

rock by rock 

Save the Turtles

Endangered
Species

Did you know that...

54% of Sea
turtles have
eaten plastic.



Turtles think
plastic is food
because it looks
like jellyfish.



Baby turtles are
most at risk from
being entangled
in plastic.



We need to save sea turtles!

Sea turtles are a keystone species. That means many other animals depend on sea turtles to help them live. Sea turtles help to keep the environment healthy. If we did not have sea turtles our oceans would have way too many jellyfish and seabed grass which is not good for the ocean. This would harm many other sea creatures.

Sea turtles also help other sea animals get around. They go on long trips where many smaller animals "hitch-hike" a ride on turtles shells. Smaller animals use turtles to search for food. Sea turtles also provide an umbrella or shelter for smaller sea animals so that they can hide from their predators.

The biggest threat to sea turtles is plastic. All seven types of sea turtles are considered endangered and three kinds are critically endangered. This means if we do not take action now we may not have any turtles left. We can help by wasting less plastic. That includes using less straws, plastic bottles, cups, and single use tupperware. It is also important to recycle and upcycle plastic so that it doesn't end up in the ocean to harm sea turtles.



Upcycling For Sea Turtles

Let's reuse plastic to create art!

Have you ever heard of the word upcycling? It's a type of recycling where you reuse a product that was used for one thing and use it for something else instead.

Plastic is something that is great for upcycling because plastic can take many years to decompose. Plastic bags take 10-20 years to breakdown. Plastic in landfills can take 1,000 years to deteriorate. This makes it a great material to upcycle.

Today you are going to create a plastic mosaic turtle using plastic you have at home. Your mosaic will include a message to teach people about saving sea turtles.



Directions



1 Collect Plastic: Go around your house and collect different types materials made out of plastic. This can be lids, bottles, caps, straws etc..



2 Color Your Turtle: Color your sea turtle using the outline on the next page or draw your own.



3 Design and Glue the plastic: Use the plastic pieces to design a mosaic on top of your drawing. Then glue the pieces down.



4 Wait for 20 minutes: It may take some time for the plastic to stick. Be patient.



5 Create your message: While you are waiting for the mosaic to dry think of your message and take action tip. Write it on the poster once everything has dried.

