

Turtle Life Cycle

Grade 2 – Science and Technology



Lesson Details

Grade Level:	2	Curriculum Links:	Science and Technology	Time Needed:	30 minutes
Learning Goal	To learn about the life cycle of different animals, while also improving dexterity.				
Success Criteria	By the end of this lesson, students will be able to identify the different stages of a turtle's life cycle and have the ability to cut and paste (using tools) those stages in the appropriate part of the life cycle. Students will also be familiar with the Blanding's Turtle.				
Specific Expectations	<p><i>Understanding Life Systems: Growth and Changes in Animals</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the life cycle of a variety of animals, using a variety of methods and resources; Observe and compare changes in the appearance and activity of animals as they go through a complete lifecycle. 				
Materials Needed	Worksheet (attached), Scissors, Tape, Glue.				

Lesson Description

Overview	Using scissors and glue/tape, students will cut and paste the different stages of a Blanding's Turtle life cycle.
Activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Before the activity, discuss what a life cycle is and ask the students what the different stages of a human's life cycle are. Discuss how all animals go through a life cycle. Hand out the attached worksheet. Students will determine, based on knowledge of life cycles, the order of the stages of a Blanding's Turtle life cycle. Students will cut and paste/tape the stages into the correct boxes. After the activity is complete, go through the stages of a Blanding's Turtle life cycle with the class and discuss the similarities to their own life cycle.
Background Information	<p>Blanding's Turtles are semi-aquatic and will travel long distances to reach a nesting site, sometimes up to 2.5 km from a wetland. Like other turtles, Blanding's have a late sexual maturity, and an external incubation of their eggs. They first emerge from hibernation sites in early spring after the ice has begun to melt. Mating often occurs when turtles congregate during hibernation. During early spring (pre-nesting period) males will often move to ephemeral habitats and females who are gravid (pregnant) may spend time in terrestrial areas or aquatic "staging habitat" that is close to the nesting site. Round trip migration to nesting sites can take females up to a month to complete. The nesting period occurs between late May to early July, peaking in early to mid June. Hatchlings emerge from early August to late October. There can be a period of inactivity or dormancy during the summer months – some individuals will become dormant for a few days or weeks during this time, remaining inactive in either wetlands or buried terrestrially beneath forest litter or dead cattails. Adults typically move to hibernation sites late August to early November. Hatchlings will enter their hibernation site (otherwise known as a hibernacula) between mid September to mid October.</p>
Blacklist Masters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worksheet (attached) Video Link(s): The Turtle Life Cycle

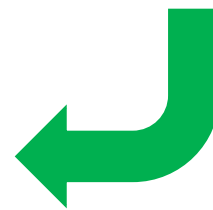
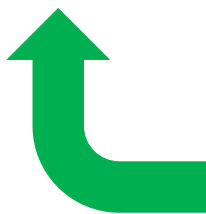
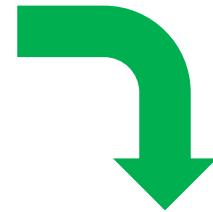
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">For more information, please visit https://www.turtleguardians.com/sample-page/id-turtles/blandings-turtle/
Place-Based Learning	Depending on the season when this lesson is taught, have a longer discussion about what a turtle might be doing in that moment (E.g. if it's spring we know that turtles are laying their eggs, so where in your local community might they be doing this?).
Inquiry-Based Learning	Using Confirmation Inquiry , the students will work independently to contrast the life cycle of a Blanding's Turtle. Ask the students: <ul style="list-style-type: none">What is a life cycle?What are the different stages of a human life cycle?What are the different stages of a turtle's life cycle?
Turtle Stories	If a turtle was your age right now, what would it be doing? Have you seen any young turtles in nature? Make a list of the things that you do in your life right now and compare that to what a turtle of the same age would be doing. Students are encouraged to share their experiences, 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 more about their life cycles. For more information, please visit https://www.turtleguardians.com/what-is-a-turtle-guardian/

My Notes

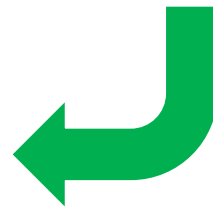
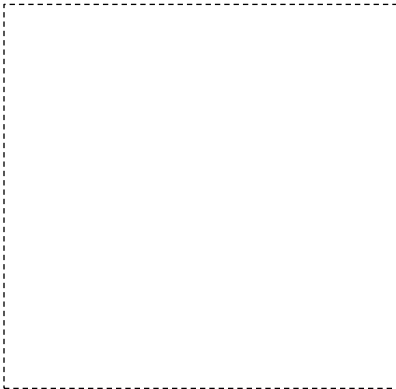
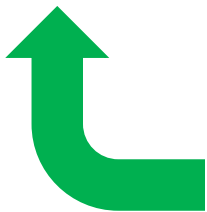
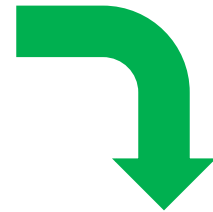
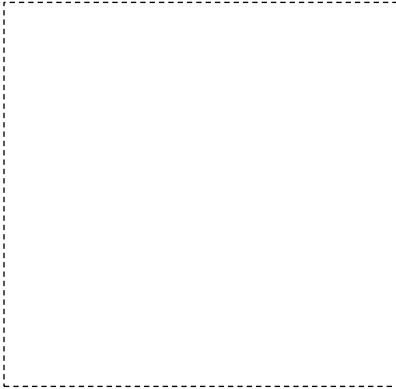
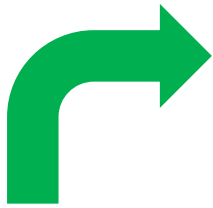


Life Cycle Of A Blanding's Turtle





Life Cycle Of A Blanding's Turtle





Cut and Paste the Steps of the Life Cycle



The eggs grow for about 60 days. Then they hatch.



A Blanding's Turtle is 18 years old and can now lay their own eggs.



A female lays her eggs and then buries them. She goes back to her wetland.



The hatchling is ready for a swim.