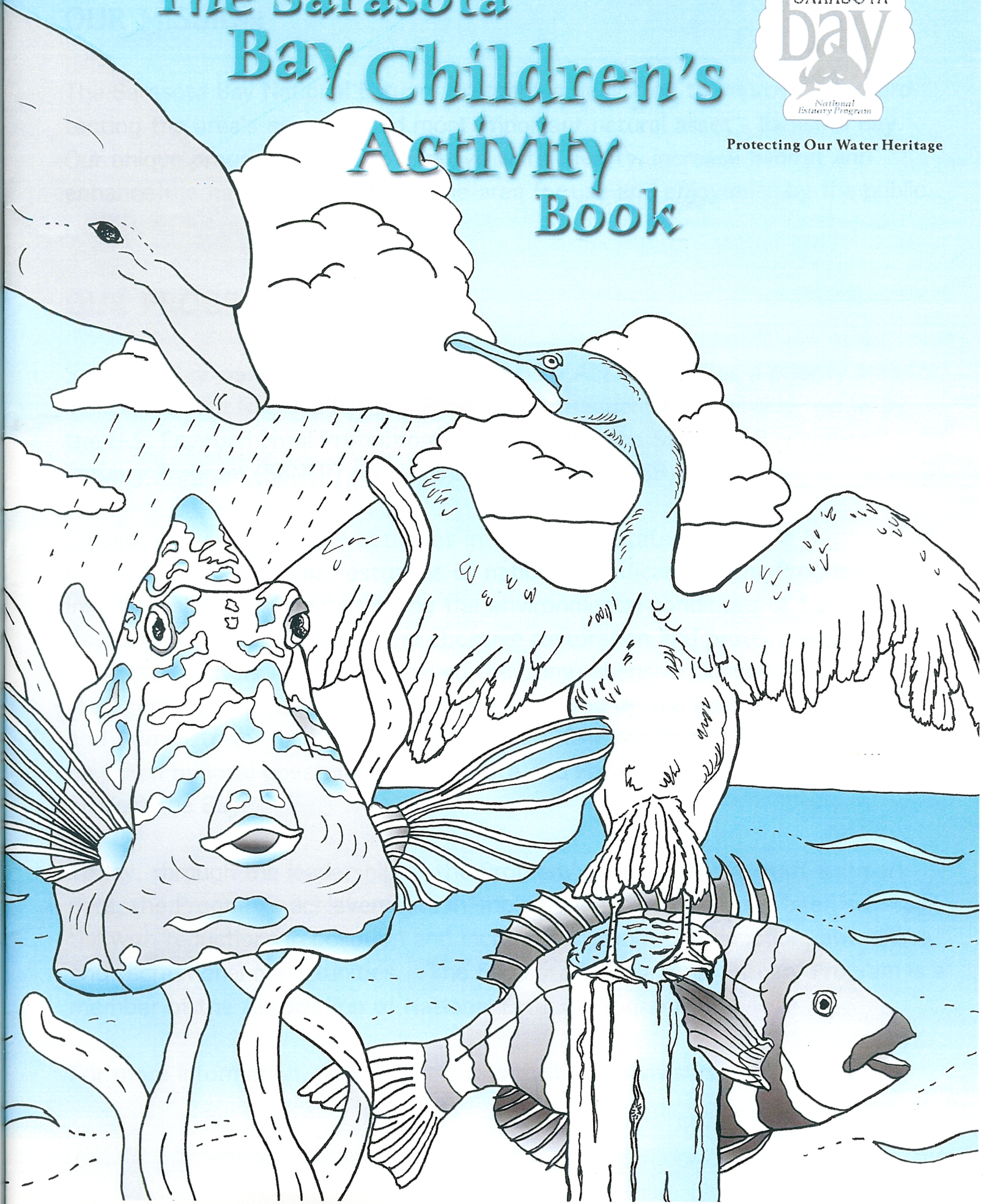


The Sarasota Bay Children's Activity Book



Protecting Our Water Heritage



OUR MISSION

The Sarasota Bay National Estuary Program is dedicated to improving and protecting the area's greatest and most important natural asset - Sarasota Bay. Our unique program strives to improve water quality, increase habitat and enhance the natural resources of the area for use and enjoyment by the public.

OUR PROGRAM

Sarasota Bay was named in the Water Quality Act of 1987 as a priority area for inclusion in the National Estuary Program. Subsequent to extensive review by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Sarasota Bay National Estuary Program (SBNEP) officially began in June 1989.

Sarasota Bay is one of 28 estuaries in the United States that have been named by the U.S. Congress as "estuaries of national significance." The Program was initially tasked with characterizing the environmental conditions of Sarasota Bay, and for formulating a comprehensive restoration and protection plan based upon this analysis. The "plan," called the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP), was formally approved by the Governor of Florida and Administrator of the EPA in 1995. The CCMP recommends specific actions be taken by local governments and State and Federal agencies to improve and protect the Bay.

Today, through the leadership of the Program's administrative staff and partners, the Program's achievements in implementing the plan have been substantial with reductions in pollution and increases in habitats, education, awareness, and recreational opportunities. The Sarasota Bay National Estuary Program is a member of the Association of National Estuary Programs.

For more information, please visit our Website at www.sarasotabay.org.

Acknowledgements

The Sarasota Bay National Estuary Program wishes to acknowledge the following organizations that were gracious in allowing our organization to use their artwork for this activity book.

My Water Activity Book

Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604
Telephone: (800) 423-1476
www.watermatters.org

Don't Teach Your Trash to Swim

The Ocean Conservancy
1725 De Sales Street NW, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20036
Telephone: (202) 429-5609
Fax: (202) 872-0619
www.oceanconservancy.org

Indian River Lagoon Coloring Book

St. John's River Water Management District
P.O. Box 1429
Palatka, Florida 32178
Telephone: (368) 329-4500
www.sjrwmd.com

Aquatic Plants

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard MS705
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000
Telephone: (850) 245-2809
www.dep.state.fl.us/lands/invaspec/index.htm

Kids Fishing

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
620 South Meridian Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600
Telephone: (9850) 488-4676
www.floridaconservation.org

Special thanks to the Missouri Department of Conservation

Compiled by Mark A. Trainor
Cover Artist, John Roberge

Manatee: Florida's Gentle Giants

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission
620 S. Meridian Street OES-BPS
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600
Telephone: (850) 922-4330
www.floridaconservation.org
Artists: Jerry Bulgrin & Bonnie Abellera

Water & Me

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation District
790 Cleveland Avenue South, Suite 201
St. Paul, Minnesota 55116
Telephone: (651) 690-9028
www.nacd.org

The Sarasota Bay National Estuary Program also wishes to acknowledge the following individuals for their work in putting together this activities book:

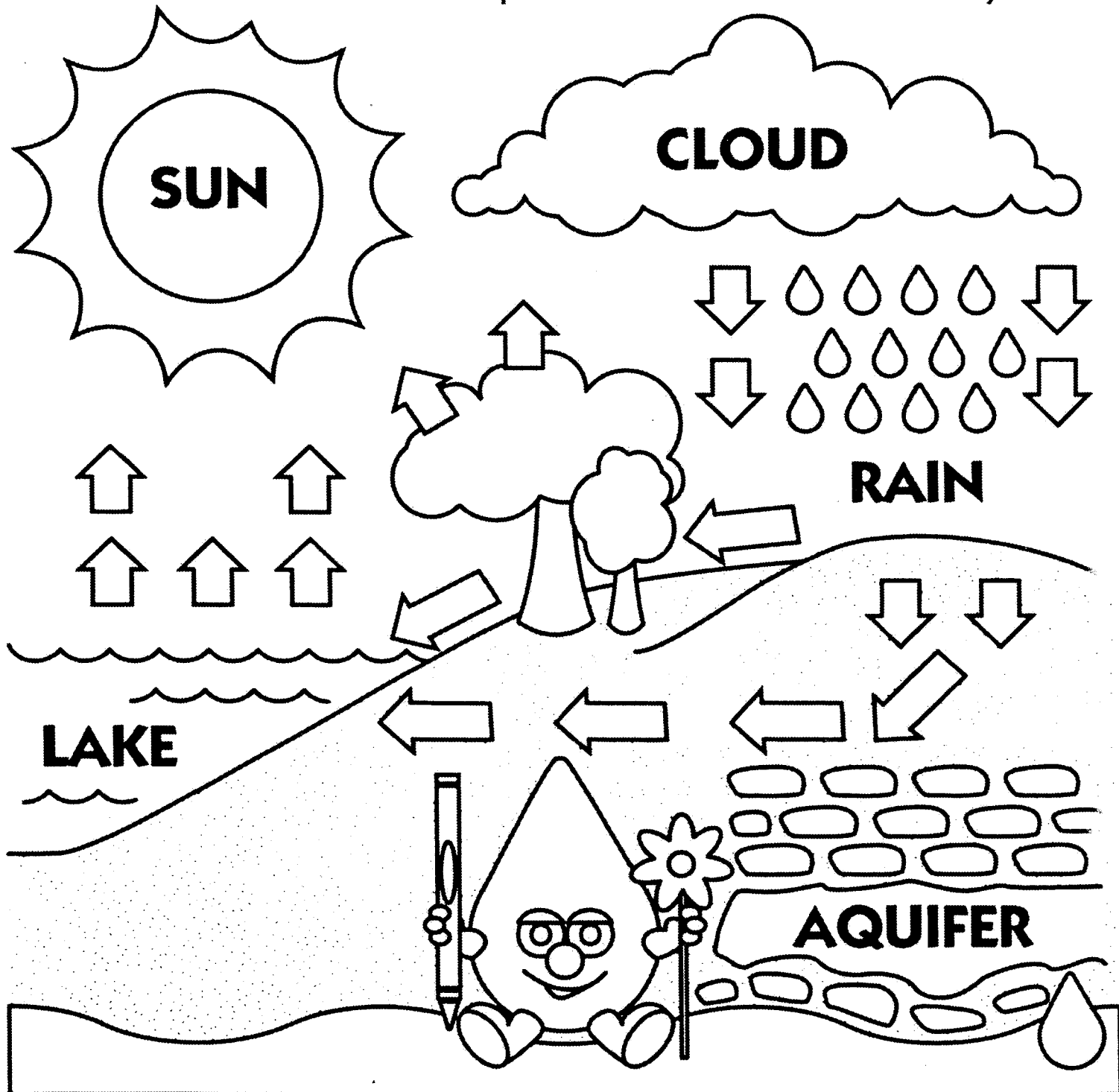
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Beth Andrews, CAC Education Outreach Subcommittee
Faith Bradburn Keller, Cover and Center Spread Artwork

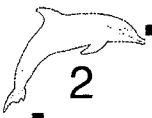
Published by the Sarasota Bay National Estuary Program

August 2003

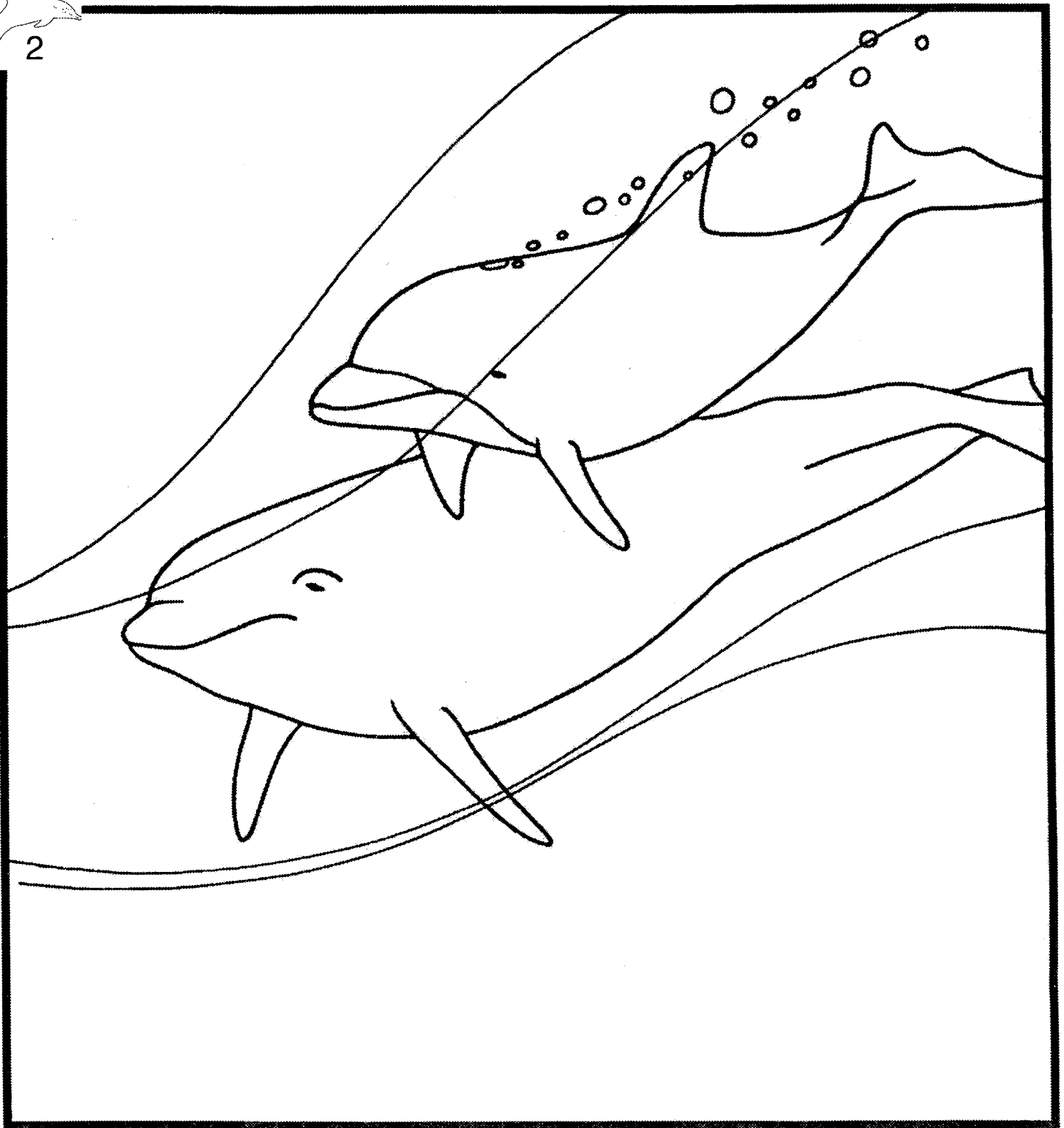
The Water Cycle

Water moves in a cycle.
Color the different parts of the water cycle.





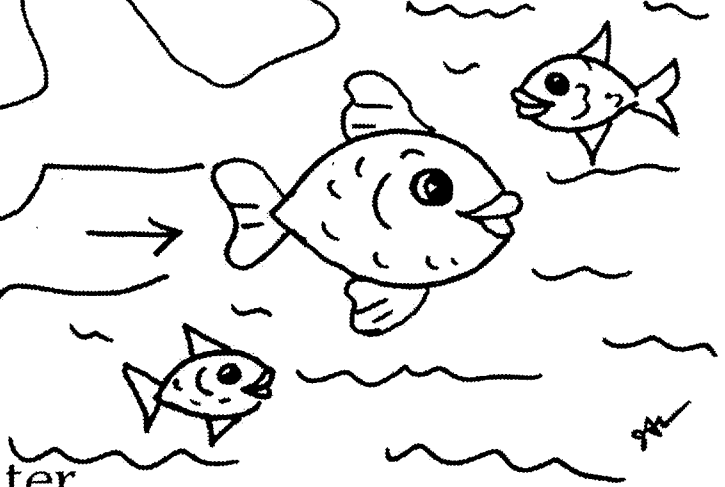
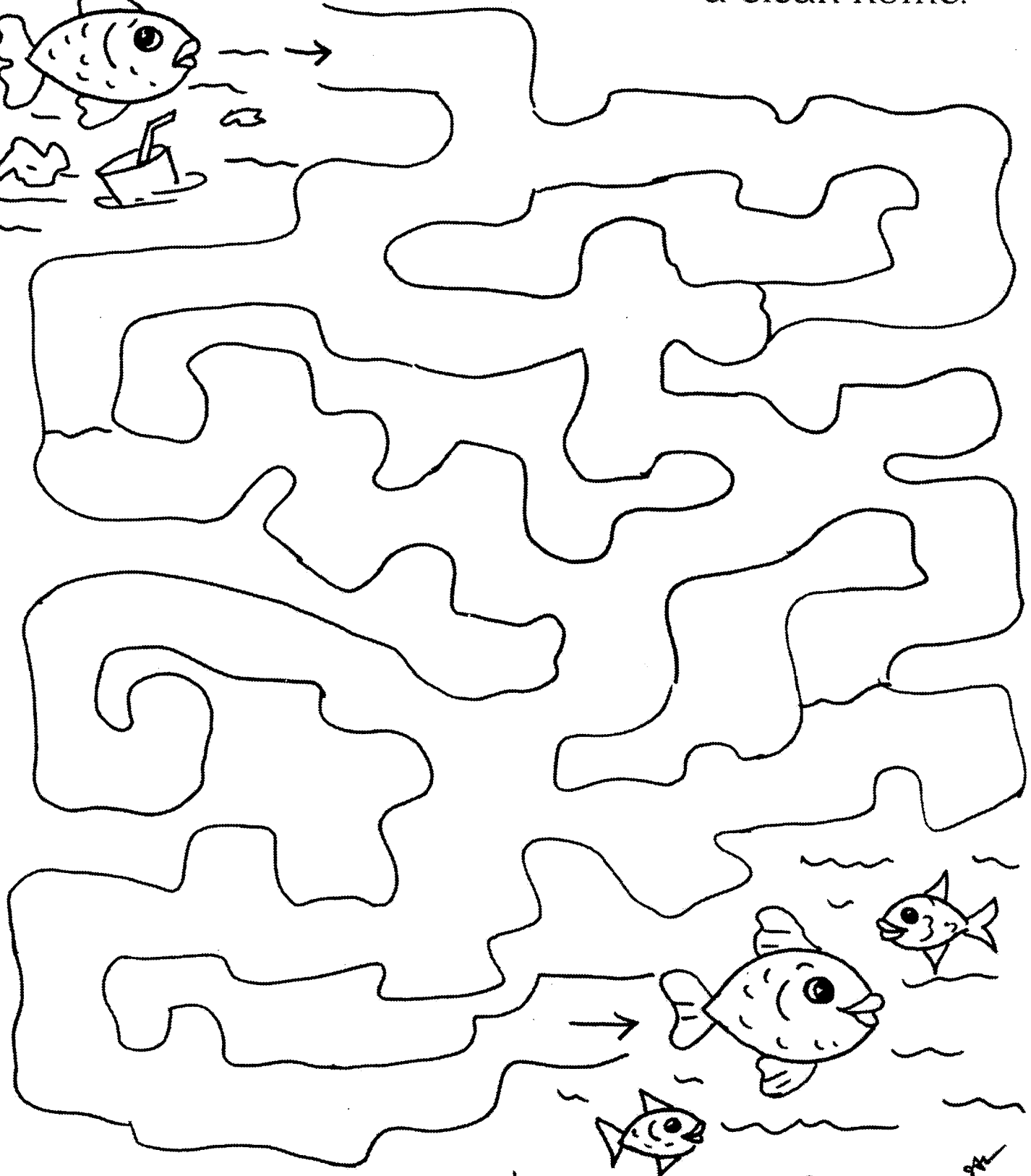
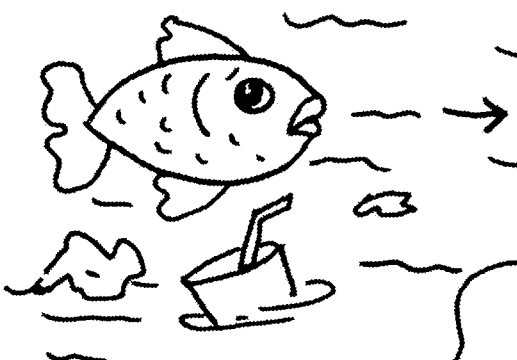
2



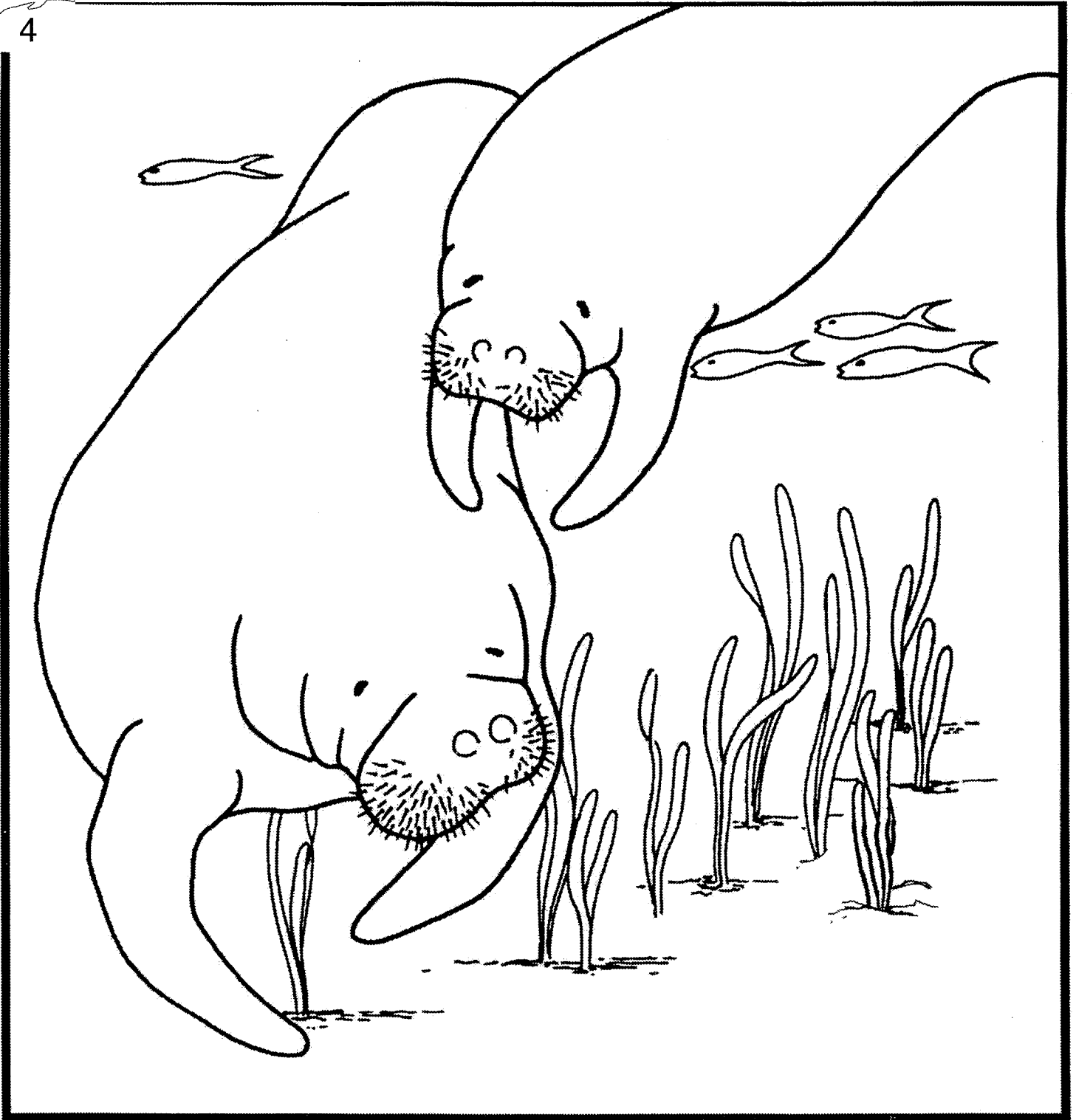
Dolphins are air-breathing mammals found in coastal waters around the world. Dolphins locate fish by echolocation, the bouncing of sound waves off of their prey to find it. Each dolphin has a unique whistle which identifies it to other dolphins in their pod (family group).



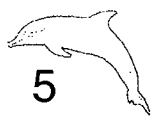
Help the fish find its way to a clean home.



Everything needs **clean** water.



Endangered species are plants or animals which exist in very few numbers today. The best way to save endangered species is to protect the areas where they live. For example, manatees eat plants in shallow water. Can you think of a way a boater can protect the manatee?



LANGUAGE ARTS



A POEM FOR THE BAY

A cinquain (SING kan) is a type of poem. The word cinquain comes from the French word cinq, meaning five.

The following poem is a cinquain:

Fish
 Silvery white
 Swimming, darting, rising
 Silent in their world
 Arrows.

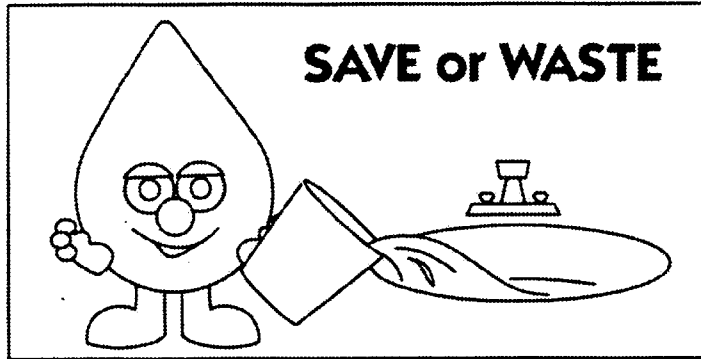
Cinquains have five lines with a specific number of words and rules for each line. The first line must be one word, a noun, and it is also the title. The second line must have two adjectives describing the title. The third line has three verbs describing the title. The fourth line is four words describing a feeling. The last line is one word that could be used as the title. Use the space below to write your own bay cinquain.

Now, try reading your cinquain backwards.

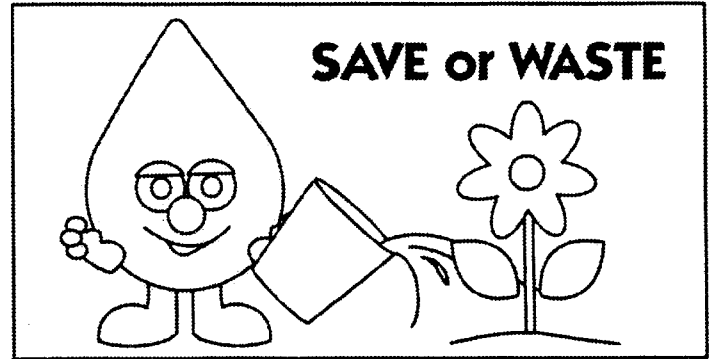
Now, try reading your cinquain backwards.

Save or Waste?

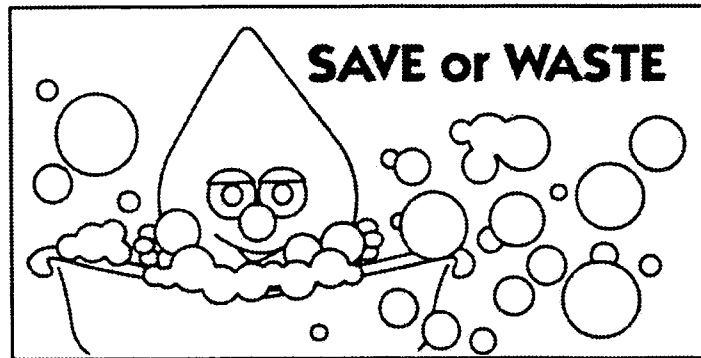
Circle *Save* or *Waste* for each picture.



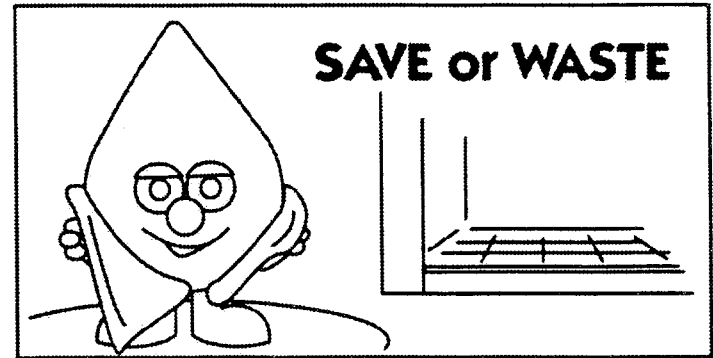
Pouring a full glass of water down the sink



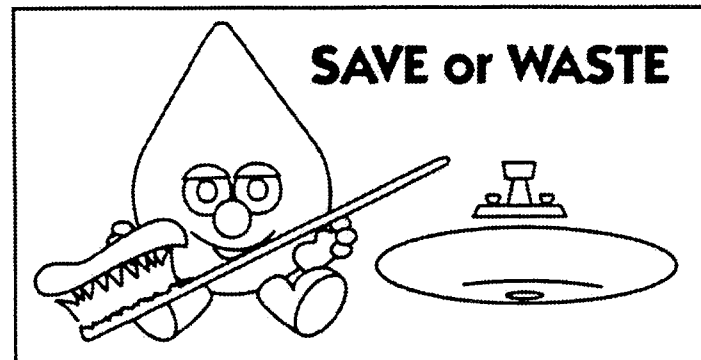
Pouring extra water on a plant



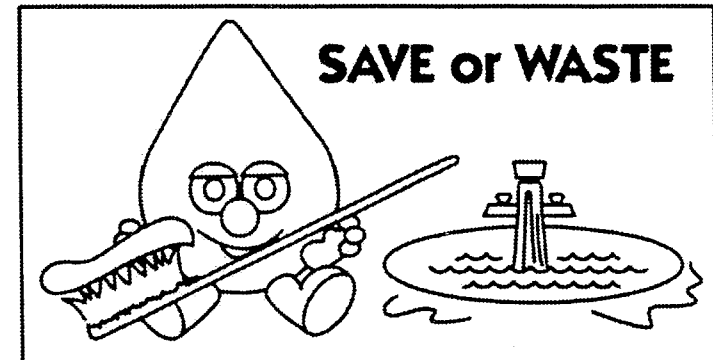
Filling a bath tub to the top



Taking a short shower

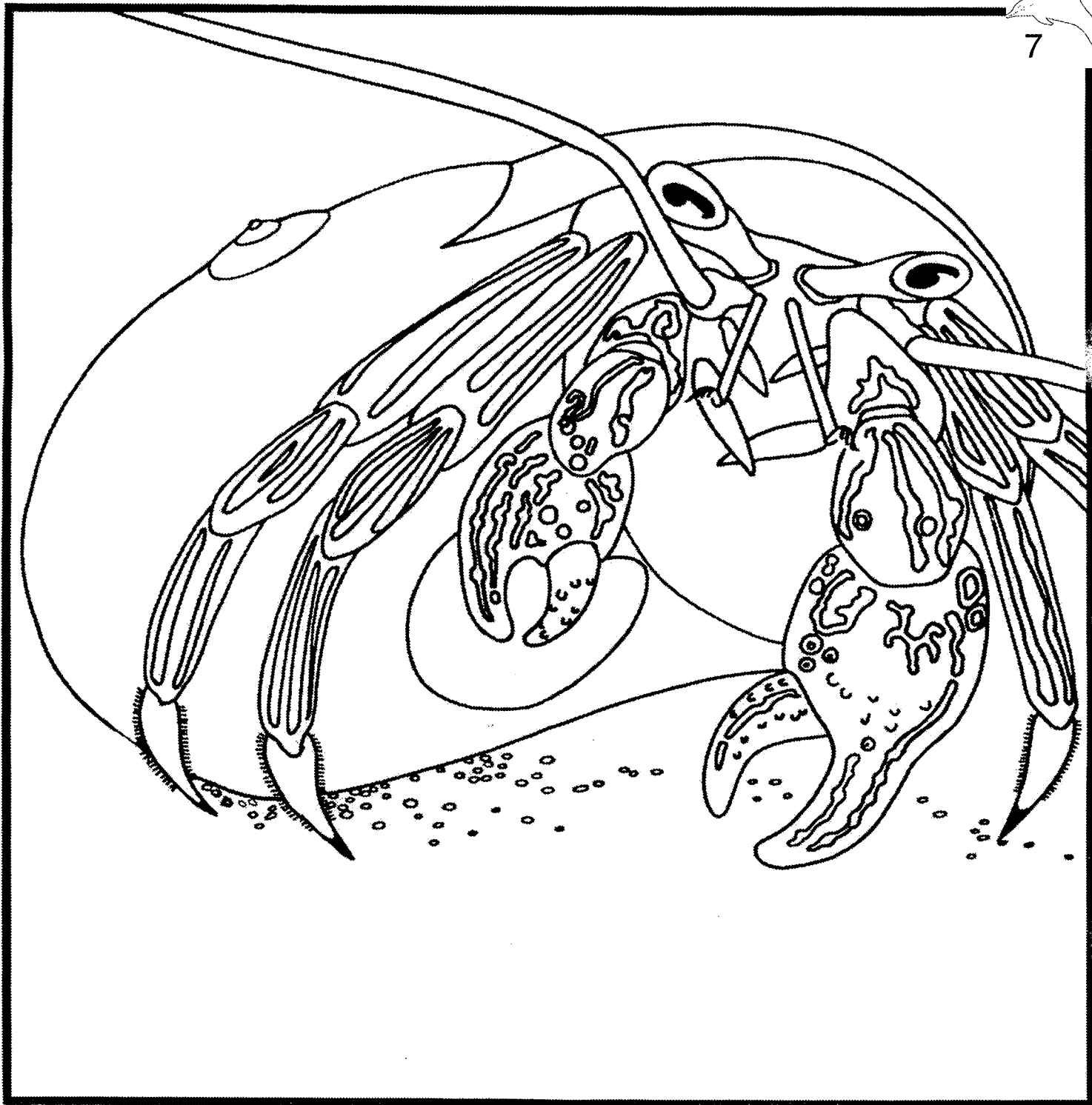


Brushing teeth with water off



Brushing teeth with water on

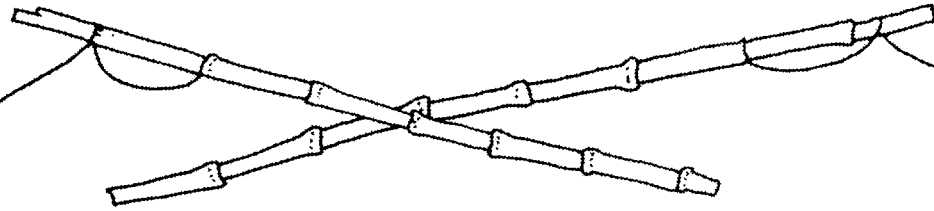




Hermit crabs are true omnivores, eating everything from mangrove leaves to bird eggs. Some types of hermit crabs live on land, some live in water. All hermits crabs have gills. To breathe, they must return to water to wet them. Hermit crabs do not make their own shells. They crawl into an empty one to protect their long soft bodies.

Courtesy of Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program/St. Johns River Water Management District

FISHING FUN LINES

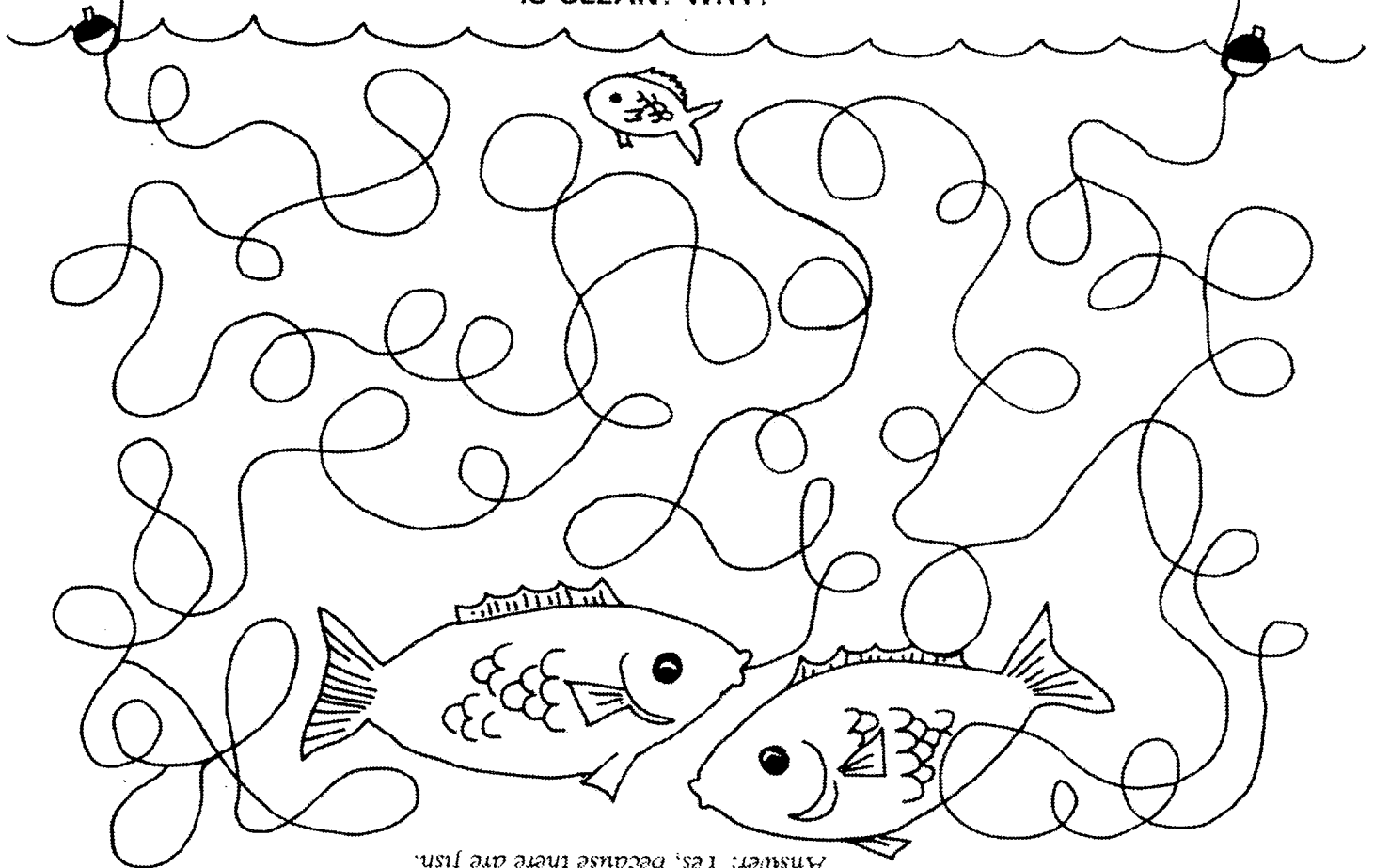


Fishing is a popular sport in Florida. All women, men and children who enjoy fishing and practice good outdoor manners are sportsmen. Sportsmen help protect our resources and make fishing safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

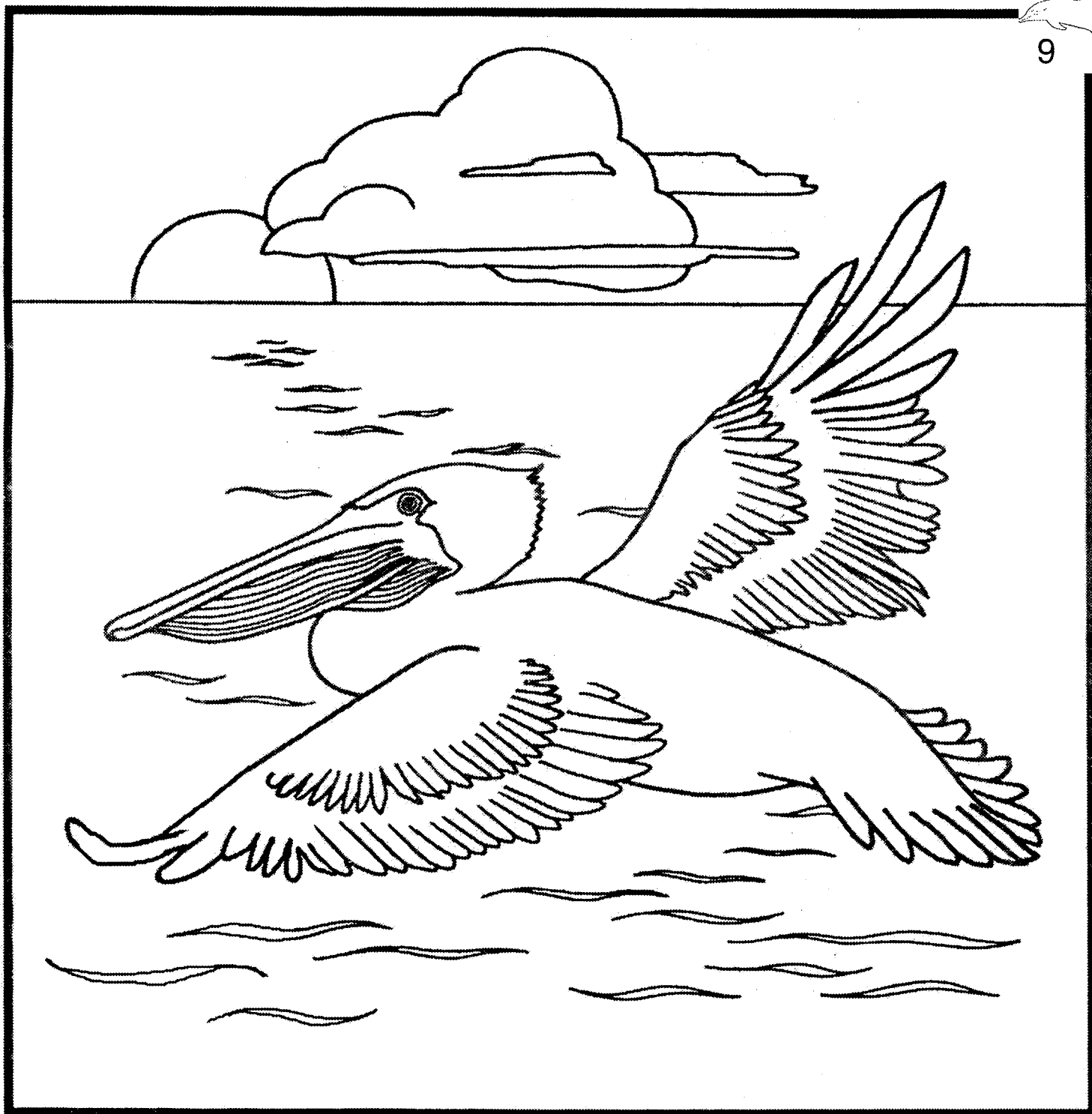
The Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission wants to help you have fun fishing. Fun fishing means:

1. having places for fish to live, eat, and lay eggs in clean water;
2. practicing good outdoor manners;
3. knowing about fish and how to catch them.

WHICH LINE HAS A FISH ON IT?
DO YOU THINK THE WATER IN THIS LAKE
IS CLEAN? WHY?*

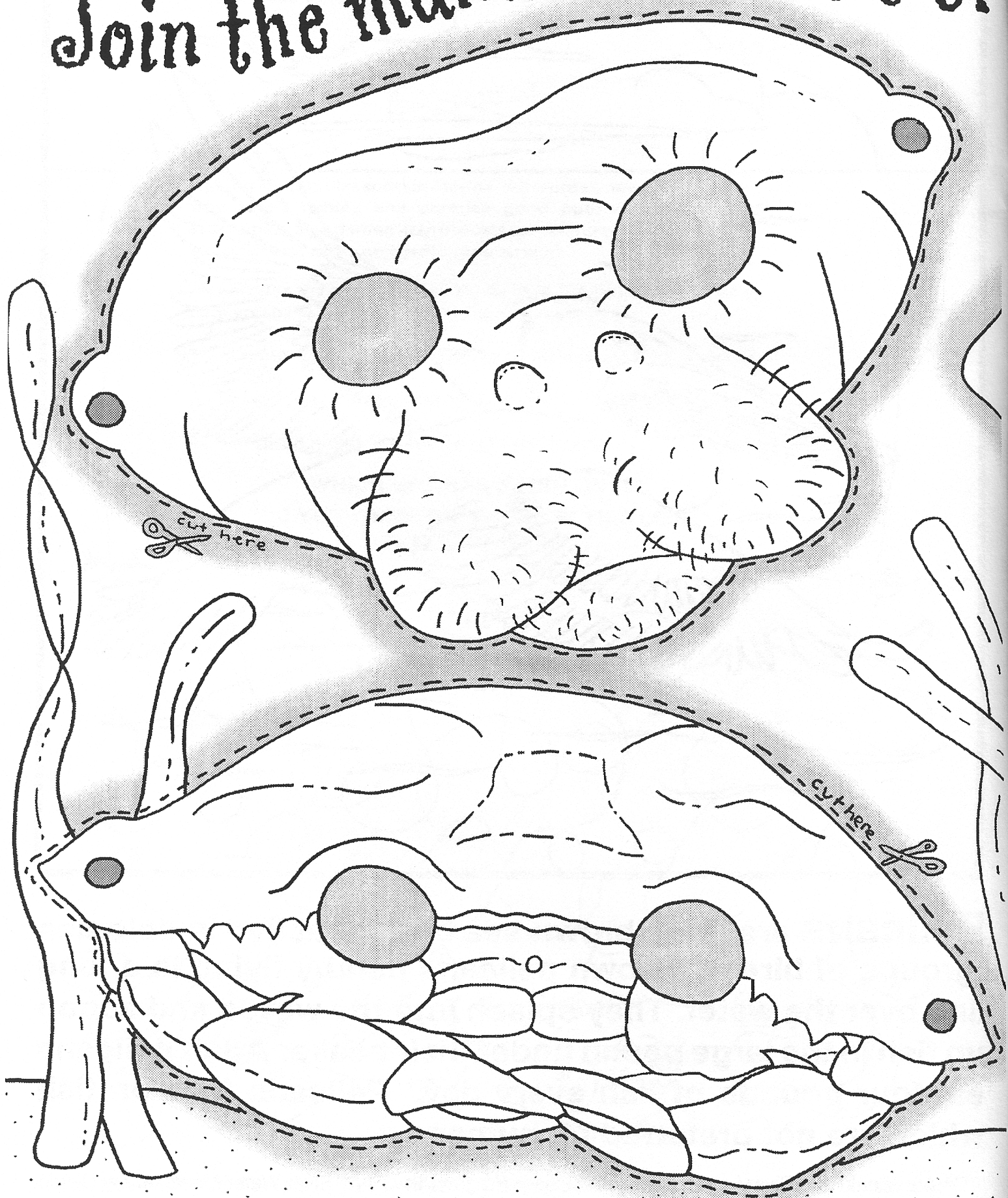


Answer: Yes, because there are fish.



Pelicans are large brown sea birds that live in colonies (groups of birds). Brown pelicans fish by flying in a long line over the water. They splash into the waves and scoop up fish in the large pouch under their beaks. Adult pelicans eat four pounds of fish every day. Pelicans feed on fish which are not preferred by humans.

Join the manatee and the cr



ab and be a member of the Blue Team!

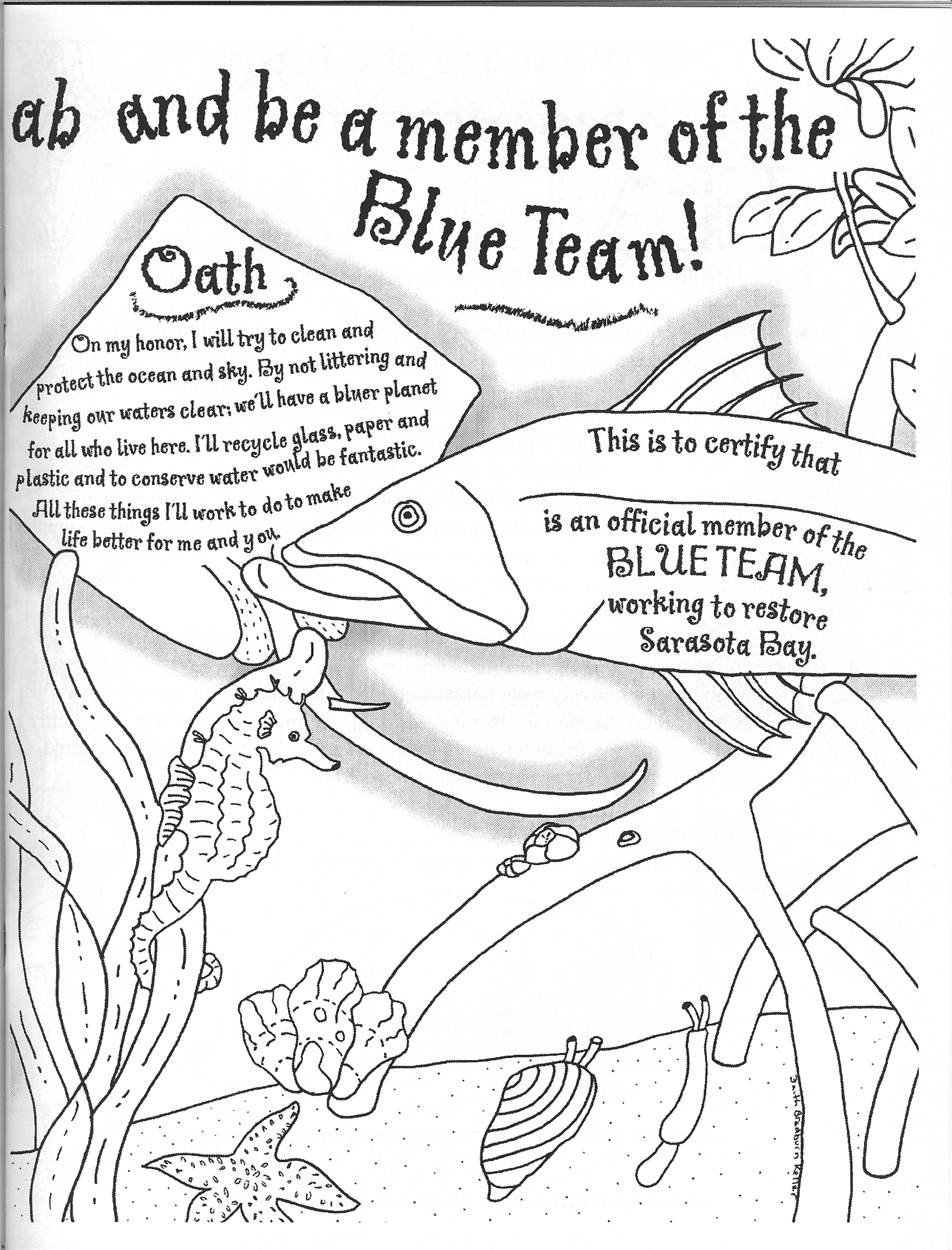
Oath

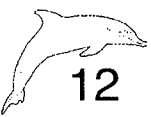
On my honor, I will try to clean and protect the ocean and sky. By not littering and keeping our waters clear, we'll have a bluer planet for all who live here. I'll recycle glass, paper and plastic and to conserve water would be fantastic. All these things I'll work to do to make life better for me and you.

This is to certify that

is an official member of the **BLUE TEAM**, working to restore Sarasota Bay.

3-11-88
Sara A. Graham Ketter



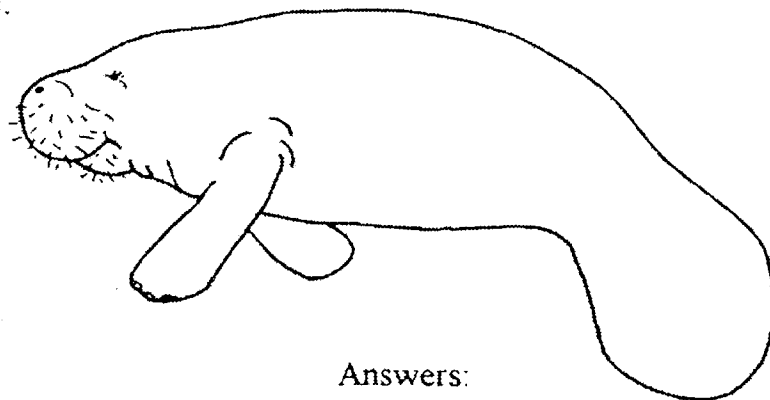


What are the four basic elements of HABITAT?

(Fill in the blanks to find out the basic elements of habitat)

1. Manatees eat plants that grow in the water. These plants are called aquatic vegetation. Aquatic vegetation is the only type of F ___ O ___ that manatees should eat.
2. Manatees seek out and drink fresh W ___ E ___ from natural sources. They do not need people to provide this drink for them.
3. Manatees are migratory animals. Their travel is influenced by seasonal changes. Travel corridors are necessary for the manatee to move back and forth between summer and winter habitats. People who use these corridors must respect the manatees' need for safe passage and provide adequate S P ___ C ___ for the manatee to reach its destination.
4. Manatees must have a safe, protected area, or S H ___ L ___ R, that they can go to that keeps them away from harassment, boat traffic, strong currents and people. These areas are needed for feeding, resting, playing, mating or calving their young. In Florida, with the growing number of people and boats, this safe protected area is getting harder and harder for the manatee to find.

If any of the four elements (_____, _____, _____, or _____) are missing, the manatee cannot survive. It is up to all of us to help the manatee survive.



Answers:

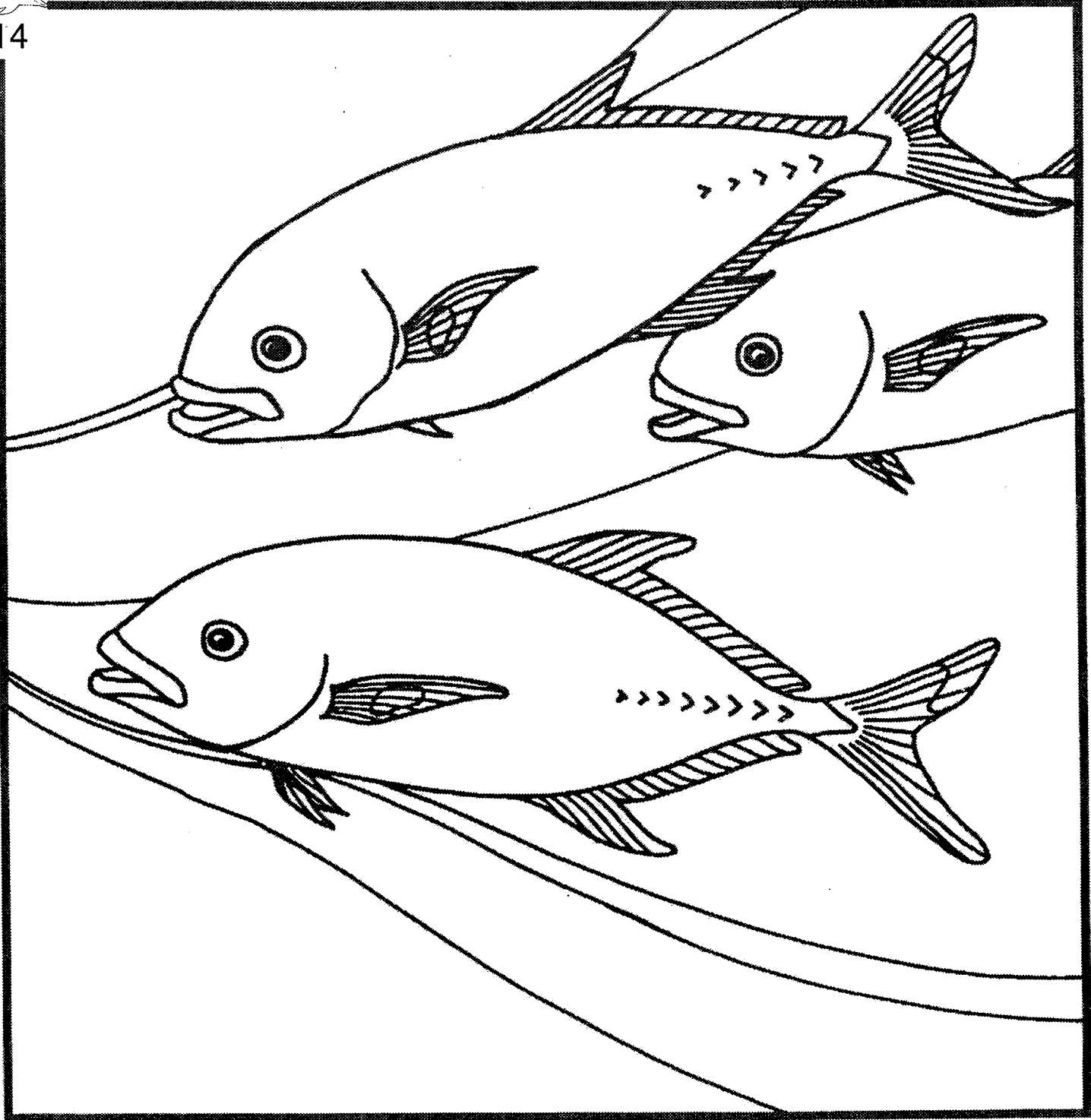
The four elements of suitable habitat are food, water, space, and shelter.

Aquatic Plant Word Search

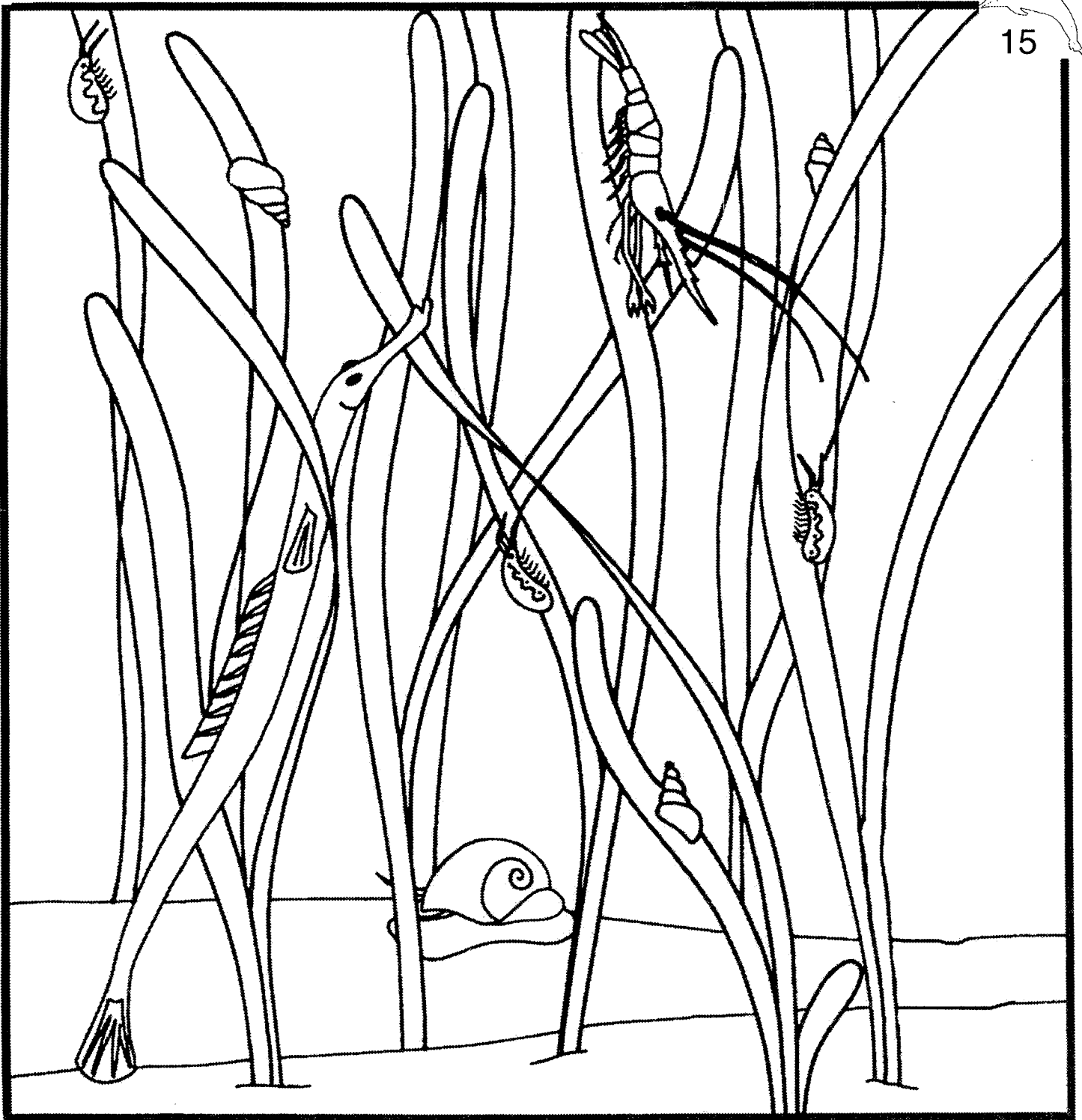
Find these words hidden in the wetland:

**photosynthesis, food web,
ecosystem, population,
community, habitat,
invertebrate, vertebrate, native,
exotic.** Words can be across, down or diagonal.

S D R N Z U D N N C A X Y O H T
 Y C T I N O I A I U Q W B A C V
 F O O D W E B T P G U Z Y X X D
 L M C V H E O I R K E Q D O A I
 N M O V E X P V B N O E E S C I
 Q U H G E X H E O Y Q V J U I C
 Q N M C X R O I C F S N Q R B B
 E I N V E R T E B R A T E D U N
 G T Y Z O A O E C M F F Z R V R
 L Y K P E R S F B O V I P E B X
 F V D U A J Y M F R S H Y Q T I
 C E P N I W N L S V A Y Z A X T
 Y O B Q N L T L P C O T S O A H
 P U S Z N T H O Y X E L E T S Q
 K O L Y H Z E E Y Z V L I B E X
 O Z S B X N S D H A O B B I Q M
 H P L M K E I N O J A W F C W E
 D R Y R J O S Z V H V D O D F Z



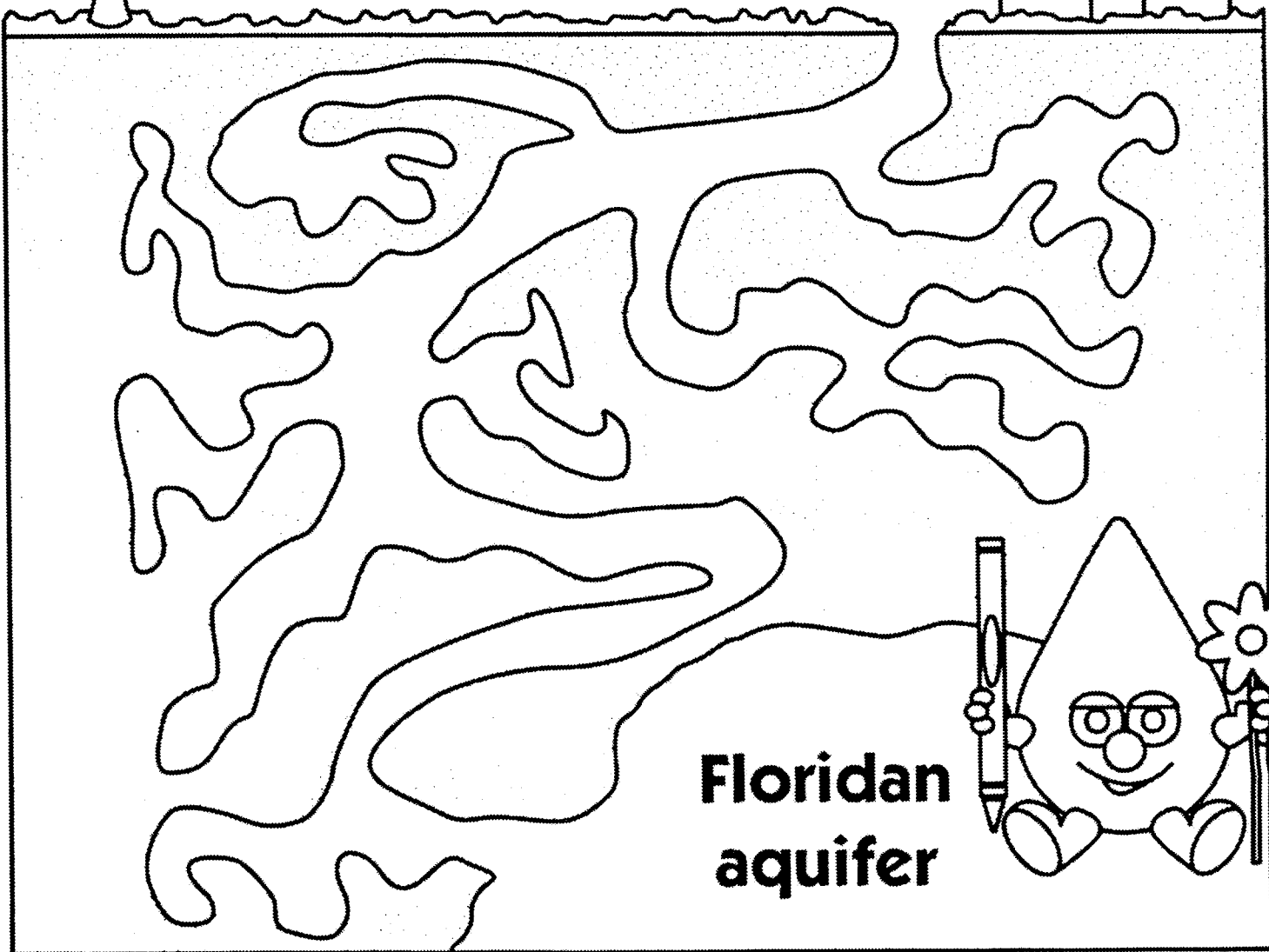
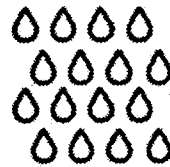
Jack crevalles have olive green backs and yellow bellies. They are fast swimmers, traveling in large schools. Jacks live in shallow estuaries when young. They hide under jellyfish, seaweed and in seagrass for protection. Adults are found in both the ocean and estuaries. They are a fun fish to catch. Adults weigh up to forty pounds!



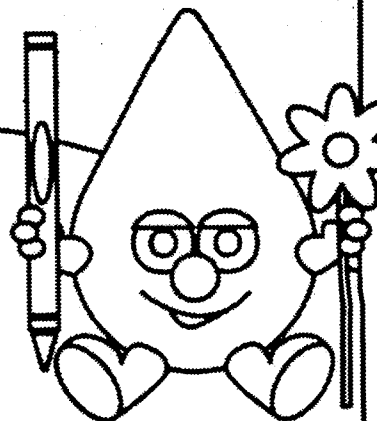
Turtlegrass is one of seven types of seagrass which grows in Florida's shallow estuaries. Seagrass is the lawn of the sea. Their root systems keep waters clear by holding soil in place. These underwater plants also provide food and cover for marine animals, especially young fish and crabs.

Aquifer Maze

Help the water drops
find their way to
the aquifer.



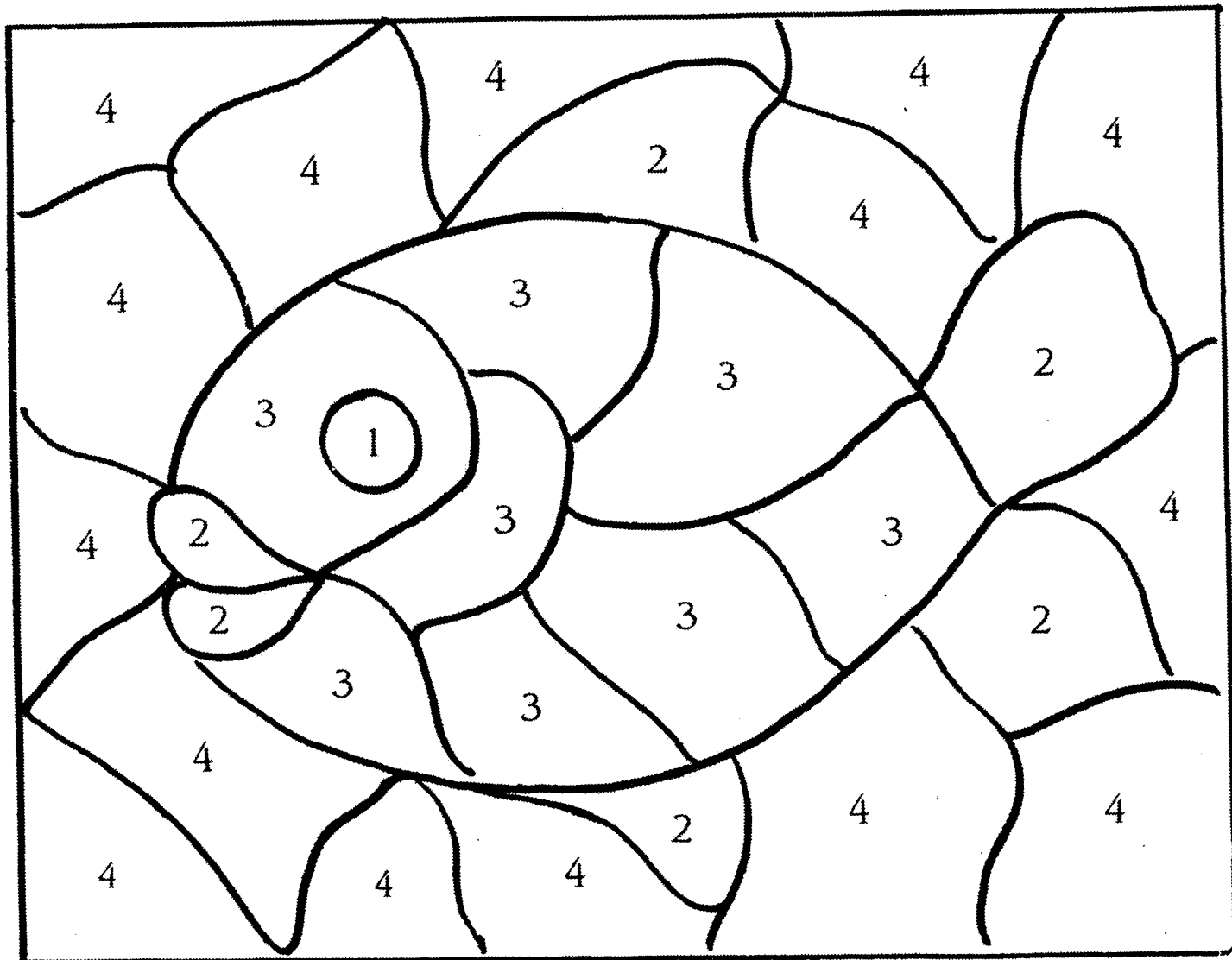
**Floridan
aquifer**



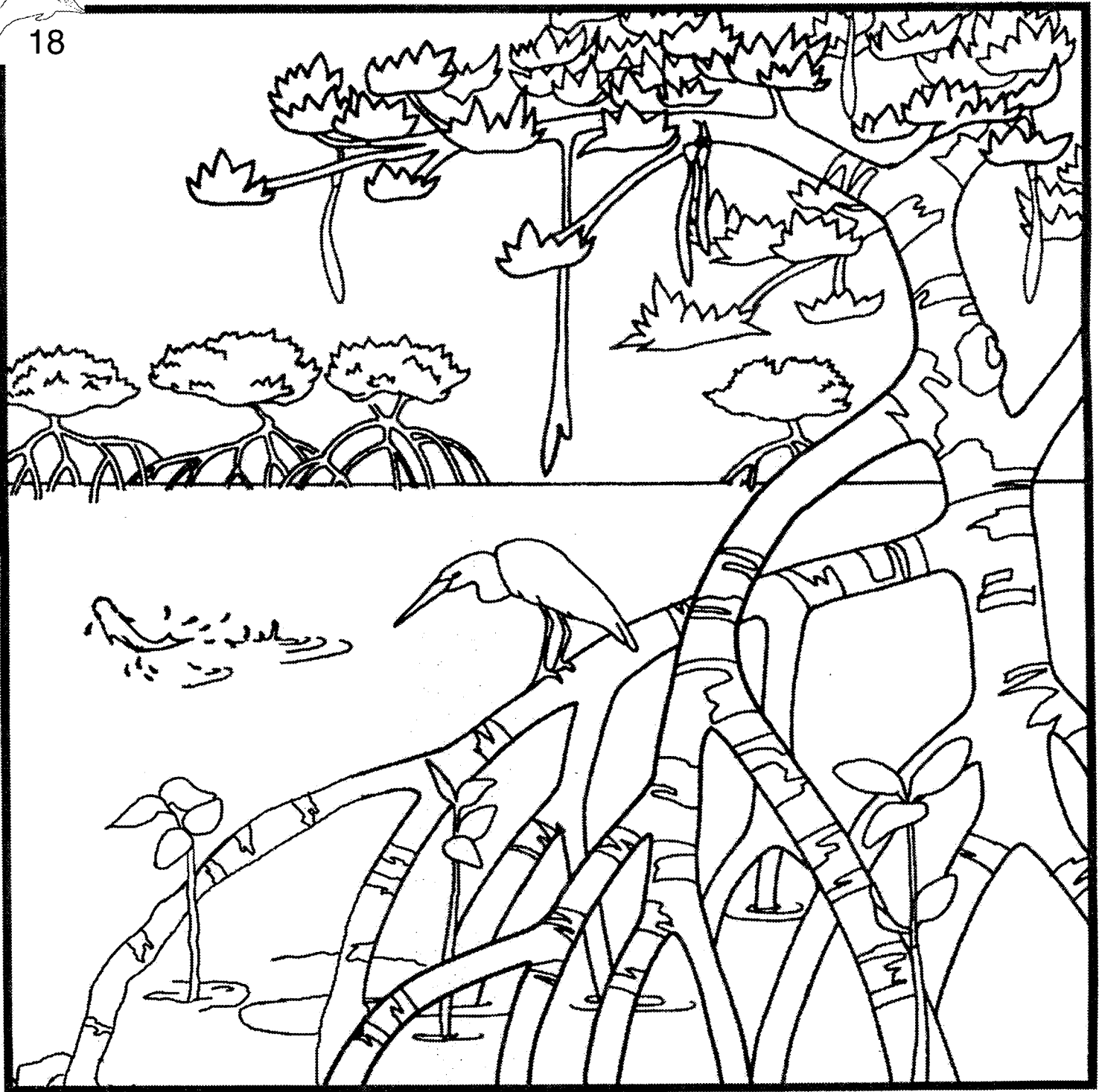
Color by number to see who is hiding here. 17



1. black 2. orange 3. yellow 4. blue

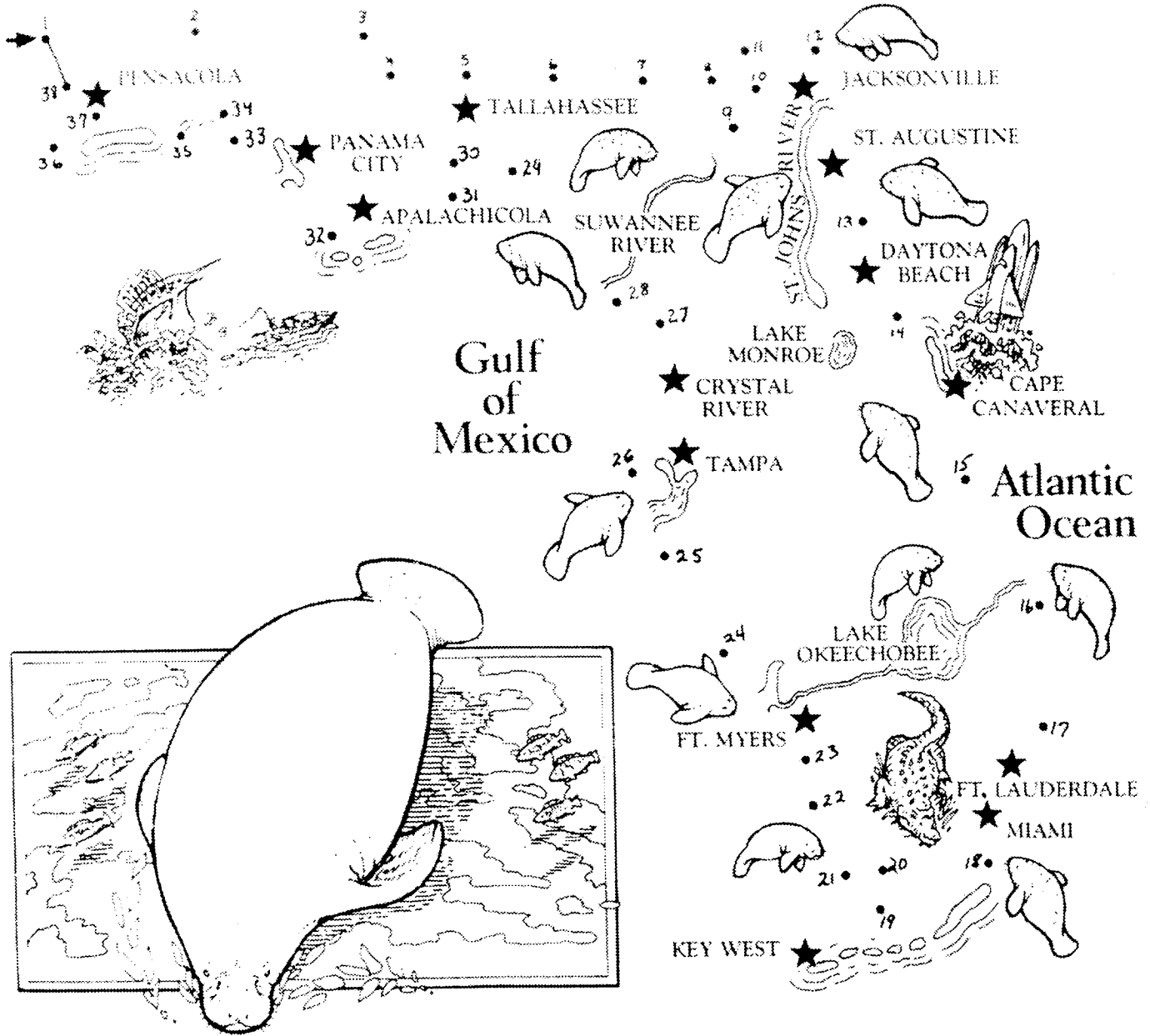


Everything needs clean water.



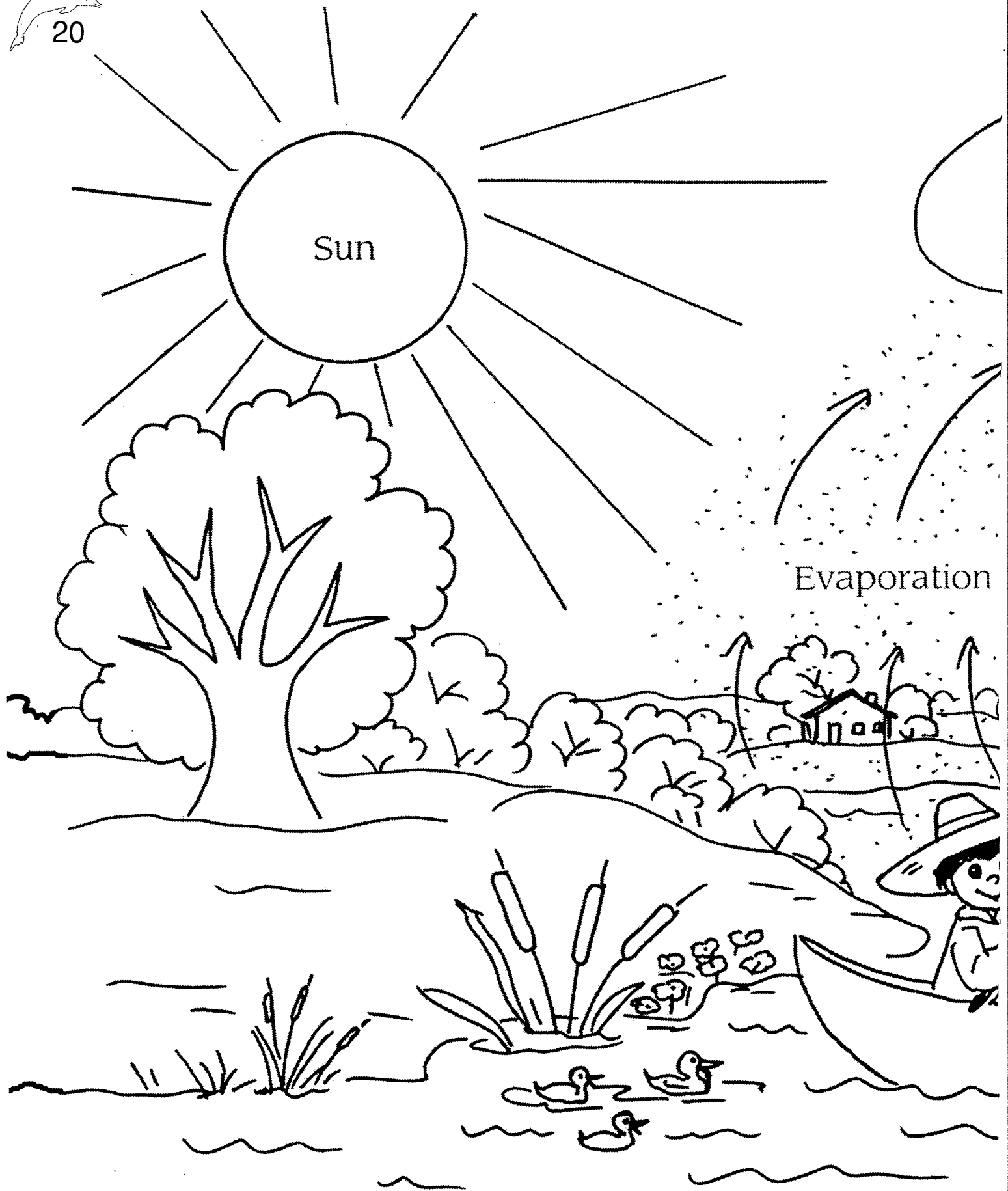
Mangroves are trees found in warm climates near salty water. Mangroves are valuable because they filter pollution in the water. They prevent erosion by anchoring soil with their roots. Many birds find shelter in their branches. Fallen decayed leaves (detritus) of mangroves are an important food for many animals, including zooplankton and fish.

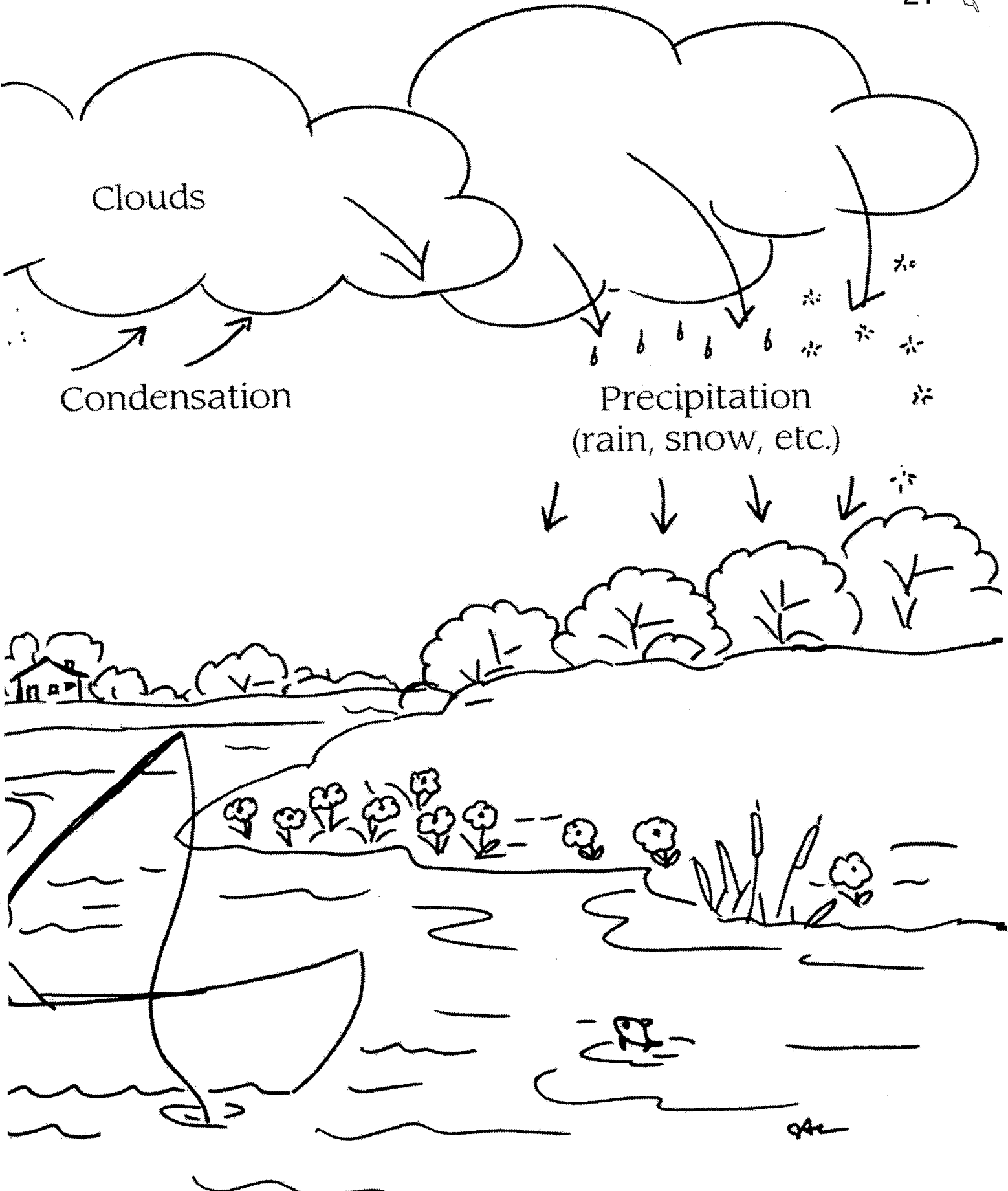
Connect the dots to see where Manatees live!

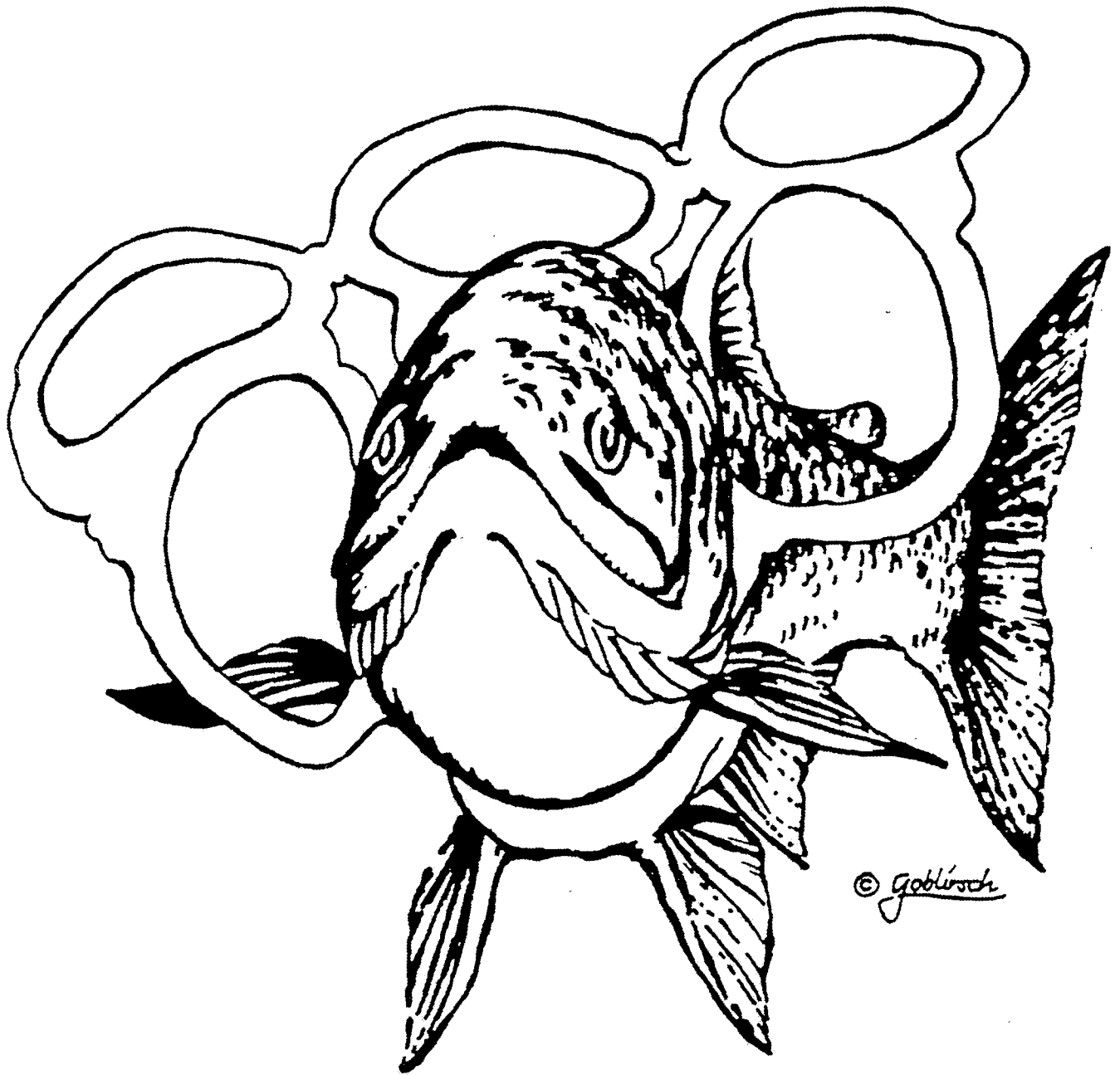


All manatees can live in slow-moving rivers, saltwater bays and canals and the ocean. They are found in:

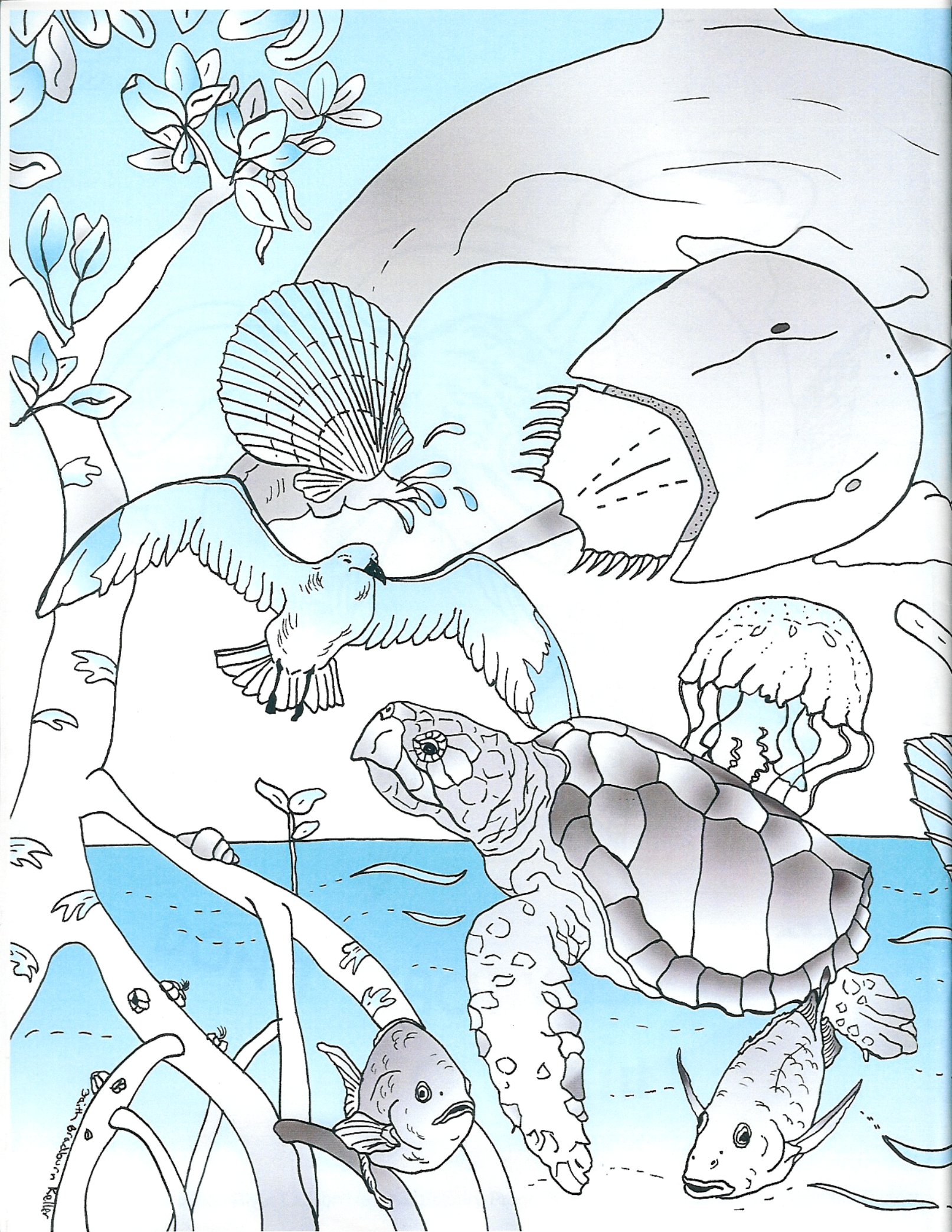
- ...Florida's coastal waters from Miami to Jacksonville.
- ...the St. Johns River from Jacksonville to Lake Monroe.
- ...the Gulf of Mexico from Florida Bay to the Panhandle rivers of North Florida.
- ...the Florida Keys.
- ...sometimes in the summer as far west as Texas and as far north as Rhode Island.







**DON'T TEACH YOUR TRASH
TO SWIM!**



Sarah Bradburn Keller