

Leave No Trace

The “Leave No Trace” policy at Sandy Hook exists for a reason—when trash and waste is left on the beach, you could harm the wildlife who call Sandy Hook their home.



Not only is Sandy Hook a beautiful park for us to enjoy, but it is home to **diverse wildlife** that deserve to have their **habitats respected**.



Anything you carry in with you to Sandy Hook must also be carried out with you. Follow the pillars of Leave Not Trace: plan ahead and prepare, dispose of waste properly, leave what you find, respect wildlife, travel and camp on durable surfaces, minimize campfire impacts, and be considerate of other visitors.

The Girl Scout Gold Award

Anna Weiner, a Girl Scout from Highlands, NJ, is working towards her **Gold Award Project**, the highest honor a Girl Scout can earn. As a member of the Girl Scouts for 13 years, Anna has also earned her Bronze and Silver Awards for original service projects.



Anna is very passionate about art and science, and so she combined the two! Through colorful drawings and infographics, Anna hopes that Sandy Hook visitors will be as inspired to **care about the health of the park ecosystem** as she is.

Scan the QR codes on the infographics in front of each beach to learn all about the animals you see around you! Next time you visit Sandy Hook, try to spot some of the animals in this pamphlet, and remember to always **leave no trace!**



Meet Your Beach Buddies

Everyone knows that fish live in the sea, but have you ever wondered what kind of other flora and fauna share the beach with you at Sandy Hook? Take a peek inside and find out!



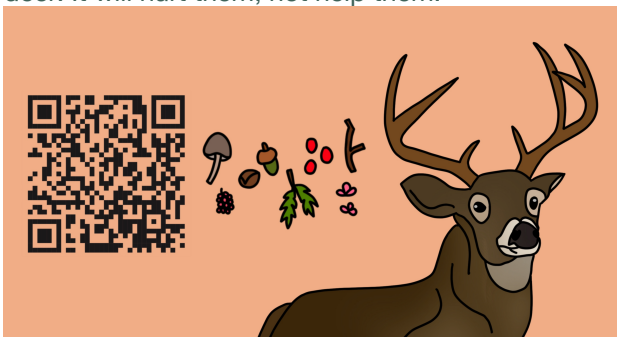
Red Fox

Red foxes can survive in many different ecosystems, like deserts, forests, and tundras. They are omnivores. Remember, **do not feed** them!



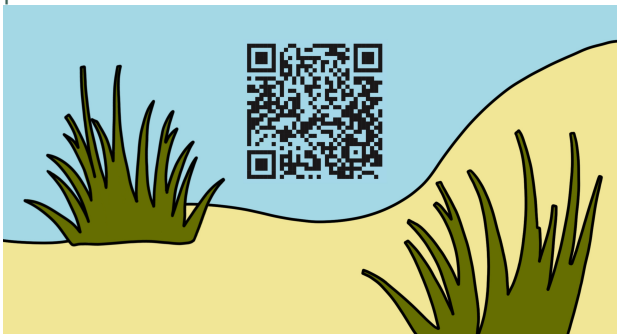
White-Tailed Deer

These deer are found in forests, wooded uplands, and wetlands. They are herbivores, and don't worry—they can find their own food. **Do not feed** the deer! It will hurt them, not help them.



American Beach Grass

This grass creates a place for other plants to grow. It grows in coastal habitats, especially on dunes. **Do not step on** the grass—they hold the dunes in place!



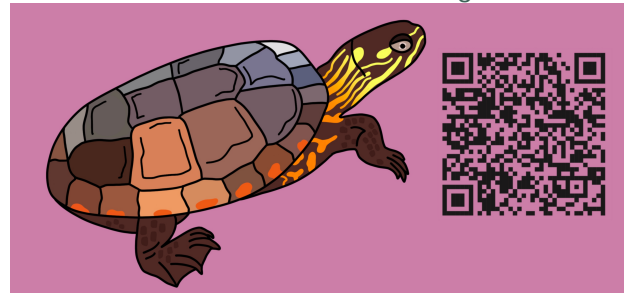
Diamondback Terrapin

Watch out for these **turtles crossing** the road!



Painted Turtle

These turtles are found in slow-moving fresh waters.



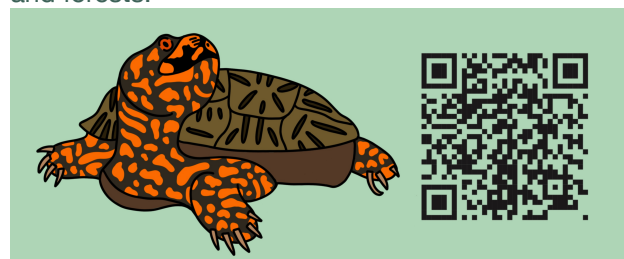
Snapping Turtle

Do not handle these turtles—they will bite in self-defense.



Eastern Box Turtle

These turtles are found in open woodlands, fields, and forests.



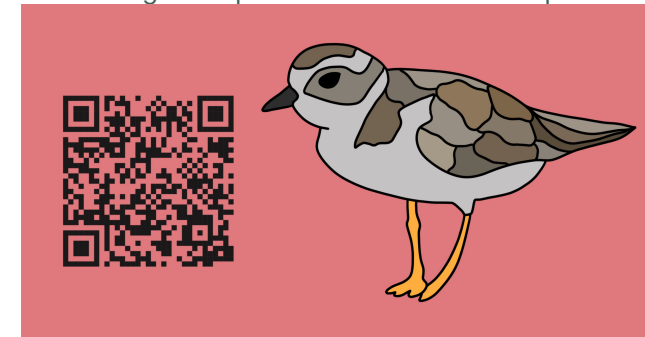
Harbor Seal

These seals live in temperate coastal habitats. They need places to rest to digest their food, so **do not approach** them.



Piping Plovers

These birds are found on sandy beaches and tidal flats. It is important to **observe and heed the closed area fences**. Plovers are protected under the Endangered Species Act and need safe places.



Atlantic Horseshoe Crab

Horseshoe crabs are closely related to spiders, ticks, and scorpions. Horseshoe crabs have special **blood** that helps to test pharmaceutical **medicines**. It is illegal to harvest them in the park.

