Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle Migration



The Kemp's Ridley is one of the most endangered sea turtles and can be found in the Gulf of Mexico. Migration (the movement of a species from one place to another) is an important part of their life history. Use the map to answer these questions about the Kemp's Ridley migration.

1. Currents that are colored red are warm water currents. Currents that are blue carry cooler waters. Assign the currents on the map to one of the groups below:

| Warm Water Currents | Cold Water Currents |
|---------------------|---------------------|
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- 2. Why would warm water currents be important for sea turtles (hint: they are reptiles)?
- 3. Near which body of water do Kemp's Ridley sea turtles hatch?
- 4. If a Kemp's Ridley sea turtle was in the Gulf of Mexico, which current would it need to take to go to the Atlantic Ocean?
- 5. The rotating ocean currents form large circular patterns called gyres. What body of water is in the center of the Atlantic Ocean gyre?
- 6. Gyres generally have calmer waters. Why would this be a good place for young sea turtles?