

The Island School Turtle Week

Turtle studies with The Island School and Cape Eleuthera Institute
Eleuthera, The Bahamas



Program at a Glance

When: July 28–August 4, 2013

Who: 16 years +

Cost: \$1,750

Apply: application at www.ceibahamas.org

Highlights

- Live on a green campus and interact with sustainable systems in renewable energy, waste water gardens, water catchment, food production
- Research alongside scientists at the Cape Eleuthera Institute
- Help collect data with the Sea Turtle Research Program
- Get experience out in the field and analyzing data in the lab

Students are invited to join the sea turtle research team and learn about sea turtle biology, ecology, how to identify local species and practice the various field research techniques used to study turtles, including tagging and tracking turtles. This course involves time spent on boats and mangrove creeks and will be physically demanding, but allow you to get up close and personal with some of the seas most beautiful animals. Five of the world's seven sea turtle species found in The Bahamas. Sea turtles are long-lived marine reptiles and spend the majority of their lives at sea. Traditionally harvested by local fishermen for their rich meat, sea turtles provided a valuable source of income to fishermen, and an important food source to island people. However, due to severe declines in population numbers, the Department of Marine Resources in The Bahamas declared it illegal to harvest, buy or sell any marine turtle products in 2009. Marine turtles are of worldwide conservation concern, with all seven species featuring on the IUCN's Red List of Threatened Species due to anthropogenic threats such as intense overexploitation, increasing levels of by-catch, and habitat loss.