring

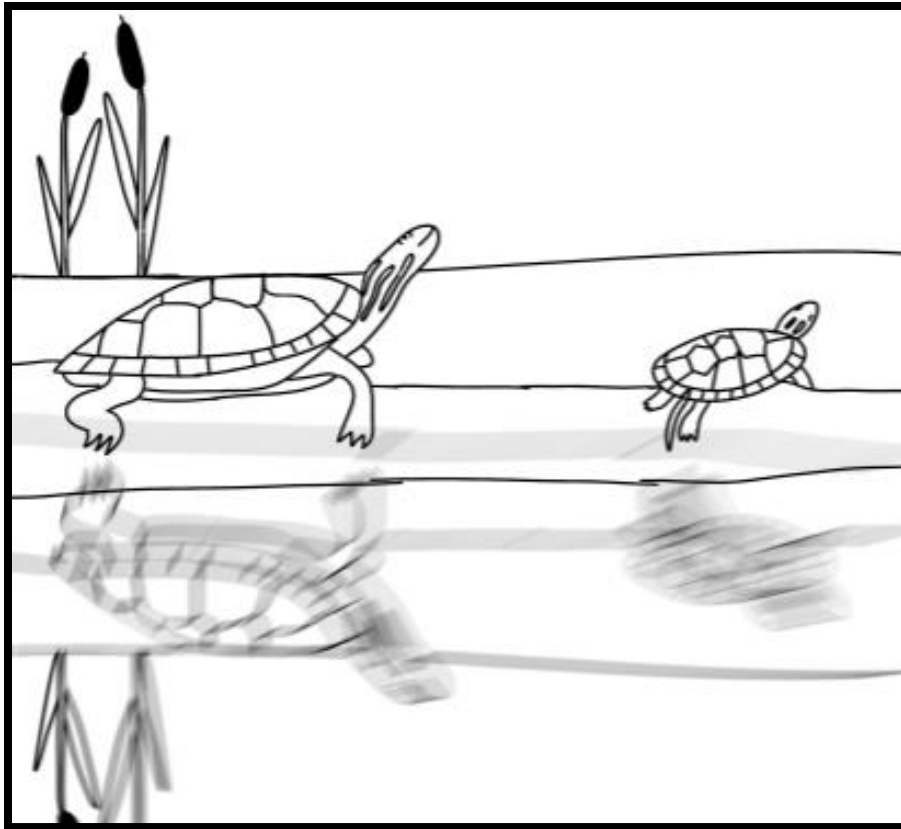
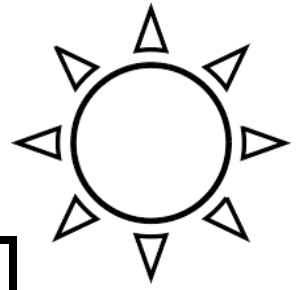
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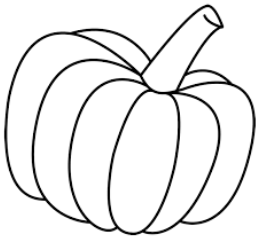
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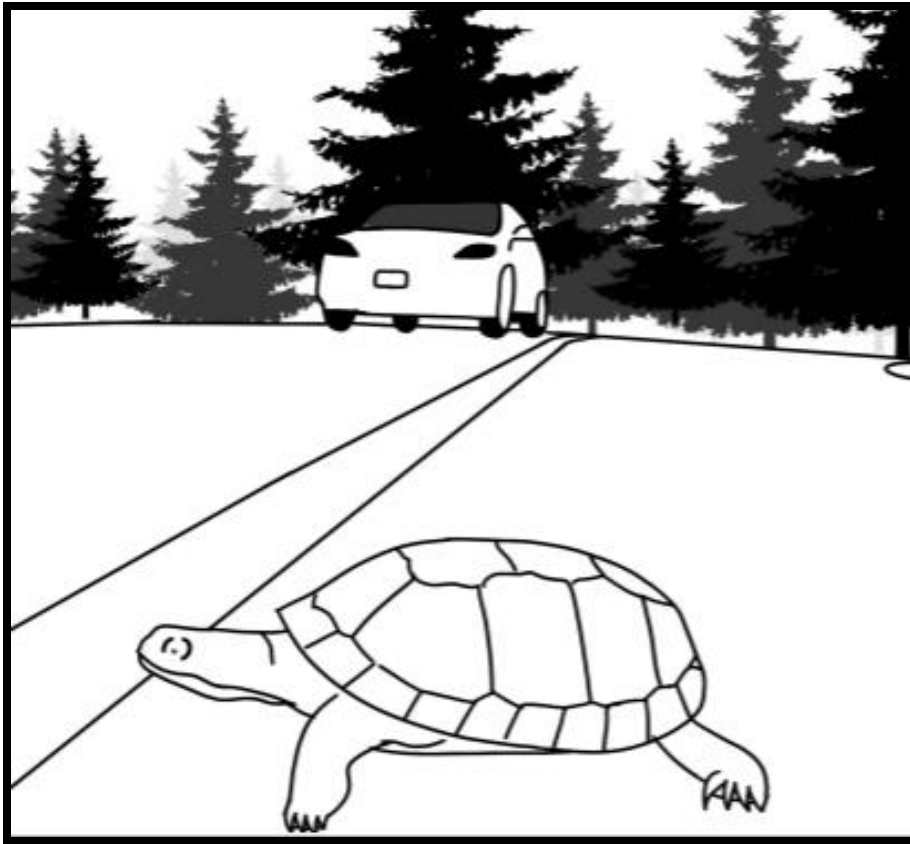
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