

### Thursday's Literacy – Turtle Body Parts to Label

Can you read the facts below about turtles and add them to the diagram of the turtle underneath?

Try to write the labels in your own words and keep them **short and informative**.

**Upper shell**- A turtle's body is made up of two parts. The upper part is called the carapace (or, shell). It is strong and bony and helps protect the turtle.

**Lower shell**- The lower part is called the plastron (the underside of a turtle). These two parts link together, kind of like a puzzle and protect the soft body of the turtle.

**Eyes** – Turtles have three eyelids to protect their eyes. They need good vision to spot food and predators around them.

**Mouth** - This is also called a beak and has sharp edges for cutting food. Most turtles have strong jaws, which they use to tear food and capture prey.

**Flippers** – Turtles have four flippers. Their flippers allow them to hold onto prey and swipe it aside to tear off bits. Female turtles also use their flippers to dig nests in the sand. All turtles use their flippers to swim quickly in the water.

**Nostrils** - Sea turtles are air-breathing animals that have lungs, so they regularly surface to breathe through their nostrils. Sea turtles spend a majority of their time underwater, so they must be able to hold their breath for long periods.

