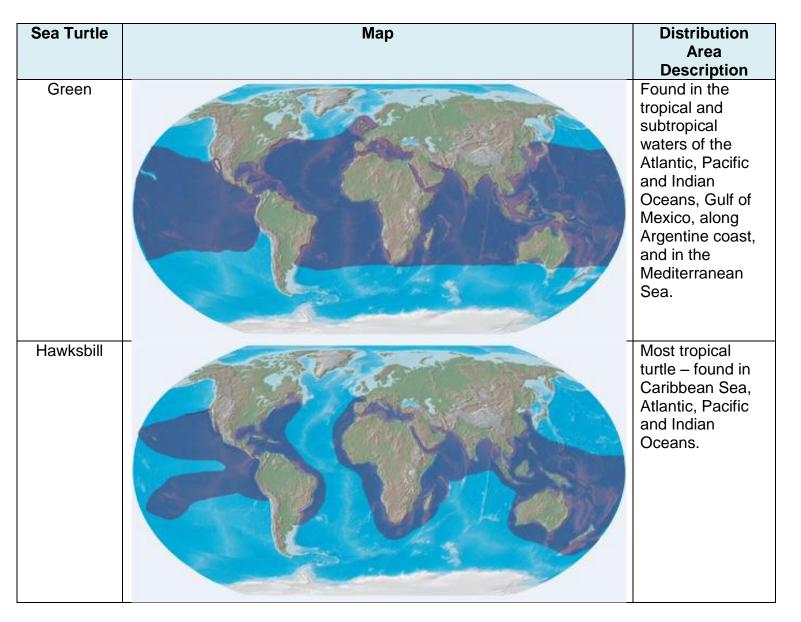
## Where in the World are They?



## **Sea Turtle Distribution**

**Directions:** Using the maps and data provided below, create transparent overlays of the distribution area of each species of turtle.

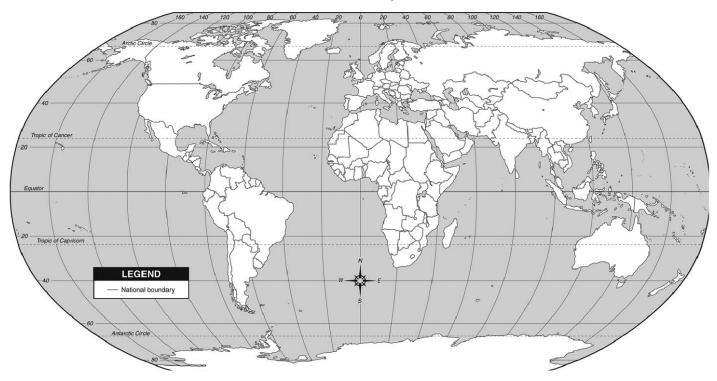
- First trace the "Outline Map" onto 5 pieces of transparent paper using a thin permanent black marker.
- Label each new map with the names of the 5 species of sea turtle found off the coast of Florida: Green, Hawksbill, Kemp's Ridley, Leatherback, and Loggerhead.
- Using a different colored marker for each turtle, color in the distribution area of each turtle on their own map.
- Use these maps to answer the questions below and compare the distribution areas between the 5 species of sea turtles.



Kemp's Ridley	Found in the Gulf of Mexico.
Leatherback	Most widely distributed turtle around the world, from Alaska to southern tip of Africa.
Loggerhead	Found in temperate and tropical waters around the world.



## **Outline Map**



## Questions

1. **Discuss** the differences between the distribution areas of the 5 species of sea turtles.

Answers will vary – students should note the differences between size and consecutiveness or fragmentation of distribution areas.

2. Explain how the distribution area of sea turtles might affect conservation efforts to protect them.

Answers will vary – students should recognize that due to the wide distribution of most sea turtles a number of countries will be responsible for the protection and conservation of sea turtles, and that this requires cooperation between countries, students may also relate note that small distribution areas means there is a limited habitat suitable for these species (greater need for conservation), larger and more dispersed habitats may provide more opportunity for nesting and thus survival.

3. The leatherback sea turtle is the most widely distributed turtle of the 5 species. **List** and **describe** a few characteristics you think a leatherback sea turtle might need to have in order to travel and survive in such a large distribution area.

Answers will vary – students may indicate that the following characteristics are related to distribution area: large size provides power and strength for travel, and tolerance to temperature change in arctic, temperate and tropical waters, etc.