



Helping turtles

Lesson plan: threats to sea turtles, the law that protects them, and how students can help



Ages	8 to 11 (grades 3 to 6)
Time	45 to 60 minutes
Group	Up to 35 students
Where	Any classroom. No internet needed.
You need	The slides, one planner sheet per student, and the beach rules poster to display

What students learn

- The main threats to sea turtles, and which ones people can change.
- That all sea turtles are protected by Philippine law.
- Real examples of communities protecting turtles.
- What to do, and what not to do, if you meet a turtle on the beach.

Before the lesson

1. Print one **turtle-friendly beach planner** per student and the **beach rules poster** (A3 if possible) to put up in class.

The lesson

- 1 **What harms turtles? 10 minutes, slides 1 and 2.** Ask students to sort the threats into ones people cause and ones they don't.
- 2 **Protection 10 minutes, slides 3 to 5.** Share the law, the Turtle Islands and the story of egg collectors becoming protectors.
- 3 **Beach rules 5 minutes, slide 6.** Practise the rules. Put the poster up in class.
- 4 **Turtle-friendly beach 15 minutes, slide 7.** Students draw and label their beach.
- 5 **Promise 5 minutes, slide 8.** Everyone writes a turtle promise.

Answers and what to listen for

A good turtle-friendly beach includes: dark beaches or turtle-safe lighting, no rubbish or plastic, no driving on the sand, dogs on leads, marked nests, turtle-safe fishing gear, and people who know the beach rules.

Making it easier or harder

- **Younger groups:** draw the beach together on a big sheet of paper.
- **Older groups:** write a short letter to the barangay asking for one change to protect turtles.
- **Link:** the Plastic pollution lessons explain how plastic reaches the sea.

Curriculum links

- **Science:** human impact, conservation.
- **Social studies (Araling Panlipunan):** laws and community action.
- **Ocean Literacy Principle 6:** the ocean and humans are inextricably interconnected.

The teacher reading has the science behind every slide, with links to the sources.

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