

Sea Turtle Girl Scout Patch:

REQUIREMENTS:

Complete the three starred (*) activities AND

Daisies add 1 activity

Brownies add 2 activities

Juniors add 3 activities

Girl Scouts 11+ add 4 activities



DISCOVER:

___ * *All About the Rio Grande.* Learn all about New Mexico's connection to the sea and answer as many questions as you can. What does 'Rio Grande' mean? How is New Mexico connected to the Gulf of Mexico and the oceans beyond? What kinds of animals live in the Rio Grande? What are some changes the Rio Grande has been through?

___ *Sea Turtle Search.* Learn about the different kinds of sea turtles living today. Choose one species and answer the following questions: What does this sea turtle eat? What does it look like? What is the life cycle of this sea turtle?

___ *Sea Turtles in the Desert.* Can you find sea turtles in New Mexico? Visit the ABQ BioPark Aquarium and find out! Watch the sea turtle(s) you find for at least 5 minutes and make notes on what you see. What are the turtles doing? What do they look like? Write down 2-3 things you've learned by observing. Have questions? Ask an aquarist or an Education Volunteer at the 2 p.m. daily Ocean Habitat feedings.

CONNECT:

___ * *Turtle Trivia.* What makes a sea turtle so special? Learn more about how sea turtles are able to survive in a marine, or ocean, habitat and answer the following questions: What special adaptations or traits do sea turtles have that other turtles do not? Make a list of at least 3 special adaptations sea turtles have, and explain why these are useful for survival in their habitat.

___ *Peanut butter and Jellyfish?* Jellyfish, or sea jellies, are a large part of some sea turtle diets. Do some research on jellies to find out the following: Are there many animals that eat sea jellies? What makes sea jellies easy or hard to eat, and how do sea turtles eat them?

___ *Turtle Tracks.* Sea turtles are great swimmers and divers, but are not as good at moving on land. Find the answers to at least two of these questions: Why do sea turtles come to shore? Where do they come when they visit land? What are some of the challenges sea turtles face when they leave the water?

___ *Turtles and TEDs.* What exactly is a TED (turtle excluder device)? Find out the answer and then investigate further. Learn about and be ready to share the answers to the following questions: Why are TEDs used, and by whom? How does a TED work? Try making a sketch of a TED device in action.

TAKE ACTION:



___ * *Plastic Pursuit.* Did you use any plastic such as plastic bags, water bottles, or boxes this week? Much of the plastic garbage we throw out can end up in the oceans, and can be harmful to animals like sea turtles. Find out more about how plastics affect our oceans, and then brainstorm some ways you can reduce your use! Share at least 2 of your actions with your family.

___ *Take Action for Turtles!* You can make a difference for sea turtles! Research some challenges sea turtles face in the wild, and make a plan to raise awareness on how we can help them survive. Make posters, a web page, an art project or even a write a song to help spread the word!

PATCHES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE GIRL SCOUT SHOP, LA TIENDA, FOR \$2.00 EACH.