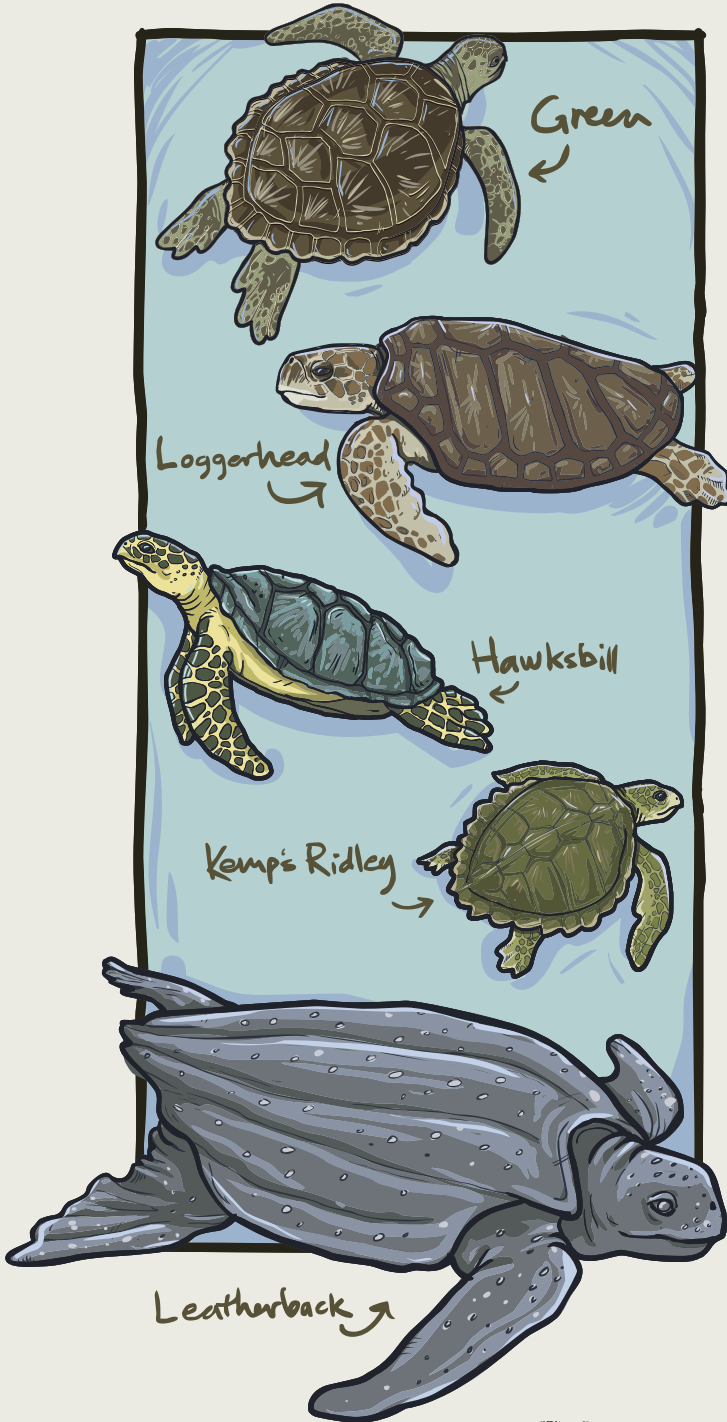


Sea Turtles

(*Chelonia mydas*, *Caretta caretta*, *Eretmochelys imbricata*, *Lepidochelys kempi*, *Dermochelys coriacea*)



Instant ID

- ▶ **Green:** Has a small head and is named for the color of its body fat
- ▶ **Loggerhead:** Has a large block-like head, and is the most common sea turtle in Florida
- ▶ **Hawksbill:** Has powerful jaws, with rough edges on the rear of its shell
- ▶ **Kemp's Ridley:** The smallest and rarest of Florida's sea turtles
- ▶ **Leatherback:** Has a shell covered with a leathery, rubbery layer

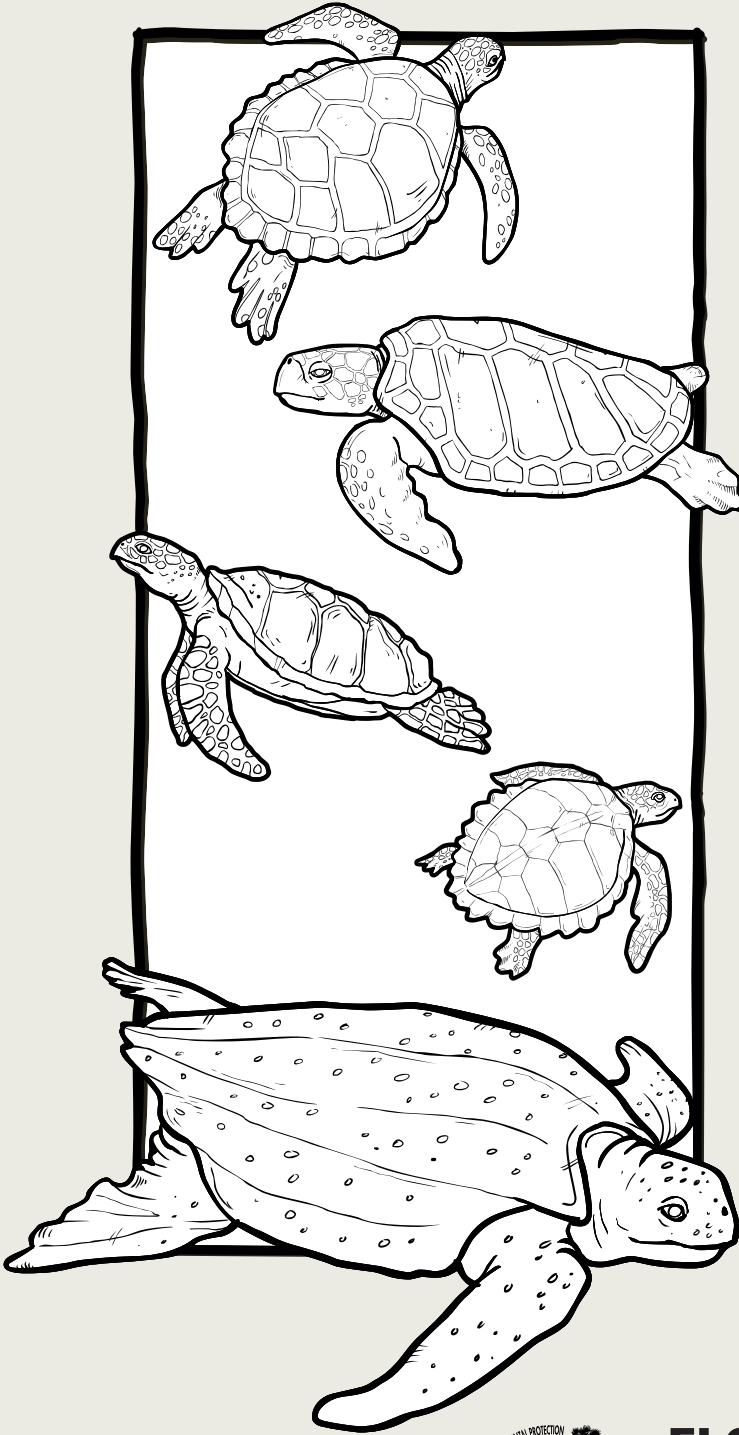
Native Niches

- ▶ Live in the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean
- ▶ Found in shallow saltwater, such as seagrass beds, bays and among coral reefs
- ▶ Dig nests on beaches across Florida



Sea Turtles

(*Chelonia mydas*, *Caretta caretta*, *Eretmochelys imbricata*,
*Lepidochelys kemp*i, *Dermochelys coriacea*)



Favorite Foods

- ▶ **Green:** Seagrasses and algae
- ▶ **Loggerhead:** Clams and crabs
- ▶ **Hawksbill:** Sponges
- ▶ **Kemp's Ridley:** Crabs and other crustaceans
- ▶ **Leatherback:** Jellyfish

Critter Characteristics

- ▶ On average, sea turtles dig more than 4,000 nests in Florida State Parks every year
- ▶ Sea turtles live for 40 to 60 years

Population Protection

- ▶ All species of sea turtles are listed as endangered or threatened and are protected by law
- ▶ You can help by not lighting beaches at night, keeping the lights from disorienting sea turtles

