

Saving Sea Turtles



Grace Buschiazzo is a sea turtle biologist. She helps the animals from rescue to release.

LEXILE: 910L

SOCIAL STUDIES (NCSS) STANDARD: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems

COMMON CORE (CCSS) STANDARDS: RI.6-8.1, RI.6-8.3, RI.6-8.7, W.6-8.

ENGAGE THE READER

Write *marine biologist* on the board. Have students break down the term by explaining what *marine* means (of or relating to the sea) and what *biologist* means (a scientist who studies living things). Ask students what kinds of things a marine biologist might study. Does anyone in the class have an interest in marine biology? Tell students they'll be reading about a marine biologist who specializes in sea turtles.

QUESTIONS FOR CLOSE READING AND DISCUSSION

- Describe Grace Buschiazzo's job.
- How did Buschiazzo end up as a sea turtle biologist?
- What do you think it feels like to work with an animal from rescue to release?
- Why do you think Kid Reporter Milo Bhushan started and ended with the story of Ricotta?

EXTEND LEARNING

When they're done reading, have students go to the website of the Sea Turtle Care Center at scaquarium.org/sea-turtle-care-center. Ask them to explore the site and to choose a current or past patient. Tell them they'll learn about the patient and the patient's species to better understand the work that goes into Buschiazzo's job.

After they've chosen a patient, give students time to research the appropriate turtle species. They should know its size and features, its diet, its habitat, and the threats that are common to it. Then they should read through the blog post about the patient they chose. How did the patient end up there? What was its treatment like? Assign students to write an article about what they learned. They can use the format of "Saving Sea Turtles" as a guide, but with their patient as the subject. The beginning and end should be the patient's story, and the body should give some background about the patient's species and care.

COVER STORY QUIZ + ANSWER KEY

The cover quiz can be found on page 2 of this guide.

To create a digital quiz, you can use our template [here](#).

1. B (RI.7) 2. D (RI.1) 3. C (RI.4) 4. C (RI.3) 5. B (RI.5)

6. A (RI.2) 7. Answers will vary. (W.1)

Name _____ Date _____

Use this week's cover story, "Saving Sea Turtles," to answer the questions below. For questions 1–6, circle the letter next to the best answer. If you need more space to write your response to question 7, you may use the back of this page.

<p>1. What do the photos help the reader understand about the article?</p> <p>A. The article will be about different species of sea turtles.</p> <p>B. The article will be about people caring for sea turtles.</p> <p>C. The article will be about sea turtle nesting.</p> <p>D. The article will explain threats to sea animals.</p>	<p>4. What event first inspired Grace Buschiazzo to become a sea turtle biologist?</p> <p>A. She interned at a wildlife hospital.</p> <p>B. She pursued a degree in marine science.</p> <p>C. She volunteered for a nesting project in Panama.</p> <p>D. She joined the Girl Scouts.</p>
<p>2. What was wrong with Ricotta when it arrived at South Carolina Aquarium's Sea Turtle Care Center?</p> <p>A. Ricotta was missing a flipper.</p> <p>B. Ricotta was missing part of its beak.</p> <p>C. Fishing line was stuck in Ricotta's digestive tract.</p> <p>D. all of the above</p>	<p>5. What is the purpose of the sidebar, "Turtle Anatomy"?</p> <p>A. to diagram the parts of a sea turtle</p> <p>B. to explain why a surgery like Ricotta's might be necessary</p> <p>C. to detail a sea turtle's diet</p> <p>D. to persuade readers not to use plastics</p>
<p>3. What does <i>entanglement</i> mean in the context of this article?</p> <p>A. when an animal is injured</p> <p>B. when an animal needs surgery</p> <p>C. when an animal gets caught in something</p> <p>D. when an animal is kept in a tank at the care center</p>	<p>6. Which could be an another title for the article?</p> <p>A. "From Rescue to Release"</p> <p>B. "Turtle Anatomy"</p> <p>C. "Ricotta's Story"</p> <p>D. "Part-Time Plumbers"</p>

7. Would you like to be a marine biologist like Buschiazzo? Explain why or why not.
