

Research Team Badges

Grades: 6th-8th

NC Standards:

Grade 6: Visual Arts- Goals 1.01, 1.03, 2.05, 3.01, 3.03, 3.05, 4.04

Grade 7: Visual Arts- Goals 1.01, 1.05, 3.01, 3.03, 4.01, 4.03, 4.04, 6.01, 6.02, 6.03

Grade 8: Visual Arts- Goals 1.05, 4.01, 4.02, 4.03, 4.04, 4.05

Time Required (Estimated): 20 minutes

Purpose: To have students create their own research team badges for the Turtle Trails project.

Materials (per student):

Markers, crayons, pencils

Paper (colored or white)

Plastic button holders (usually can be found in craft stores)

Background Information:

Scientific research is often done in teams. These teams can consist of members with different backgrounds, nationalities, and specialties. One way of unifying a team is to have a badge, which represents the goals of the team.

Examples of research teams include the many astronaut crews that have explored space. Search for the shuttle mission archives on the NASA homepage (www.nasa.gov) to find examples of patches developed for each space mission. Notice some common features such as the names of the crew and graphics pertaining to the mission's objectives.

The research team for the Turtle Trails project includes educators, veterinarians, field biologists, and volunteers. Together, they hope to learn the effectiveness of rehabilitating loggerhead sea turtles by tracking released animals. The main objectives of the project are: (1) to assess post-release survival of rehabilitated loggerhead sea turtles, and (2) to compare post-release movements of rehabilitated loggerhead sea turtles to wild sea turtles.

Procedure:

- 1) After discussing the Turtle Trails project, divide the class into teams and give each student materials to create their badges.
- 2) Let each team discuss and create badges that they think represent the goals of Turtle Trails. Each team has the option of including the Turtle Trails' logo shown on the student handout.
- 3) Have each team present their badge to the class.

Now let's see what your students can create!

Research Team Badges

Procedure:

- 1) Collect your materials.
- 2) Let everyone on your team make suggestions for the badge's design. Your team may decide to use the Turtle Trails' logo (below) as part of your badge. Discuss the suggestions and decide which ideas will be included in the design.
- 3) Make your own badge using your team's design.
- 4) Present your team's badge to the class and identify what the design or symbols represent.



Discussion Questions:

- 1) What similarities and differences were there between your team's badge and the rest of the teams in your class?
- 2) Did your team have any difficulty getting everyone to agree on a design? Why?
- 3) How did you handle and resolve these disagreements?
- 4) Does your school have any type of symbol that helps unite the students?

Conclusion: Creating badges helps identify and unify members of a team. After designing your own badge do you feel more connected to the Turtle Trails project?