

Your Name:	B. Bockhahn	Park:	NODI
Program title: (fill this in last)	Finding Box Turtles, A Game Of Forest Camouflage		

Theme Statement: (complete sentence to summarize program and why it is important)
Box Turtles come in many color patterns to help them blend in with their environment.

Audience:	All ages.
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Goal(s): (why you are doing the program)
Practice finding box turtles to learn about camouflage and assist with box turtle mark recapture programs.

Introduction: (grabs attention, states theme, explains how program is organized)
Box Turtles come in many color patterns to help them blend in with their environment. Walk our trail and see how many you can find.

Body: (your main points or subthemes – 4 or fewer recommended)
Box Turtle Biology – NC State Reptile, long lived, only turtle that can “box up” Box Turtle Color Patterns and Camouflage Box Turtle Trail Hike Box Turtle Stewardship – turtles are not pets, keep dogs on leash, don’t litter

Conclusion: (reinforce the theme and encourage future participation)
So as you can see, sometimes it’s hard to spot box turtles in a forest because of their color patterns. Do you think their slow movement helps them out too? Box Turtles are wild animals and are not pets. If you are lucky enough to spot a wild turtle please do not disturb it. Don’t litter and always drive the speed limit and break for turtles! Volunteer to help with Box Turtle Mark/Recapture surveys.

Audiovisuals: (make sure everyone can see and experience the props)
Box turtle toys, shells, photos

Audience Participation: (think of ways to include audience)
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Box Turtle Trail Hike

- Place about 20 plastic toy turtles, old shells and laminated turtle pictures in advance along a short section of forest trail.
- Have a flag or marker at the beginning and end of the trail so that they know when to start and stop.
- Make sure they stay on the trail and do not wander into the woods. All turtles should be visible from the trail.
- Instruct participants to quietly walk the trail one by one or in small groups trying to spot as many turtles as they can. Tell them not to point any out so that others can see. Keep spacing along the trail to prevent this.
- At the end have everyone be quiet and then ask “raise your hand if you found five turtles.” “Keep your hand up if you found 7 turtles.” “Ten turtles”, 11, 12 and so on until a winner is determined.
- Use a prize award for whoever finds the most, there is often a tie so make sure to have enough awards for more than one.
- Often kids want to try the trail again to see if they can improve, allow this at your discretion.