



# Paper Plate Sea Turtle

Sea turtles spend almost their entire lives underwater, even though they breathe air. As you create your turtle, imagine paddling through the colorful coral reef around you. What would it be like to carry your home on your back?

## Materials

1 paper plate  
Crayons, colored pencils, or markers  
Print-out templates (page 2)  
Glue stick or tape  
Optional: googly eyes

## Directions

1. **Print out** the second page and color your turtle's head, flippers, and tail. Use colors like green, brown, and yellow to make it look realistic—or get creative instead!
2. **Cut out** the head, flippers and tail. Sea turtle flippers act like paddles in the water, but they make it difficult to move on land.
3. **Color** the paper plate to be your turtle's shell. Turtles have a layer of horny plates called "scutes" on the outside of their shells. Draw shapes like circles, squares, triangles, and hexagons to create your turtle's scutes. What other shapes can you think of?
4. **Tape or glue** the turtle's head, flippers, and tail to the paper plate shell.

