

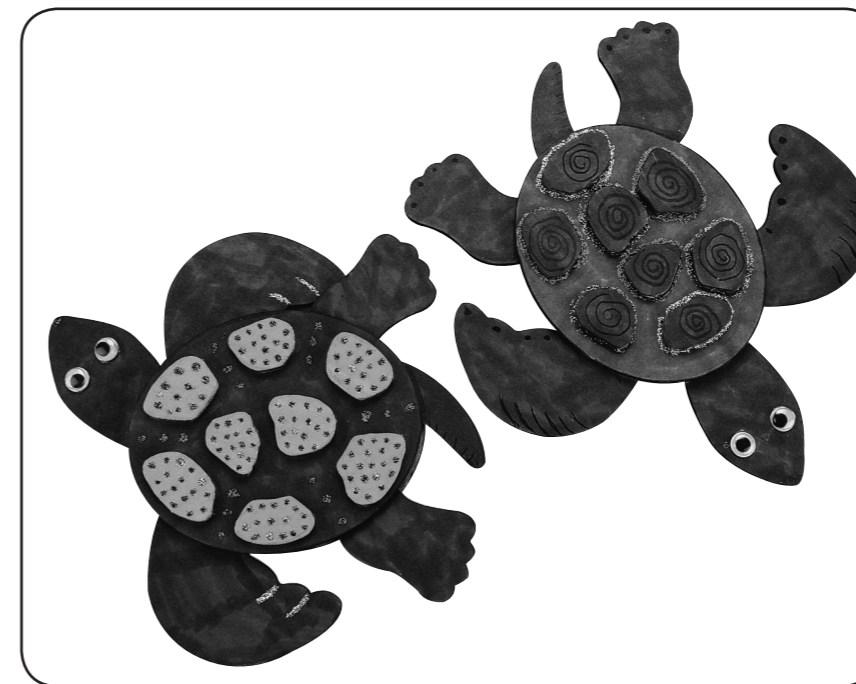
## TURTLE FACTS

Fill in the blanks with the correct answer:

1. Turtles usually have very hard \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Turtles can walk on land very (slowly or quickly) \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Turtles can swim well because of the shape of their front \_\_\_\_\_.
4. In order to protect itself, a turtle can hide in \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Name all the things that turtles eat: \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Sea Turtles lay their eggs in the \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Snapping Turtles got their name because they \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The largest turtles in the world are what kind? \_\_\_\_\_.
9. True or false: Turtles have tails? \_\_\_\_\_.
10. A turtle's shell is very soft or hard? \_\_\_\_\_.

## Myrtle the Turtle Craft Kit (Pk/24)

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE STARTING



### YOUR KIT CONTAINS:

- Sheets of Cardboard Turtle Pieces
- Wiggly Eyes
- Tacky Glue
- Glitter Glue
- Markers

### YOU WILL NEED:

- Cups of Water
- Paper Towels

### EACH PERSON SHOULD HAVE:

- 1 Cardboard sheet with Turtle Pieces.
- 2 Wiggly Eyes
- The markers, glue and glitter glue will be shared among the group.

**AGE GROUP: 6 and up**  
**PROJECT TIME: 45 minutes**

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Punch out the turtle pieces from the cardboard sheet.
2. Use the markers to color your turtle pieces, creating your own design. Don't forget to color the turtle's stomach on the underside.
3. Using one large oval for the turtle's back, lay out the 8 small irregular shapes, which are the plates on a turtle's back. See finished photo for placement of these shapes. Glue these shapes onto the same cardboard oval.
4. Using the other large oval, place the head, front flippers, back legs and tail around the oval, overlapping onto the oval about ½ inch. See Diagram A. Put a dab of glue on the parts that overlap and press the pieces down firmly into place.
5. Put a dab of glue on top of each of the 4 legs. Lay the large oval shell on top of the first oval body and press down firmly.
6. Use the glitter glue pens to create highlights in the design on the top side of the turtle.
7. Allow time to dry.

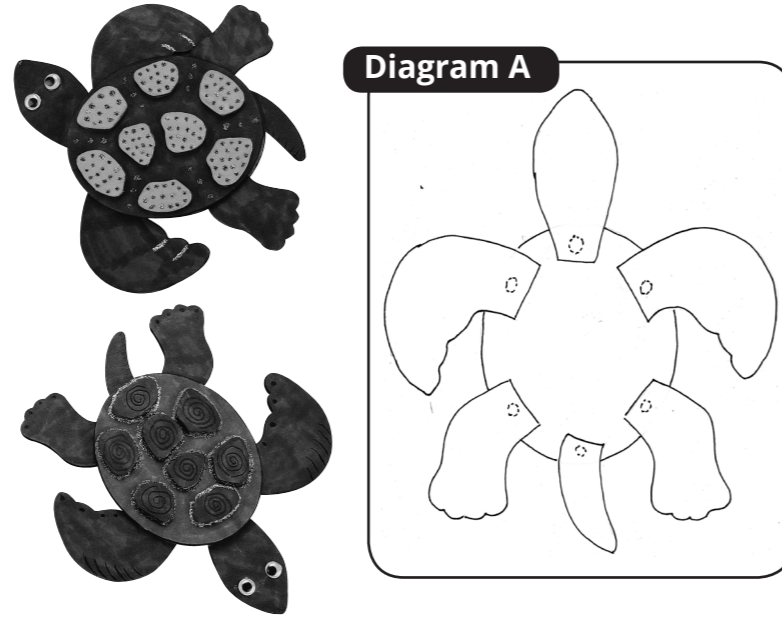


## THE STUDY OF TURTLES

### INTRODUCTION

There are many types of turtles. Some live in fresh water, such as ponds and streams, while others live in the salt water of the ocean. Adult turtles can be as small as 3 or 4 inches or as large as about 30 inches. The hard shell of a turtle is its protection and it can move its head, feet and tail into the shell when danger appears. Turtles are reptiles. Turtles are one of the oldest animals on our planet, with their history going back to the time of the dinosaurs. Tortoises are generally land turtles. Some of the most common types of turtles are:

1. **Red Eared Turtle:** The best house pet and the most well recognized turtle. It eats aquatic plants and lives in fresh water with murky bottom.
2. **Eastern Painted Turtle:** Lives in ponds and streams and eats tiny fish and animals. It grows to be about 10 inches long.
3. **Eastern Box Turtle:** Lives in wet woods and pastures. It is about 8 inches long and eats worms and slugs.
4. **Spotted Turtle:** Lives in marshy meadows, bogs and wetlands. It eats worms and spiders and is about 5 inches long.
5. **Snapping Turtle:** Lives in muddy, weedy ponds and eats small turtles, frogs and fish. It is about 18 inches long.
6. **Loggerhead Turtle:** An ocean creature that can grow to be up to 48 inches long. It eats sponges, crabs and sea urchins.



### SCIENCE/LANGUAGE ARTS

**OBJECTIVE:** Study the habitats of turtles. Learn how the characteristics of turtles help them survive.

**SUGGESTED TIME FRAME:** 30 minutes.

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:** Paper, pencils, crayons. Various materials and Internet information. See resources information at the end of the lessons.

**PROCEDURE:**

Choose a type of turtle that is present in your area. To learn about the habitats of turtles, use the resources available, such as textbooks and Internet information. Choose certain types of turtles and have the group divide into sub groups to have each group study one particular type of turtle and its habitat. Topics include where the turtle lives, what it eats, how it protects itself, how it looks, how large it gets, and how long it lives. This could be done as a written report to the group or an oral report. It could also contain pictures to support any of the information.

### ART

**OBJECTIVE:** To learn about the coloration of painted turtles. Painted turtles generally have streaks of bright yellow and orange on their necks, heads and the underside of the body.

**SUGGESTED TIME FRAME:** 45 minutes.

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:** Markers or Tempera paint in yellow and orange, brushes, white paper.

**PROCEDURE:**

Try one of these methods to create the effect of color streaks, much like the painted turtle has.

**MARKERS:** Parallel swirl lines of yellow and orange on the neck and head of the turtle.

**PAINTS:** Fold a sheet of paper in half lengthwise. Dab the yellow and orange colors onto one side of the center line of the paper. Close the paper on the fold line and rub the paper to move the paint around. Open the paper and see an abstract design, much like the coloration of the underside of the painted turtle body. This paper can then be cut to size and glued onto the cardboard turtle you have created.

## MATH

**OBJECTIVE:** Learn about geometric shapes: Circle, Oval, Triangle, Square, Diamond, Octagon.

**SUGGESTED TIME FRAME:** 30 minutes.

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:** Paper, pencils, rulers, markers, scissors.

**PROCEDURE:** Create your own turtle using only the geometric shapes outlined above. They can be different sizes. Use as many of the 6 geometric shapes as possible to create your turtle. Put shapes together to create a larger shape for the turtle. After the turtle has been created from pencil, color in the turtle with the markers. When everyone is finished, show all of the designs to note the creativity of each person in the group and how they made use of each shape.

## SCIENCE

**OBJECTIVE:** Study baby ocean turtle through early stages of development: Laying eggs on the beach, hatching, the journey to the sea, surviving in the ocean as young turtles.

**SUGGESTED TIME FRAME:** 45 minutes.

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:** Paper, pencils, crayons.

**PROCEDURE:** Have each person in the group research the life cycle of an ocean turtle and depict the stages in a series of drawings. Research can be done using textbooks, other reference books or searching the Internet for information. These drawings should denote the difficulties of the young turtles living to maturity. Divide a sheet of paper into 4 sections by folding it in half both lengthwise and widthwise. In each section, draw a picture that represents each of the 4 stages in the development of baby turtles. These pictures may then be colored. Discuss the difficulties that both the mother and baby turtles have while they are waiting to hatch and right after they hatch.

### Resources:

Book: Turtles of the World, by Carl Ernst

Websites: [www.conserveturtles.org](http://www.conserveturtles.org) (The Sea Turtle Conservancy)

[www.ehowfacts.com](http://www.ehowfacts.com)

[www.nmfs.noaa.gov](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov) (NOAA Office of Protected Resources)

[www.allturtles.com](http://www.allturtles.com)

Myrtle the Turtle - Reorder No. GP3084

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