A small turtle. A big request.

A letter from Stella, ELC Animal Ambassador.



Dear Friend of the Environmental Learning Center,

Hello! I'm Stella, a rescued Florida box turtle and the ELC's newest animal ambassador. I enjoy exploring, soaking up the sunshine, and tucking into my shell when things get a little too exciting.

But I've learned something here: sometimes you have to come out of your shell to make a difference. That's why I'm writing to you.

Every day, children visit the ELC and discover something new: tiny plankton under a microscope, a mangrove seedling taking root, or a turtle like me. **These simple moments can spark a lifelong connection with nature.**



With your help, the ELC gives children and families the chance to get their feet wet, ask questions, and discover why the Indian River Lagoon and Florida's unique ecosystems are worth protecting.

Will you make a gift today to help more children experience the wonder of nature at the ELC?

Your gift supports hands-on education, care for animal ambassadors like me, and the trails and habitats that make the ELC a special place to explore.

I promise to keep doing my part: inspiring curiosity and reminding everyone that good things take time. With your support, we can help the next generation care for the natural world.

With a very grateful (and slightly slow) turtle wave,

Stella

Florida Box Turtle & ELC Animal Ambassador

P.S. Come say hello when you visit! Look for me in the Living Lagoon or my outdoor shelter. I'll be taking my time, enjoying the sunshine, and helping another future nature lover come out of their shell.

P.P.S. Make sure to take a look at the enclosed information to find out why supporting the ELC is worthwhile and essential for children. I am honored to call them friends and play a part in connecting them to the natural world. ***Please join me!***