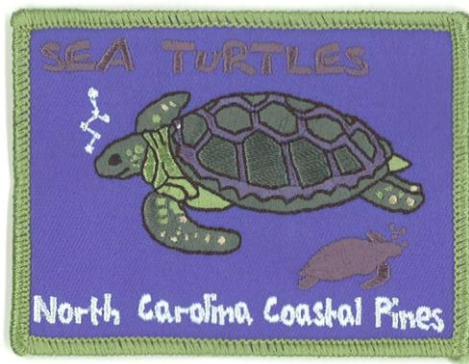


Sea Turtles Patch Program



The Sea Turtle patch program was created to educate Girl Scouts on sea turtles and inspire them to take action to protect local sea turtles. This patch program is for Girl Scout Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors.

Girl Scouts - North Carolina Coastal Pines
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This patch program was originally developed by Girl Scout Brownie Troop #649. We thank them for the time and effort they took to create this program. It has since been updated to fit with GSUSA curriculum.

Requirements:

Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors must complete 3 Discover activities, 3 Connect activities, and 2 Take Action activities.

Activities

Discover

1. Sea Turtle Parts

Look at the coloring sheet in the **Resource Section**. Talk through each of the parts of a sea turtle and color them as you talk about them. Below is information on each part to help you educate your troop. Feel free to do more research on the parts of the sea turtle if your troop is interested in that topic.

- **Flippers-** They have two large flippers in the front and two smaller flippers in the back. The front flippers provide the speed and the back, give direction
- **Shell-** The hard shell protects the soft insides of the sea turtle
- **Eyes-** Provide them with underwater vision
- **Head-** Sea turtles have hard heads and have no teeth. Instead they have horny beaks that they use to cut and slice

2. Sea Turtle's Eat

The different types of sea turtles eat different things. Answer the questions below to learn which sea turtles eat what.

- **What is an herbivore?** _____
- **What is a carnivore?** _____
- **What is an omnivore?** _____

Write the types of adult sea turtles in the category they belong in. Also, write one thing they eat in the box with the turtle type.

Herbivore	Carnivore	Omnivore

3. Sea turtle life cycle

Research the 5 stages of the sea turtle life cycle: egg, hatchling, young sea turtle, adult sea turtle, and laying eggs. Fill out the diagram in the **Resource Section** with pictures of each of these stages and a short description of the stage. Below are a few, among many websites to learn about the sea turtle life cycle:

- [See Turtles](#)
- [Sea Turtle Conservancy](#)
- [State of the World's Sea Turtles](#)

Having trouble with the links? Email patchprogram@nccoastalpines.org.

4. Types of sea turtle

There are 7 types of sea turtles. Research the names of each of them and then answer the questions below:

- Which sea turtle(s) live in the water near North Carolina?
- Which type of sea turtle grows the largest? How heavy can they get?
- How does the Kemp's Ridley get its name?
- How old does the average sea turtle get?
- How did the Loggerhead turtle get its name?
- Which North Carolina sea turtle is most endangered?
- What sea turtle is most commonly seen in North Carolina?

Want to learn more about North Carolina Sea Turtle? Check out this [site](#)!

Connect

1. Animal Class

Research the animal class that sea turtles are grouped in. Name 3 other animals that are in the same class.

2. Turtles and Trash Tag

Rather than playing sharks and minnows, your troop is going to play turtles and trash. Explain to your troop that trash in the ocean and on the shore, can harm turtles. Remind them that

this is the reason, cleaning up the beach and the water is important. Play the game to demonstrate trash threatening turtles.

Setup:

- Designate an “ocean” play area with visible boundaries

How to Play:

- Identify who will be the trash (one or two players). Everyone else will be a sea turtle
- The trash will stand in the middle of the area and then the turtles will start to slowly walk towards the trash
- At any point the trash, can yell “Trash Spill!”, this is when the turtles must run to the boundary opposite that they started on without being tagged
- When a turtle is tagged then they turn into a trash and help tag the rest of the sea turtles
- Once only one or two turtles are left, the game is over and those one/two turtles become the trash the next round

3. Make Your Own Turtle

Make a turtle out of the craft supplies you have at home. Try out one of these crafts below. Can you name the parts of the turtle? What type of sea turtle are you making, can you identify it? Look for other crafts online too.

- [Weaved Baby Turtle](#)
- [Egg Carton Turtles](#)
- [Paper Plate Turtles](#)

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4. Sea Turtle Threats Activity

Multiple species of sea turtles are threatened or endangered. It is important to be educated about endangered species and how we can help protect them. This activity demonstrates some of the threats sea turtles face and how those threats lead to endangerment.

Before doing the activity, make sure your troop understands what it means for a species to be endangered. Use the definition and resources below to aid an understanding the topic of endangered species. **See the resource section for details on the activity!**

- Definition- endangered means that there aren't many of that animal left in nature.
- [Sea Turtle Threats](#)
- [Levels of Threat](#)
- [Endangered Sea Turtles](#)
- [Endangered Animal Facts for Kids](#)

Having trouble with the links? Email patchprogram@nccoastalpines.org.

Take Action

1. Write letter

Write a letter to a local or state politician about protecting sea turtles. In your letter, research and name 2 reasons to save sea turtles and 2 ways to help protect them. Don't forget you can always include drawings of sea turtles in your letter too!

2. Poster

Create a poster about saving sea turtles. Hang up your posters at your school, church, or other buildings in your community. Be sure to share how and why people should save the sea turtles.

3. Clean up

Take a trip to the beach to clean up trash that could harm sea turtles. Make sure you bring trash bags and gloves to use as you clean up the beach. If you can't go to the beach to help the sea turtles, you can go to a local pond and clean up. Turtles everywhere need our help protecting their homes from trash. 😊

Resource Section

Sea Turtle Threats Activity

Supplies:

- Cut the cards below (the game is set up for 10 to play, you can cut out extra cards or take away repeated cards to match the number of participants)
- Paper plates

Set up:

- Make two rows of paper plates 3 ft. away from each other. Include a paper plate for each player. Place the set of Row 1 Cards on paper plates in the second row (the first row is just the start line). One card per plate.
- Then another 3 ft. away, line up the number of plates for $\frac{3}{4}$ of the original number of participants (example: if you started with 10 paper plates, you will have 7 plates in this row). Place the set of Row 2 cards on paper plates in this row
- Then after another 3 ft., line up the number of plates for $\frac{1}{2}$ of the original number of participants (example: if you started with 10 paper plates, you will have 5 plates in this row). Place the set of Row 3 cards on paper plates in this row
- Finally line up plates for $\frac{1}{4}$ the number of original participants (example: if you started with 10 paper plates, you will have 2 plates in this row). Place the set of Row 4 cards on paper plates in this row

How to Play:

- Read the paragraph below to your troop before starting the activity. This will set the context.

Imagine you are cute, Loggerhead Sea Turtles that just hatched from your nests. You are moving and grooving, ready to dive into the ocean to find some food. A big part of the challenge of being a sea turtle is surviving. We are going to go do an activity to see the survival threats sea turtles face. Each paper plate in the activity represents a new nest for you. Each row of paper plates is a nesting season. Let's start the journey- swim (walk) to your next nest!

- Once the turtles get to the second set of nests, have them pick up the card on their plate. Have them read their cards aloud
- Next, have the girls follow the instructions on their card as they move to the next row of plates. Make sure you are explaining the threats each time and linking it to the prior conversation about endangered species and surviving. Please note, girls who don't continue in the activity as a turtle will still need to follow along the journey on the side line, so they continue to learn through the activity.
- Continue to have the girls move from row to row as the card instructions guide them. Remember to continue to talk through the threats and the challenge of surviving
- When the last turtles are left, talk through the activity and reflect on it as a whole. Here are some prompted questions below:
 - Did you think so few turtles would survive at the end?
 - How many completely, healthy (meaning- no injuries) turtles survived? Are you surprised by this number?
 - Did any of the ways the turtles were harmed surprise you?
 - What are other ways turtles can be harmed?
 - What can you do help protect animal from threats?

Row 1 Cards

You nested and now have baby turtles – you will continue on	You nested and now have baby turtles- you will continue on
You nested and now have baby turtles- you will continue on	You were hit by a boat and lost a fin- - you will continue on but must hop on one leg the rest of the activity
You were hit by a boat and lost a fin- you will continue on but must hop on one leg the rest of the activity	You swallow a bottle cap and didn't live – now you must sit out
You swallowed a bottle cap and didn't live – now you must sit out	You were attacked by a bird as a baby- now you must sit out
You got tangled in a net and swim very slow now- you will continue on but you must walk very slow the rest of the activity	You got tangled in a net and swim very slow now- you will continue on but you must walk very slow the rest of the activity

Row 2 Cards

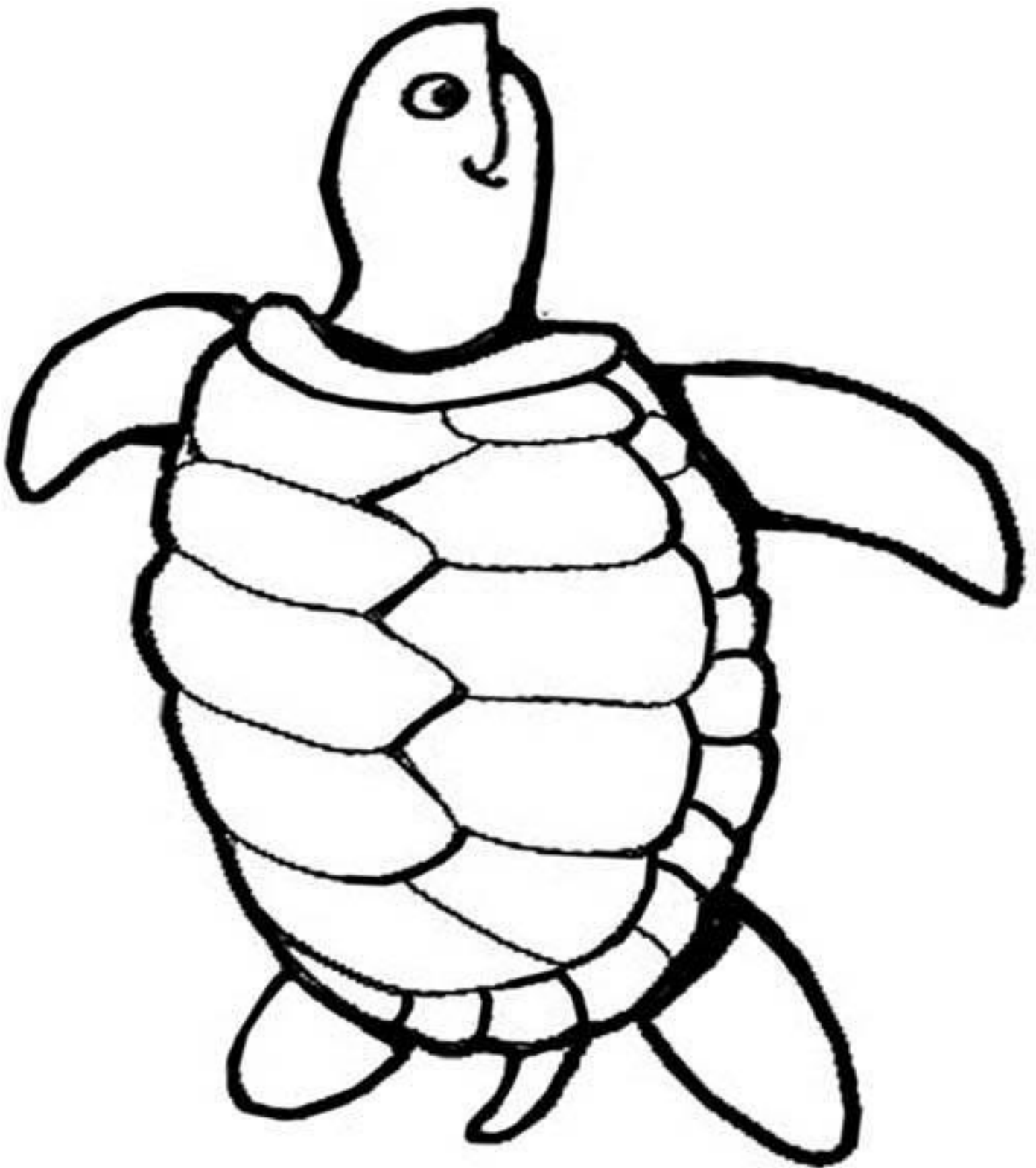
You nested this year and now have baby turtles – you will continue on	You nested this year and now have baby turtles- you will continue on
You ate a plastic bag thinking it is a jellyfish, you got ill, and passed away – now you must sit out	Your nesting site was destroyed; you can't nest this year – you will continue on
There was an oil spill, you got very sick from it, but were rescued – you continue on	You were attacked by a predator– now you must sit out
You got catch in a fishing net and hurt your fin - you will continue on but you have to hop on one leg	

Row 3 Cards

You nested this year and now have baby turtles – you will continue on	You got tangled in a net and swim very slow now- you will continue on but you must walk very slow
You ate a balloon, got ill from it, and passed away – now you must sit out	You got killed by a poacher who wanted your shell - now you must sit out
You got sick from pollutants in the water and passed away – now you must sit out	

Row 4 Cards

You have successfully made through 4 nesting seasons!	You have successfully made through 4 nesting seasons!
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Life Cycle of a Turtle

**Adult
Sea
Turtle**

**Young
Sea
Turtle**

**Laying
Eggs**

Hatchling

Eggs

