

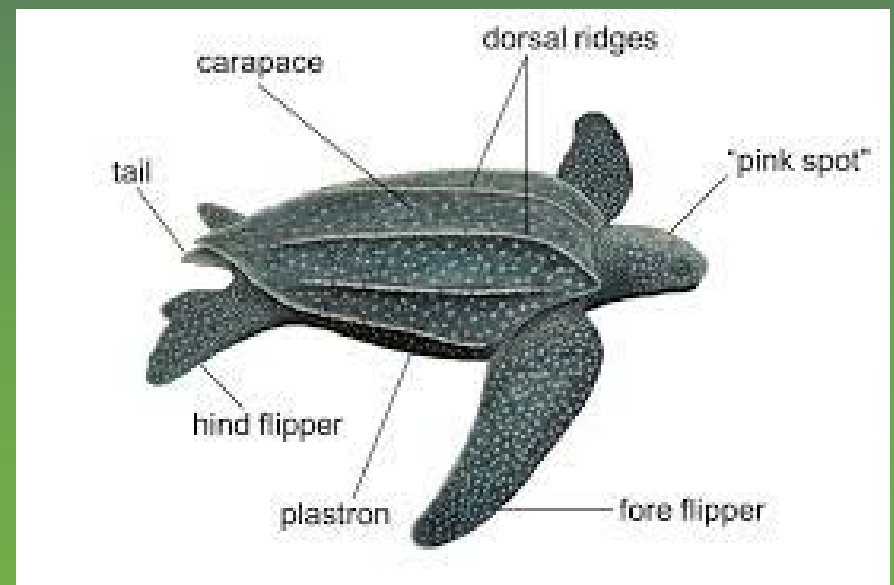
# SEA TURTLE



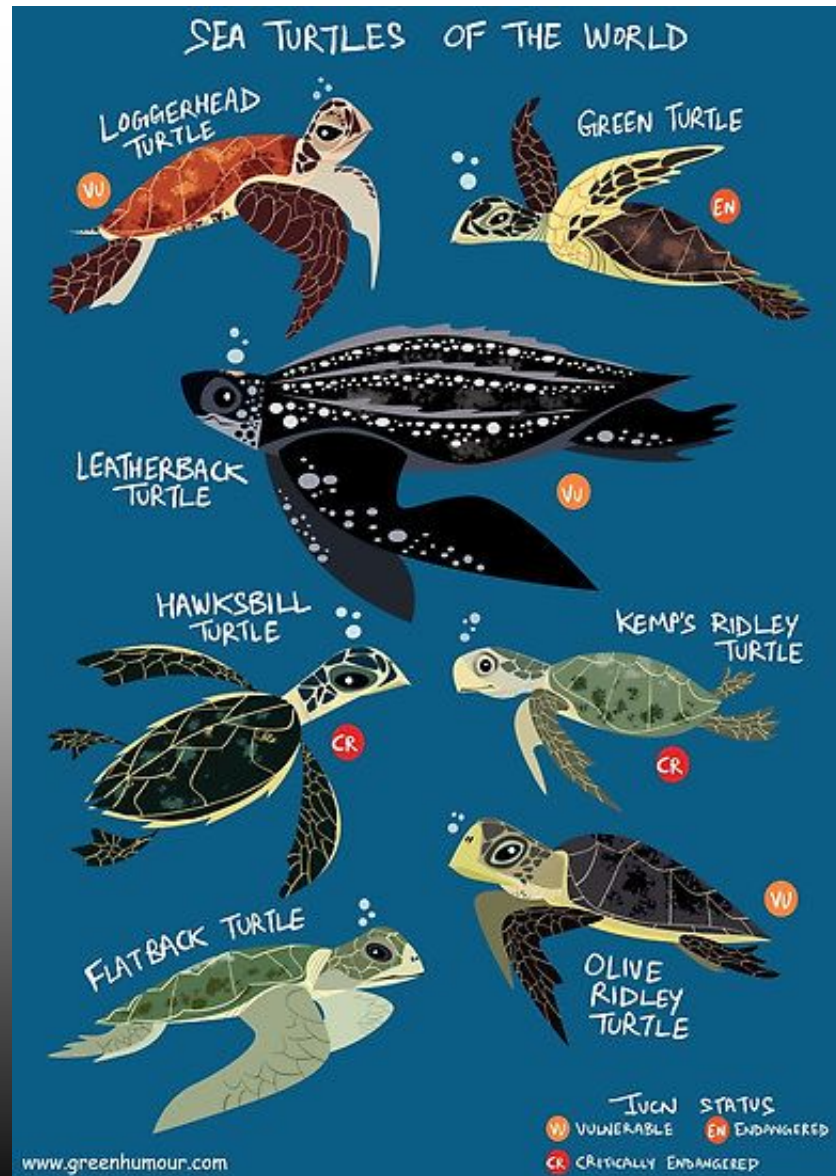
# DESCRIPTION

- Sea turtles are characterized by a long, streamlined shell. Depending on the species, their color can be olive-green, yellow, greenish-brown, reddish-brown, or black. Limbs and flippers are adapted for swimming. Adult male and female sea turtles are equal in size.

Male: The tail may extend beyond the hind flippers. The claws on the foreflippers of sea turtle males (except leatherbacks) are elongated and curved, which may help them grasp a female's shell during mating.



# SPECIES



# CATEGORY

- TURTLES ARE REPTILES





## HABITAT

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- Sea turtles inhabit tropical and subtropical waters around the world, but the leatherback turtle reaches the cold waters of Alaska and the European Arctic occasionally.

# DIET



- What a sea turtle eats depends on the species. Some are omnivores, eating a variety of plants and animals, while the hawksbill and the leatherback are specialists, subsisting primarily on sponges and jellyfish.

## RELATIONSHIP WITH HUMANS

- Humans have been present in the life of sea turtles both positively and negatively. Many people fight every day and even donate their money to preserve them, while others kill them ruthlessly to gain profit.



# THREATS

- Worldwide, six of the seven sea turtle species are classified as threatened or endangered due to human actions and lifestyles such as:
- Entanglement in fishing gear
- Poaching and illegal trade of eggs, meat, and shells
- Coastal development
- Plastic and other marine debris
- Global warming
- Ocean pollution
- Turtle-shell Trade