script

food items

puppets

ipod/speakers

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Sea Turtle Dinner Party

Green is hosting a “potluck” style dinner party and has invited all species, but Flatback couldn’t

get out of Australia, adult Leatherback is migrating so sent daughter (juvenile that we have), Olive Ridley got stuck in Pacific traffic, and Hawksbill is on a tropical vacation. Each species of turtle brings their own dish and accidentally brings a trash item with them, too. Green could serve something like seagrass salad? As other species start arriving they explain what they brought and why they wouldn’t eat the trash that they brought (plastic bags, fishing line, etc.) Get into conversation about where they come from and why they eat what they eat which will provide facts about each turtle.

Dinner items/trash items

Gary: Seagrass salad

Karen: Crab cakes / hook

Lucy: Jellyfish / trashbags

Lindell: Whelk / fishing line

Character List:

Narrator: **Puppet/tortoise**

Green: **Gary**

Kemp’s Ridley: **Karen**

Leatherback : **Lucy**

Loggerhead: **Lindell**

**DINNER PARTY UNDER THE SEA**

Setting: Gary’s house- Tortuguero, Costa Rica

**Narrator**- Hello everyone and thank you for joining us today! It is my pleasure to introduce our show, “A Sea Turtle Dinner Party”. We will now take a journey down the atlantic ocean all the way to Costa Rica, and peek into the home of Mr. Gary Green, the Green sea turtle who is hosting our potluck tonight. But you must keep very quiet because Sea Turtles can get scared very easily by humans and we don’t want them to swim away!

*Phone rings*

**Gary**- Hello, Oh hi Mr. Hawksbill, you’re not gonna make it? Wow, a vacation to the Caribbean, isn’t that a long way to swim?! That sounds like lots of fun! Maybe I’ll join you tomorrow after we have our potluck dinner. Okay, have fun, bye bye!

*Doorbell rings or someone knocks... either one*

**Gary**- Looks like it’s time to get this party started! I wonder who it is?

*Karen appears*

**Karen**- Hi Gary!! How are you? What a nice place you have! Costa Rica is just beautiful this time of year!

**Gary**- Hi Karen! How have things been in Mexico?

**Karen**- Things have been pretty good, except the humans just keep throwing their trash into the ocean and it’s been hard for me to swim around it sometimes

**Gary**- yea I know what you mean, it’s been getting worse here in Costa Rica as well

*Doorbell rings*

**Gary**- one second Karen, let me get the door

*Lucy appears*

**Lucy**- Hi Mr. Green!

**Gary**- Oh hello there little Lucy! Where is your mother, Mrs. Leatherback?

**Lucy**- Well I’m not exactly sure, but she said she was migrating this week and asked if I’d like to come to the potluck in her place and send her love to you all.

**Karen**- Migrating! Oh that sounds like your mother all right, she could swim around the world 3 times and still not get tired!

**Lucy**- Oh Hi Mrs. Kemp’s Ridley!!

**Gary**- well it’s too bad your mother couldn’t come but it sure is a pleasant surprise to see you!

*Doorbell rings*

**Gary**- that must be Lindell!

**Lindell**- Hello there Gary! Hola Karen! Well hi Lucy, my how you’ve grown, looks like the Sargasso Sea did you some good!

**Lucy**- Hi Mr. Loggerhead! Did you come all the way from North Carolina??

**Lindell-** I sure did, but it’s not a far trip compared to some of the journeys I take

**Gary-** So, is everyone hungry?

**All**- YES! I’m starving ...etc.

**Gary**- well I’ve made a delicious Seagrass salad that I’m sure you will all just LOVE.

**Karen**- Seagrass salad? I don’t think I’ve ever tried it! I myself brought some crab cakes! They’re a favorite of mine.

**Lucy**- Ew! I don’t think I would like either of those things

*Brings out dish. Other sea turtles notice that there’s a hook in it.*

**Lindell**- Looks good Karen! But what is that funny-looking metal thing?

**Karen**- Oh my! I hate it when that happens. It’s a fish hook. Getting those things out of your mouth can be quite the challenge!

*Removes hook from crab cakes.*

**Lindell**- I hope everyone likes crunchy food! I brought some whelk sandwiches.

**Lucy**- Mr. Loggerhead, what is that clear stringy stuff inside your sandwiches?

**Lindell**- Oh dear. It appears to be fishing line. The last time that it showed up in my food I got a terrible belly ache.

*Removes fishing line from sandwiches.*

**Lucy**- Looks like I have the last dish! I made jellyfish jello for dessert!

**Gary**- Ooooh I LOVE dessert! I must try some now. (bites into jello) PLEEGHHHGGHH! Lucy...I don’t mean to be rude but...I think something is wrong with your jello!

**Lucy**- Oh no! I found the problem. I must have accidentally put some plastic bags in my recipe. They look so much like jellyfish when they’re in the water you know. My mom once ate a plastic bag that she thought was a jellyfish. Luckily she got to the sea turtle hospital just in time!

**Karen**- Well isn’t this strange! We found a fishing hook, fishing line, and a plastic bag in our food. Even though we don’t all eat the same things, NONE of us want to eat trash!!

**Lucy**- Where does it all come from?

**Narrator**- Well my friends...the reason that those trash items end up in the ocean is mainly due to pollution. Pollution is when humans don’t throw their trash in the trash can or recycling bin and it gets into the ocean. Since trash does not belong in the ocean they can cause lots of problems for sea turtles and for many other creatures. The good news is that there are ways that we can help prevent them for getting into our seas!

**Gary**- (speaks to narrator) What sort of things?

**Narrator**- (looks to audience) Well, for one, we can use reusable bags when we go grocery shopping instead of plastic bags. When plastic bags get into the ocean they look alot like jellyfish. Since sea turtles like to eat jellyfish, they can mistake plastic bags for jellyfish and end up choking! Also, when we go to the beach there are places where we can recycle our old fishing line. Most of the time there is a place to recycle right by the water! Fishing line can cause all sorts of problems for creatures living on the beach and in the water. When it comes to fishing hooks, we can use ones made out of steel since they rust over time and will fall out. Even though this isn’t the best solution, it will definitely help!

**Lucy**- Those sound like great ideas! It would be nice to not find trash inside my food or in the water.

**Gary/Karen/Lindell-** (all speak at once) Oh yes, absolutely. Definitely!

**Gary**- Well thank you (narrator’s name) for the help!

**Narrator**- Anytime guys!

**Karen**- I don’t know about you guys, but I’m starving! Let’s dig in.

**Lindell-** Yes now that we have those trash items out of our food we should be good to go! I just hope that our audience learned a valuable lesson about keeping our oceans clean!

**Lucy**- But before we start, I have a joke for you all. Why did the turtle cross the road?

**Gary/Karen/Lindell-** (all speak at once) Why? Why did he Lucy?

**Lucy**- To get to the shell station! (*Buh-dum-tssss!*)

**Gary/Karen/Lindell-** (all laugh at once)

*Turtles pretend to eat/chatter/dance as curtains close*

**The End.**