Lesson Summary

Sea turtles are threatened by a number of human interactions including pollution, coastal development, abandoned fishing gear, bycatch in commercial fishing nets and poaching.



Activities

These activities are designed to enhance and expand on the key learnings from the Sea Turtles lesson. They can be used as part of the Lesson or assigned for research or projects.

English

LEARNING SKILLS - Creative thinking, questioning, research, communicate, critical thinking, empathy, explanation, teamwork and global citizenship.

Activity 1

Write a poem or short story about the journey of a sea turtle hatchling from when the egg breaks open until the turtle reaches the open ocean. Describe the journey, how they feel, the dangers and the experience of swimming in the ocean for the first time.

Activity 2

Research and document the etymology of the different Sea Turtles names, and what their name relates to?

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Geography

LEARNING SKILLS - Understanding, questioning, research, communicate, critical thinking, analyse and explanation.

Activity 1

Research the location of beaches where sea turtles come ashore to lay eggs.

Find locations in 3 different countries. Where do the turtles travel from and which ocean currents do they use. Identify which environmental threats the sea turtles may face, including climate change and marine transport.

Create a presentation showing your findings.



SEA TURTLES LESSON ACTIVITY SHEET

TEACHING RESOURCE: SECONDARY SCHOOL (Age 11 - 16)

History

LEARNING SKILLS - Understanding, questioning, research, communicate, critical thinking and explanation.

Activity 1

Research an historical event that has had an impact on sea turtles and contributed to their endangered status. Create a presentation outlining your findings, including:

- > When the event occurred/started?
- > What happened?
- > Why it has impacted sea turtles?
- > Identify any other victims?
- > What are the short and long term consequences?
- > What can be done to help protect sea turtles?

Example events include:

- > Oil disasters Deepwater Horizon.
- > Introduction of soft / single use plastics.
- > Major natural disasters tsunami, cyclone, hurricane.

Science

LEARNING SKILLS - Understanding, questioning, research, analyse, communicate, critical thinking and explanation.

Activity 1

Investigate and identify how climate change impacts the ocean and sea turtles.

Activity 2

Research how sea turtle exclusion devices, used by commercial fishing vessels (shrimping vessels in particular) work. Can you think of a better design that would help allow sea turtles to escape or prevent them from being caught in commercial fishing nets?

Social Science

LEARNING SKILLS - Understanding, questioning, research, communicate, critical thinking, empathy, explanation, advocate and global citizenship.

Activity 1

Sea turtles are endangered species - how would you advocate to change the behaviour of poachers to help protect sea turtles? What would you do to show and inform them that sea turtles need protecting?

Activity 2

Create a tri-fold "travel" brochure on what you learned from this lesson.

- Page 1- where sea turtles are most likely to be found.
- Page 2- interesting sea turtle facts.
- Page 3- the life cycle or food chain of a sea turtle.
- Page 4- vocabulary words.
- Page 5- human impact on the sea turtle.
- Page 6- what you can do to help the sea turtle.

Arts / Media

LEARNING SKILLS - Creative thinking, research, communicate, critical thinking, empathy, explanation, advocate and global citizenship.

Activity 1

Create a design for a t-shirt or bag, incorporating a sea turtle, either:

- 1. Promoting a ban on plastic bags.
- 2. Advocating to stop sea turtle poaching.

Activity 2

Create an artwork showing the impacts of fishing or climate change on sea turtles.

YOUR FEEDBACK

We value your feedback and would be pleased to hear your thoughts about this lesson and activities. Any comments, suggestions or requests for further information can be sent to education@seashepherdglobal.org