USA - Sarasota, Florida - Mote Marine Laboratory
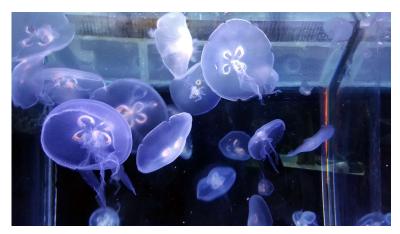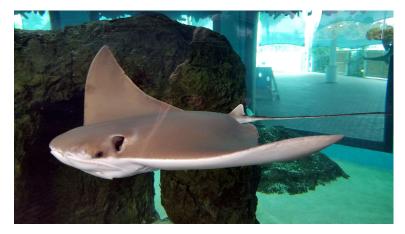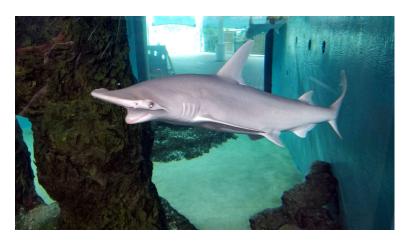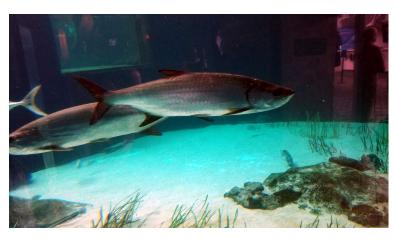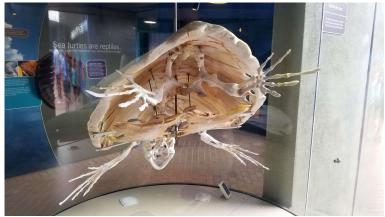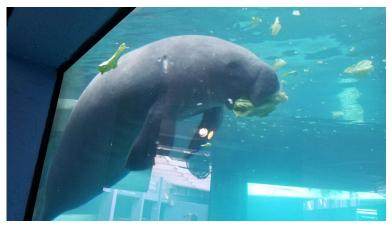
Hawksbill Turtle
Eretmochelys imbri...
Status: **EN** Endan...

Hawksbills Matter

Keys to Conservation:
A sea turtle biologist's view of Longboat Key through Venice, Florida

Mote's Sea Turtle Conservation & Research Program (STCRP) has been monitoring sea turtle nesting activity and the status of shoreline habitat for more than three decades along 35 miles of Sarasota County beaches.

1 Longboat Key
2 Lido Key
3 Siesta Key
4 Casey Key
5 Venice

Learn more about STCRP at: mote.org/seaturtles
- Latest nesting numbers
- Turtle-friendly tips on the beach and on the water
- How to report a sick, injured or dead sea turtle

START HERE!
TRACE YOUR FINGER ALONG THE PATH

CAN YOU HELP A HATCHLING GET TO THE SEA?
WATCH OUT FOR OBSTACLES!

THE HATCHLING HOSPITAL
Mote treats an average of 1,000 hatchlings annually, releasing about 85% of them back to the wild.

Hatchlings can be hospitalized for:
- Fire ant bites.
- Injuries from predators.
- Being found in a nest when excavated.
- Becoming disoriented and travelling away from the sea.
- Being weak and unable to swim past waves.
- Suffering from exhaustion.

In the hospital...
- Hatchlings are weighed and measured upon arrival and each week during their stay to monitor their growth.
- They eat tiny pieces of shrimp and receive a calcium supplement.
- Once hatchlings can dive, eat and any injuries have healed, they are taken by boat offshore to the weed line and released.

Sea Turtles: THE EARLY YEARS

During training, they receive a mixture of **red apples, beets, and carrots** with the addition of **Mazuri monkey biscuits** for excellent behavior!

The base diet for our resident manatees consists of **72-96 heads of romaine lettuce** and **24 bunches of green kale**, which they eat during their grazing period from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Manatees spend **4-8 hours per day** feeding, and consume 5-10 percent of their body weight each day — that's between **80 to 350 pounds of vegetation a day**, depending on the size of the manatee!