



I'LL FOLLOW THE MOON
by
Stephanie Lisa Tara

On a quiet, moonlit beach, a baby green sea turtle stirs from a dream of home and slowly, with a tap, click, crack embarks upon a mysterious night time journey. Each step of his journey includes the refrain, "I'm coming, Mama, I'll see you soon. I know just how I'll follow the moon". This book chronicles this extraordinary journey, exploring a fledgling sea turtle's instinct to follow flickering moonlight home to the sea.

To transition to this activity, review what your children know about life cycles, particularly the life cycles of those animals which hatch from eggs. If this is a new subject, you might wish to start with this book and expand your study to other animals.

MATERIALS: One "Life Cycles of the Sea Turtle" sheet per student, paste/glue, second sheet of paper for pasting stages in the correct order, crayons, scissors.

ACTIVITY: In the book, we clearly can see the different stages the sea turtle goes through as he makes his way out of the shell and to the sea. This cycle provides a wonderful way to practice sequencing. On the accompanying sheet, we have chosen eight stages; you may wish to use a smaller number with your younger students. Now is a great time to reinforce ordinal numbers. Have your children cut the pictures apart and put them in the correct sequence. Encourage them to use first, second, etc. Discuss as a class the desired order, and then have each child paste the pictures on another piece of paper and label the order (1, first). You may wish to have them color the pictures before pasting.

EXTENSIONS:

1. Create life cycles for chickens, butterflies, etc.
2. Have your students write their versions of the steps of the sea turtle's life cycle, using "first", "then", "soon", "next", "finally", "at last", etc.

TEACHER NOTES: On the "Life Cycle of the Sea Turtle" sheet, the numbers on the sides of the sheet tell the correct order for sequencing. Please make two copies and cover up the numbers for the students or use them for a number recognition activity.

STANDARDS:

BSL: 1.2, 1.5, 1.11, 4.1, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 9.3, 9.7, 12.3

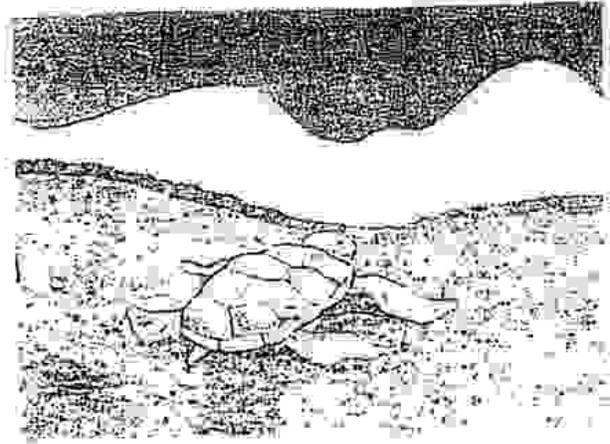
NCTM: 2a, 3b, 4d, 6a, 6b, 6c, 9b, 13a, 13b

SCS: C1, C2, C3

Tara, Stephanie Lisa. I'll Follow the Moon. Illus. by Lee Edward Fodi. Dallas, TX: Brown Books, c2005. ISBN#1-9332-8513-3.

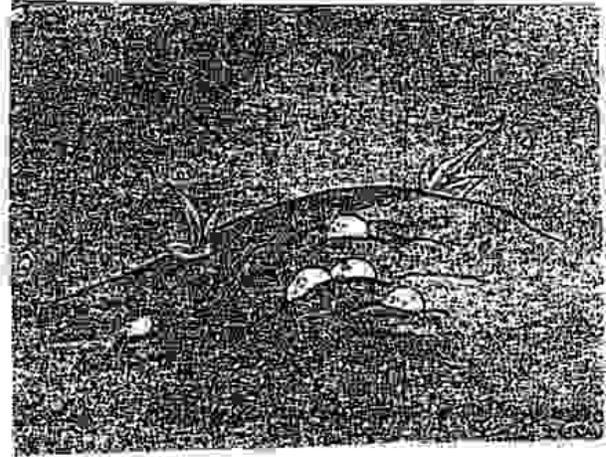
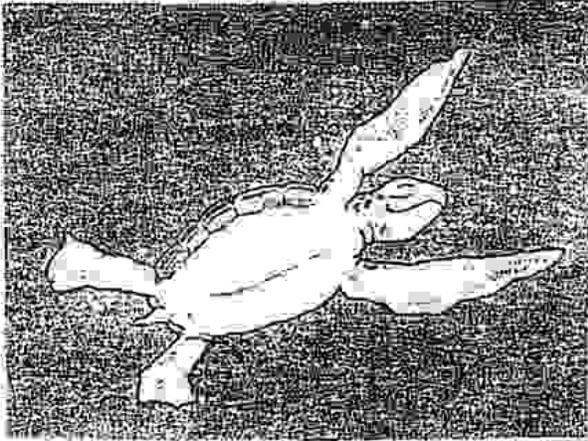
Life Cycles of the Sea Turtle

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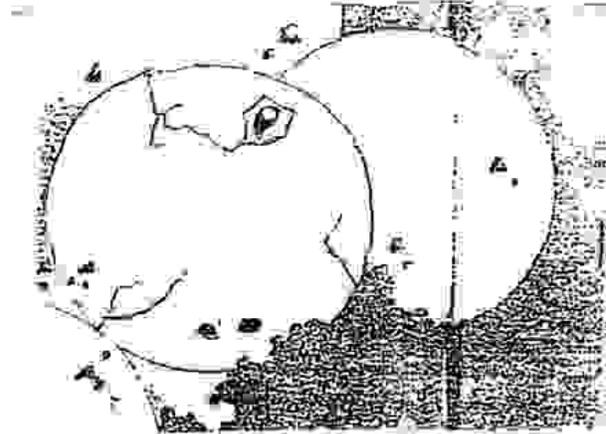
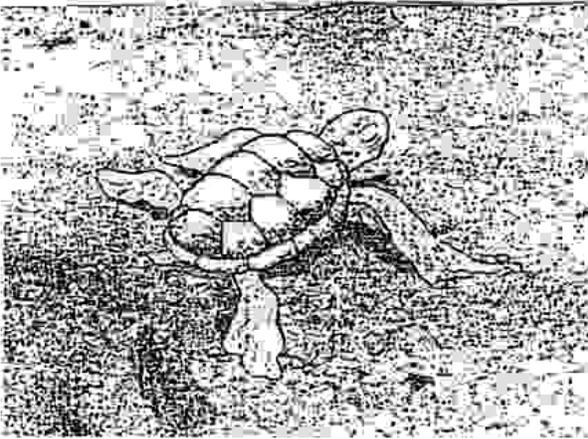
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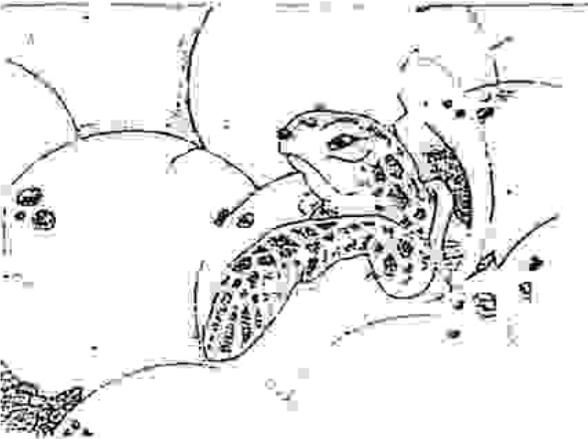
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