

Attention Parents! LRES ♥ Sea Turtles Project

Dear Parent(s):

October 31, 2016

Last spring I attended a sea turtle workshop at the North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher. I was so excited to learn that the aquarium facilitates an outreach program allowing North Carolina schools to informally adopt one of two sea turtle hatchlings. Below is a picture of the three month old loggerhead sea turtle hatchling our school has adopted. I will be sending updates on our sea turtle via our library's Twitter account @lreslibrary.

A great part of this program is that adoptive parent schools can name their hatchling. So in the spirit of election season, we are asking families to submit name nominations on the form included in your child's folder today. A name nomination committee will narrow the selections and submit to our students for the final vote. Please submit your sea turtle name nomination form to your teacher by November 8, 2016.

Another component of our Sea Turtle Project is the creation of an environmental art project. Our art specialist extraordinaire, Mr. Neal, and his 5th Grade Art Challenge and my 4th and 5th Grade Green Pride Challenges (formally clubs) are teaming up to create life size sculptures of 4 of the 5 sea turtle species that swim the ocean waters off of North Carolina's coast: Kemp's ridley, hawksbill, green and loggerhead sea turtles. Since leatherback sea turtles can top a length over 7 feet, we will put this giant on hold for now. Because plastic can be especially harmful to sea creatures, we decided to make the sculptures completely out of recycled plastic. We are asking Lynn Road School families to start collecting clean plastic bottle caps for our project. There will be collection boxes in the library. All colors of plastic bottle caps are welcome, but please make sure the caps are from water, drink and/or food containers only. Please make sure the caps are rinsed, cleaned and dried before turning in to the library.

Since one of the goals of our sea turtle project is to create awareness as to how we can help these beautiful animals, we thought this would be a great opportunity to remind families of all of the wonderful digital resources available to our students to use for research and independent reading. On the opposite side of this letter are the resources available to our students. We hope you will join us in a community effort to learn more about how we can help sea turtles and improve our environmental literacy by practicing the 3 R's of Waste Management: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

If you have any question concerning the LRES ♥ Sea Turtles Project and the digital resources, feel free to contact me by email at jrtaylor@wcpss.net.

Sincerely,
Jenny Ruby Taylor
Lynn Road Elementary School Library Media Coordinator

