

GREEN SEA TURTLE



Scientific Name: *Chelonia mydas*

Classification:
Phylum Chordata
Subphylum Vertebrata
Class Reptilia
Order Testudines
Family Cheloniidae

Size: Adults can grow to 5 feet (1.5 meters)

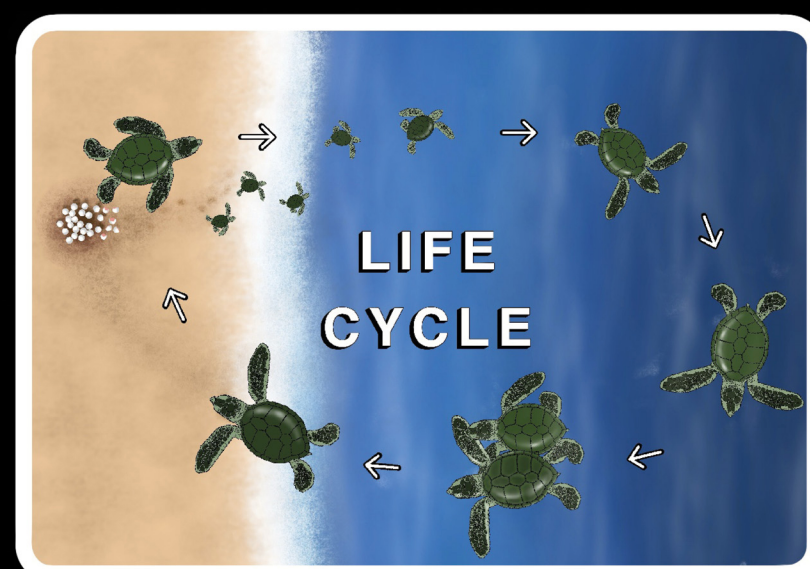
Life Span: Approximately 70 years

Fun Fact: The only herbivorous species of sea turtle

School Programs
2025-2026

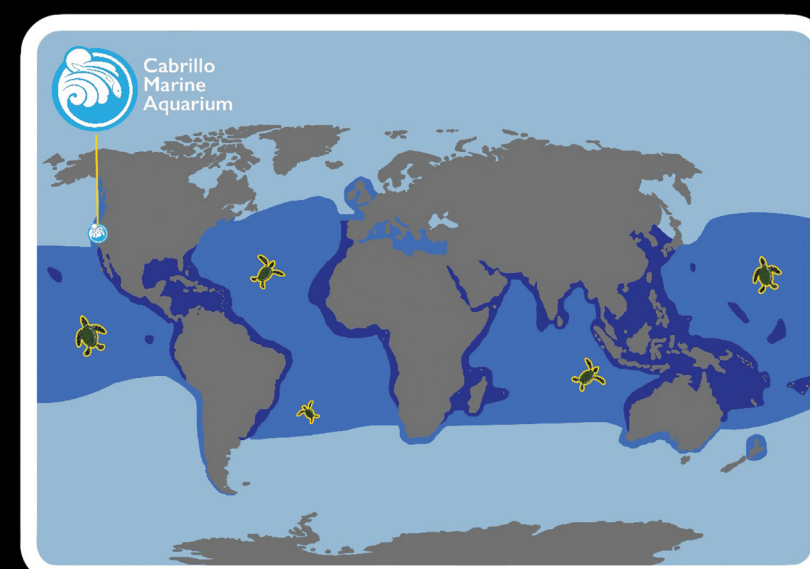


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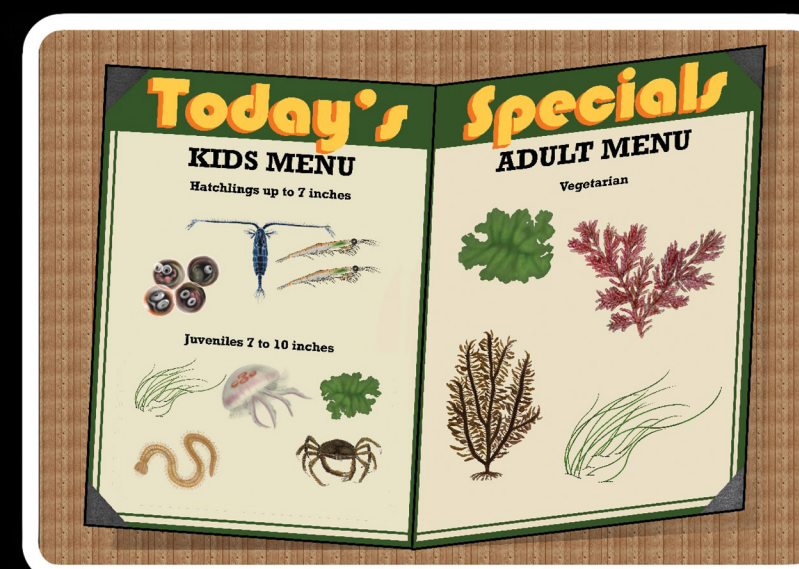
Every two to three years, adult females return to beaches where they were born to lay their eggs. Warmer nest temperatures produce more female hatchlings, while cooler conditions yield more males. After about two months, the tiny hatchlings emerge at night and instinctively make their way toward the ocean.

Range



This cosmopolitan species can be found in the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans. They can migrate over 1,000 miles between feeding grounds and nesting beaches. Southern California has a small population of juveniles and sub-adults in Long Beach and San Diego which migrate from their breeding grounds in Mexico and Central America.

Diet



The diet changes throughout their life. Hatchlings feed on small invertebrates and fish eggs; juveniles feed on crustaceans, jellies, worms, and algae; adults feed primarily on seagrasses and algae. How did they get their name? Green fat under their shell, believed to be from their adult diet!

Conservation



Sea turtles depend on a healthy ocean to survive. We can help protect them by caring for nesting beaches and feeding grounds, reducing pollution, and taking action on climate change—to give these amazing marine animals a brighter future.



School Programs 2025-2026



Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

www.CabrilloMarineAquarium.org

Learn About Marine Science with Wet Hands and Sandy Feet!

Tours

Sand to Sea Odyssey — CMA Docents give students a fun and interactive introduction to marine science!

Details: June-March, Tuesday-Friday, 10am. 90-minute program. Fee: Free.*

Self-Guided Aquarium Visits — Explore the Aquarium on your own; reservations required.

Details: Year-round, Tuesday-Friday, 1-5pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11am-5pm. Fee: Free.*

Outdoor Programs

Spring Outdoor Classroom — Bringing our classroom outside for hands-on fun in the sun! Through talks and activities students learn about different types of marine animals and our ocean environment.

Details: March-April (PreK-K), April-June (K-5), Tuesday-Friday, 10am. 90-minute program. No limit of students per program; no more than 1 adult per 5 students. Fee: Free.*

Explore the Shore — Learn by doing! Challenge your students to explore science concepts using the tools of a naturalist. Students engage in hands-on investigation of local habitats and marine organisms in our Coastal Park. Learn about life along the shore and our role in conservation.

Details: October-June, Fridays, 10am. 90-minute program. Limit 60 students per program; no more than 1 adult per 5 students. Fee: Free.*

Key to the Sea — This beach-based program encourages students to learn about watershed stewardship, coastal ecology and how we are all connected to the ocean. Teachers are required to attend a Key to the Sea workshop prior to their field trip. For more information visit: www.healthebay.org/key2sea/

Details: October-June, Fridays, 10am. 90-minute program. Limit 60 students per program; no more than 1 adult per 5 students. Fee: Free.*

Sea Search

Marine Biology Workshops provide hands-on laboratory and field experiences that focus on a wide range of marine biology topics. In the laboratory, activities include the use of microscopes and observation of live marine animals and other specimens. Using scientific field tools, students will explore the flora and fauna of the natural habitats in the tidepools, salt marsh or sandy beach adjacent to the Aquarium. Human impacts and conservation issues are incorporated in all classes.

Details: October-June, Tuesday-Friday, 10am. 2.5 hour program. Limit 45 students per program. Fee: \$350 for up to 35 students, \$10 for each additional student.

Ocean Outreach

Bringing the wonders of the ocean to your school! Students will be captivated and engaged through interactive talks, hands-on discovery, and specimen investigation. We can even bring live marine animals to your school! All our topics are tailored to specific grade and age levels, and designed to spark your students' curiosity and appreciation for the ocean.

Details: Year-round, Tuesday-Friday, 9:30am-2:30pm, up to 1-hr sessions with a maximum of four sessions per site per day. Limit 30 students per session. Fee: \$170 for the first session, \$70 for each additional session. After-school sessions available April-September. Fee: \$230 for the first session, \$90 for the second session. Travel range: within 60 miles of the Aquarium.

Whale Watching

Take your students to sea to experience whales, dolphins and sea lions in their natural habitat while enjoying a fun boat trip with an experienced guide. Our nutrient-rich waters may provide opportunities to see migrating gray whales, as well as humpback whales, fin whales, bottlenose dolphins, common dolphins, California sea lions, sea birds, and other marine life. Cabrillo Whalewatch volunteer naturalists can provide a live or virtual pre-trip classroom presentation to prepare your students for all that may be seen during the at-sea tour.

Details: Year-round, two- to three-hour boat trips departing from various landings. Live or virtual presentation by an experienced naturalist prior to your trip.

Workshops, Service-Learning and Community Service

We offer Educator Workshops throughout the year. Opportunities are also available to help students fulfill academic service hour requirements. Do you know a Middle School or High School student interested in Marine Science Research? Visit our website to learn more about our Young Scientists Program.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is dedicated to promoting appreciation, knowledge, and conservation of the rich marine life of Southern California.

Through our many live and interpretive exhibits, seawater laboratories and surrounding seashore habitats, your students have the opportunity to explore the wonders of our neighboring ocean.

Located on the beach in San Pedro, our beautiful Cabrillo Coastal Park includes tidepools, a salt marsh, sandy beaches, a fishing pier and grassy picnic areas, all joined by accessible trails for you and your class to enjoy.

Our programs are LAUSD Board of Education approved and are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards.

Program Reservations

To learn more and to make reservations for our programs, please visit our website:



For more information call 310-548-7562,
Monday - Friday from 9am to 5pm.

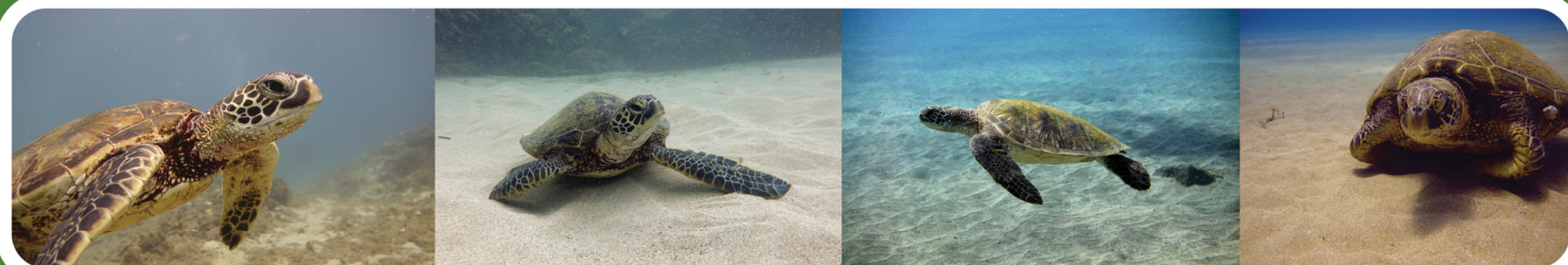
	PreK min. age 4 yrs.	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	High School	Adults		Availability	Duration	Cost
School Programs																
Tours — Discover local marine life																
Sand to Sea Odyssey		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Jun-Mar	90 min.	Free*
Self-Guided Aquarium Visits	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Year-round	90 min.	Free*
Outdoor Programs — Hands-on learning & coastal experience																
Spring Outdoor Classroom	•	•	•	•	•	•	•							Mar-Jun	90 min.	Free*
Explore the Shore		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Oct-Jun	90 min.	Free*
Key to the Sea			•	•	•	•	•							Oct-Jun	90 min.	Free*
Sea Search — Marine biology workshops																
What Lives on the Sandy Beach			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Oct-Jun	2.5hrs.	Fee-based
Life on the Rocky Shores			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Oct-Jun	2.5hrs.	Fee-based
Salt Marsh and Plankton				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Oct-Jun	2.5hrs.	Fee-based
Habitat Comparison			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Oct-Jun	2.5hrs.	Fee-based
Ichthyology							•	•	•	•	•			Oct-Jun	2.5hrs.	Fee-based
Ocean Outreach — Bringing the ocean to you																
The Adventures of C. Weed the Snail Puppet Show	•													Jun-Feb	50 min.	Fee-based
At Home in the Sea		•	•											Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
The Greatest Fish Story Ever Told!		•	•	•	•	•								Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
Treasures in the Tidepool				•	•	•	•	•	•	•				Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
Thar She Blows! A Whale of a Lesson				•	•	•	•	•	•	•				Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
Shark! It's OK to Go into the Water				•	•	•	•	•	•	•				Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
Ocean Drifters: What is Plankton Anyway?					•	•	•	•	•	•				Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
The Art of Fish Printing: Gyotaku in the Classroom					•	•	•	•	•	•				Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
Ten Arms and an Attitude: A Squid Dissection					•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
No Guts, No Glory: A Fish Dissection					•	•	•	•	•	•	•			Year-round	1 hr.	Fee-based
Whale Watching — See whales and dolphins in the wild																
Boat Trip	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Year-round	2-3 hrs.	Fee-based
Presentations: Live or Virtual	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Year-round	Up to 1 hr.	Free*

*Free programs:

We are no longer collecting recyclable aluminum cans. In lieu of any costs for this tour, please support our important campaign: **CMA wants a clean LA!** Your students can help us with this goal through in-class activities or service-learning projects in support of our free programs.

Make an opportunity to teach your students the importance of reaching beyond recycling, then do an environmentally conscious project. i.e. campus cleanup, reuse / repair project, art with recycled resources, etc. Once complete, please send us photos of your project. Information will be provided upon registration.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is a trusted resource that inspires exploration, respect and conservation of Southern California marine life.



Conservation photo © NOAA, all other photos © D. Heilprin



ACCREDITED BY THE
**ASSOCIATION
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AQUARIUMS**

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium • 3720 Stephen M. White Drive • San Pedro, CA 90731 • TEL: 310-548-7562 • www.cabrillosmarineaquarium.org
A facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks with support from Friends of CMA