

Turtle Champion



Fourth grader Gia Providente devised signs to protect diamondback terrapins in her community.

LEXILE: 1040L

SOCIAL STUDIES (NCSS) STANDARD: Earth and Human Activity

COMMON CORE (CCSS) STANDARDS: RI.6-8.1, RI.6-8.7, SL.6-8.1, W.6-8.8

ENGAGE THE READER

Start the lesson with the Kahoot! quiz at ti.me/signsKahoot. Then ask students to close their eyes and picture a road sign they've seen recently. Call on volunteers to share with the class. Ask students to discuss, with a partner, the importance of signs and which ones are most impactful. Have students read "Turtle Champion," to learn about a girl who devised a sign to protect native wildlife.

QUESTIONS FOR CLOSE READING AND DISCUSSION

- How does Gia Providente protect terrapins? What steps did she take?
- Do you think Gia's work is effective? How do you think she can make an even bigger impact?
- Gia's mom describes her as a "natural environmentalist." How would you describe Gia, based on this article?

EXTEND LEARNING

Have students talk to a partner about what Gia Providente is protecting, and how she's doing so. Bring students back together to discuss this, and ask what about this solution is effective. Tell them they'll be researching with a group to come up with an idea for an impactful sign for their area. Have them form groups and research the meaning of different kinds of signs. Next, have them research protected animals or habitats in their area that could benefit from increased awareness.

Hand out sheets of paper on which groups can devise a sign for the habitat or animal that needs protection. Each group should present its idea to the class and explain the sign's purpose. Have the class vote on which sign would be most effective. Other groups may suggest small tweaks, or a catchy phrase that could be added. Then have students or the class draft a letter to town officials proposing the sign and any ideas that might increase its impact.

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. A (RI.2) **2. A** (RI.1) **3. C** (RI.4) **4. B** (RI.8) **5. A** (RI.6)

6. D (RI.6) **7. Answers will vary.** (W.2)

Name _____ Date _____

Use this week’s cover story, “Turtle Champion,” 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, use the back of this page.

<p>1. Which best describes how Gia Providente helped diamondback terrapins?</p> <p>A. She raised awareness of their habitat.</p> <p>B. She raised money to protect them.</p> <p>C. She asked a lot of questions about them.</p> <p>D. She led an effort to clean up the bay.</p>	<p>4. Which point is the author supporting by including the following sentence: “She had a thousand and one questions,” John Turner says.</p> <p>A. Gia asked too many questions.</p> <p>B. Curiosity plays an important role in problem-solving.</p> <p>C. Asking questions can take up valuable time.</p> <p>D. Gia knew nothing about diamondback terrapins.</p>
<p>2. What is brackish water?</p> <p>A. a mix of freshwater and saltwater</p> <p>B. saltwater</p> <p>C. freshwater</p> <p>D. any water in which there are terrapins</p>	<p>5. According to her quote, Gia’s mom would describe her as</p> <p>A. unstoppable.</p> <p>B. curious.</p> <p>C. valuable.</p> <p>D. cool.</p>
<p>3. Which word could replace <i>iconic</i>, in John Turner’s quote?</p> <p>A. at risk for extinction</p> <p>B. endangered</p> <p>C. distinctive</p> <p>D. unknown</p>	<p>6. Why did the author write this article?</p> <p>A. to educate readers about threats to diamondback terrapins</p> <p>B. to tell a story about a girl who loves turtles</p> <p>C. to outline the steps to saving endangered species.</p> <p>D. to show readers that young people can help make a difference for wildlife in their community</p>

7. What qualities make Gia Providente a good wildlife advocate?
