

Baby turtles have big belly buttons.

Adults are 30 to 42 inches long and weigh from 250 to 400 pounds.

Crying turtles aren't sad, they're pumping out excess salt from glands near their eyes.

Hatchlings are about 2 inches long and weigh less than an ounce.

A baby turtle's sex is determined by the nest's temperature during incubation. Girls are hot and boys are cool.

Loggerheads live a long long time and don't reach sexual maturity until they're 30 to 35 years old.

With your help, she'll be back.

Loggerhead Sea Turtles return each year to nest on our beach. Females dig their nest, lay eggs, and head back to the ocean. In 60 days, the babies hatch and, on their own, make their way across the beach and out to the sea. Only one in 3,000 hatchlings will survive.

Since we're sharing the beach with the turtles, let's help ease their journey.



Lights Off

Sea turtles usually nest in the dark. Nesting females avoid brightly lit areas. Newborn hatchlings are guided to the sea by moonlight. Please don't use artificial lighting on the beach at night.

Look-But Don't Touch

Please don't disturb marked turtle nests. If you see hatchlings on the beach or a live, injured, or dead sea turtle, call **(Your Information Here)**.

Take Away Everything You Bring Today



Trash creates lots of problems for sea turtles. They are always on the lookout for food, and a plastic shopping bag floating on the water looks to them like a jellyfish. We've found turtles with bags and other plastic debris lodged in their stomach. Even a toy left on the beach becomes a major obstacle for a tiny hatchling trying to make it to the sea.

Leave Alone

Sand Dunes and Sea Oats

Vegetated dunes indicate to nesting sea turtles that they've reached the appropriate part of the beach for laying their eggs. Sea oats build and maintain the sand dunes. Wind sweeps sand landward and the clumps of grass catch the grains. Gradually, sand accumulates and forms a dune. The root system spreads 8 feet deep in all directions and stabilizes the sand dune.

If you remove the sea oats, the dunes will blow away.

Support the Work of the (Your Name) Sea Turtle Project

(Your Group's Information Here), coordinates the Sea Turtle Project.

During nesting season, May to October, we conduct daily dawn patrols to check for turtle activity that occurred during the night. When we find a nest, we evaluate the site. Nests below the high tide line are relocated. To protect the nest, we mark off the site and then monitor it daily. Prior to the hatch date (60 days), we start "nest sitting." When the Ping-Pong ball-sized eggs hatch and the hatchlings emerge from the nest (called a boil), we watch over them as they make their way across the beach and into the sea.

