

## Title: Hatchling Game



**Subject:** Science

**Grade Level:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

**Objective:**

Students will be able to:

- Realize the risk sea turtles take for nesting on the beach
- List some predators of sea turtle hatchlings
- Explain and simulate the obstacles for sea turtle hatchlings

**TEKS Objectives:**

6.1(C), 6.2(A), 6.2(B), 6.2(C), 6.2(D), 6.2(E), 6.4(A), 6.4(B), 6.6(B), 6.10(A), 6.10(C), 6.12(A)

7.1(A), 7.2(A), 7.2(B), 7.2(C), 7.2(D), 7.2(E), 7.4(A), 7.11(B)

8.2(A), 8.2(B), 8.2(C), 8.2(D), 8.2(E), 8.4(A), 8.11(A)

**CONNECTIONS TO AP**

AP Biology:

III. Organisms and Populations: B. Structure and Function of Plants and Animals 1. Reproduction, growth, and development 2. Structural, physiological, and behavioral adaptations 3. Response to the environment

AP Environmental Science:

I Scientific Analysis, II ; II Interdependence of Earth's Systems: Fundamental Principles and Concepts, D. The Biosphere

**Rationale or Purpose:**

To teach students the obstacles a sea turtle hatchlings face when going on the beach in the wild.

**Source:**

<http://www.nicholas.duke.edu/marinelab/>

**Materials needed:**

For each student:

- Quiz

**Lesson Duration:** 1 hour

**Background:**

Please read the “Nesting and Predator” handout

**Procedure:**

1. Have students line up along a line in a crawling position. The students are to imitate turtle hatchlings.
2. Have four students become predators such as raccoons, sand crabs, or sea birds.
3. The object of the game is for the hatchlings to crawl to the other side of the room without the predators eating (tagging) them.
4. The predators do not have to crawl, but should act like the predators.
5. Once the predator has tagged someone, he or she must wait 3 seconds before going after another hatchling.
6. Play this game as many times as wanted with different students as the predators.
7. Have class come together and discuss what happened and the difficulties for the hatchlings.
8. Also discuss other predators such as *Homo sapiens* who are the most dangerous predators for the sea turtles.
9. Give short quiz for last five minutes of class.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Quiz

1. List some predators of sea turtle hatchlings.
2. What is the biggest predator of sea turtles?
3. How do you think we, as humans, can help the sea turtles?
4. What role did you like to play, the hatchling or the predator? Why?