

# Classroom Resources:



## *Cooperative Learning Activity: Sea Turtle Sizes*

**Grade Levels:** 6 - 10

**Student Objectives:**

This cooperative learning activity is designed as an introduction to the different species of sea turtles found in Florida waters. Along the way, students will learn to work together and learn some interesting facts about the life history of each sea turtle species; at the same time they will be improving their skills in working together. After working through this activity, each student will be able to:

1. Describe at least one fun fact
2. Explain ways humans are a threat to sea turtles
3. Compare the diets of the different sea turtles
3. Differentiate between sea turtle species based on size

**Goal of the Activity:**

The goal is to get students to arrange the species of sea turtles in order of size and then assign sizes (in feet) to each species. All cards are necessary to complete the activity, so groups must have six students, or some students must take more than one card. The problems to be solved are stated on two separate cards. The sea turtle cards are provided as a list of species found in Florida waters to help the students organize the group's thoughts.

**Cooperative Learning Activity Card Sets**

<b>Sea Turtle Sizes</b>	<b>Sea Turtle Sizes</b>
<p>The Kemp's ridley is the rarest of all the sea turtles.</p> <p>The most common species in Florida is approximately 4 feet long.</p> <p>Share this information with your group members to solve your problem.</p>	<p>The Green turtle is approximately 1.5 feet longer than the Kemp's ridley.</p> <p>Solve this: Once you have arranged the sea turtle species in order by size, figure out the average size in feet for each species.</p>
<b>Sea Turtle Sizes</b>	<b>Sea Turtle Sizes</b>
<p>One of the reasons that Green turtles are endangered is that they continue to be hunted for their meat and eggs.</p> <p>The average human adult male is 6 feet tall; that is 2 feet shorter than the largest sea turtle.</p>	<p>The rarest sea turtle averages 3.5 feet long.</p> <p>The Loggerhead, the most common species in Florida, has powerful jaws to crush the heavy shelled clams, crabs and other shelled animals on which it feeds.</p> <p>The Hawksbill eats invertebrates. It is especially fond of sponges.</p>
<b>Sea Turtle Sizes</b>	<b>Sea Turtle Sizes</b>
<p>The species that averages 4.5 feet long has been hunted to the brink of extinction for its beautiful shell. This species of sea turtle eats mostly sponges and other invertebrates.</p> <p>An adult Leatherback can grow to 8 feet long.</p>	<p>The Leatherback is the largest and most active of the sea turtles. They travel thousands of miles, dive thousands of feet deep and venture into much colder water than any other kind of sea turtle.</p> <p>Here is your group's problem: Arrange the 5 species of sea turtles found in Florida waters in order from smallest to largest.</p>

