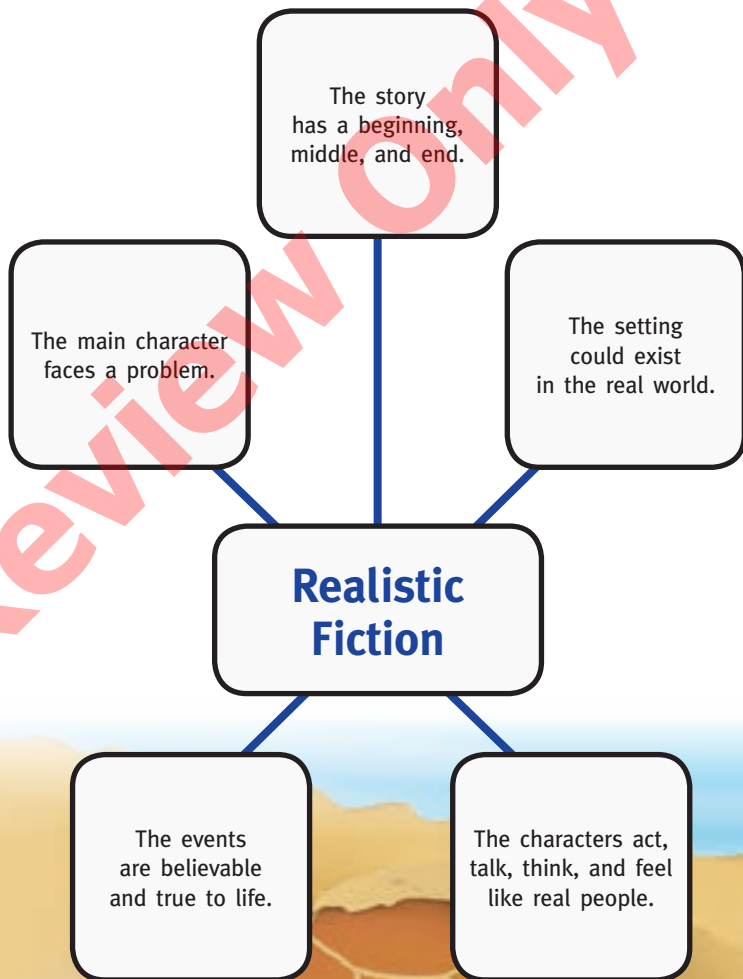


Turtles in Trouble



Realistic Fiction

Look for the genre features noted below as you read this book. Use the features to help you understand the text.



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Alina was born ten years ago on a beach. She has lived in the ocean ever since.

Now Alina is swimming with other turtles toward that same beach. She is going to make her nest in the sand.

It's been a very long and exhausting trip. She's almost there.





Suddenly, a boat goes speeding past and hits her.

Alina is okay. Her hard shell protects her, but one of her flippers is hurt.

Alina keeps swimming, but she's tired and swims slowly. She can't keep up with the group.

Finally she gets to the beach alone. Her flipper hurts. She looks all around but doesn't see other turtles. They have already left. Then she sees the nests made by the other turtles in the sand.

Alina doesn't get discouraged. Soon she finds the perfect spot next to a palm tree. Her nest will get sun and shade.



Alina tries to build her nest, but her injured flipper hurts. She tries to dig, but she is very tired. She has hardly any strength in her injured flipper.



Suddenly Alina sees a girl and her dad walking carefully among the nests in the sand. The girl has a notebook. She writes down the number of nests on the beach.

“Dad, come look at this turtle!” she says, pointing at Alina. “She is injured! Can we help her?”

Rosa and her dad take a closer look at Alina.

“Don’t worry, it doesn’t look too serious. We’ll clean up her flipper and then help build her nest,” says Dad.



“Isn’t it too late? All the other turtles have gone,” says Rosa.

“No, there’s still time. She has to rest. We need to clean up that flipper,” answers Dad.

Alina gets a little nervous. She’s never been around people before!

Rosa wants to be a veterinarian, just like her dad. She knows exactly what to do. Her dad showed her at the Center for Sea Turtles. She approaches Alina cautiously. Her dad checks the flipper.

“The turtle is calmer now,” says Dad.

“She knows that we want to help her,” says Rosa while handing her dad a bandage.