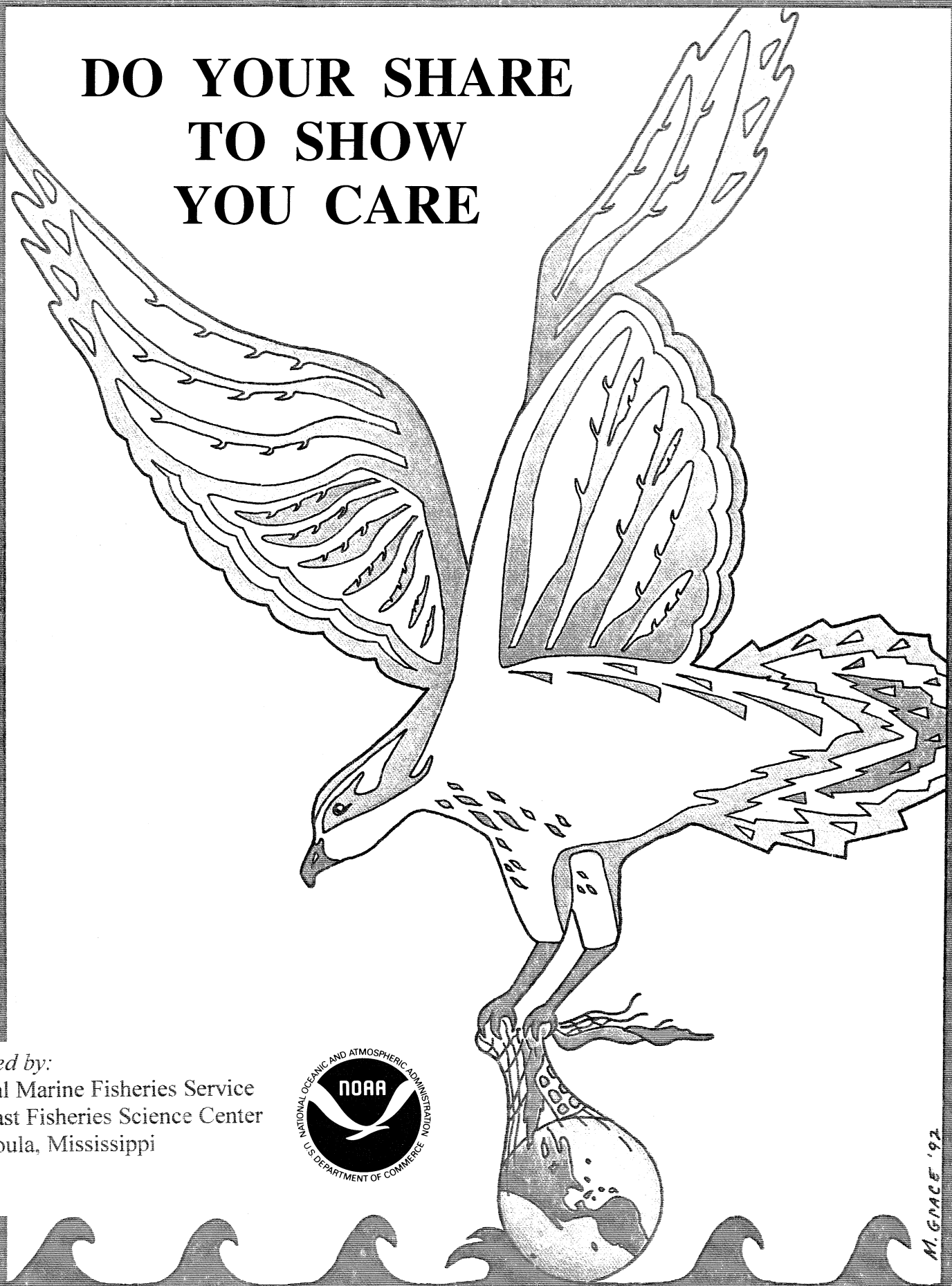
DO YOUR SHARE TO SHOW YOU CARE



Prepared by:
National Marine Fisheries Service
Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Pascagoula, Mississippi

NOAA
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

A Coloring Book From Your Water Friends

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Prepared by

National Marine Fisheries Service
Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Pascagoula, Mississippi

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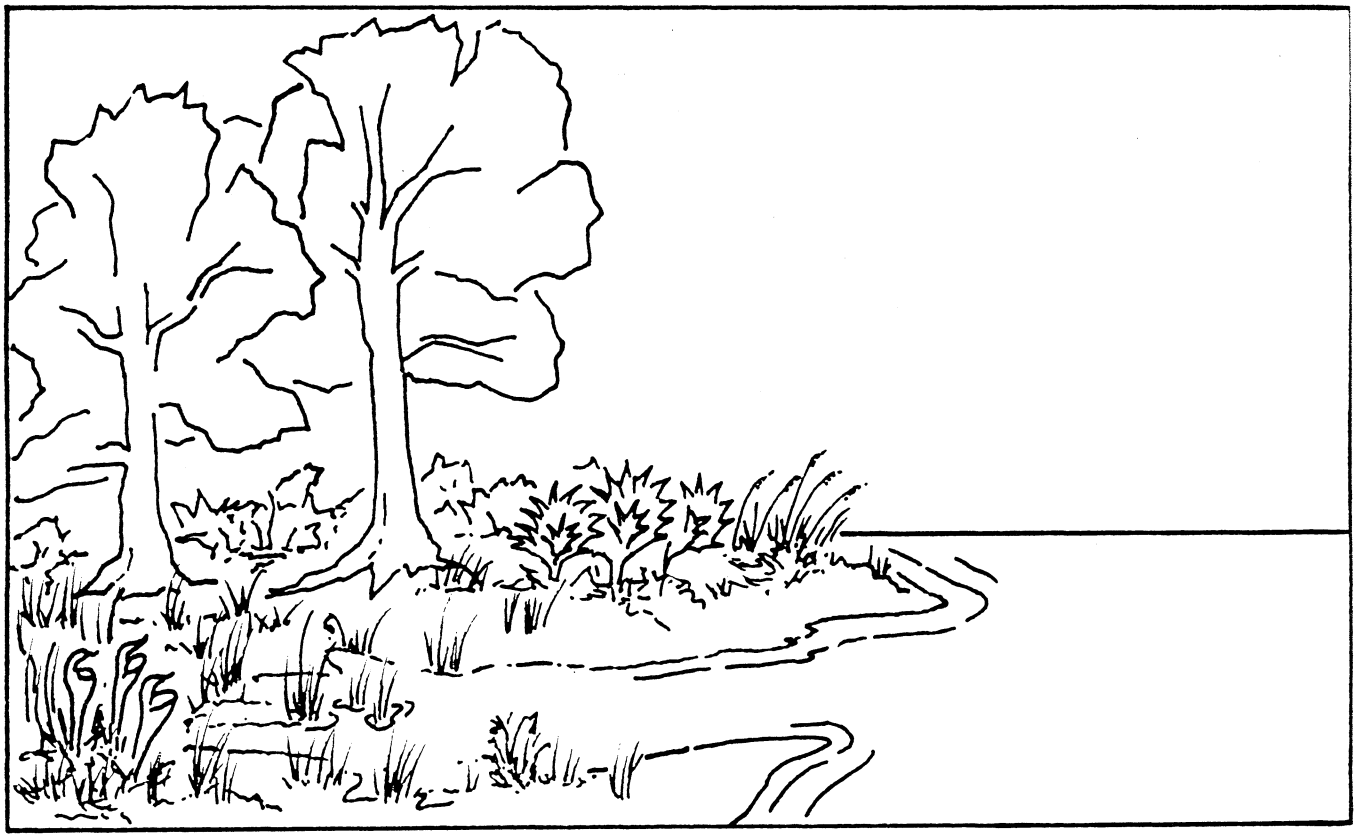
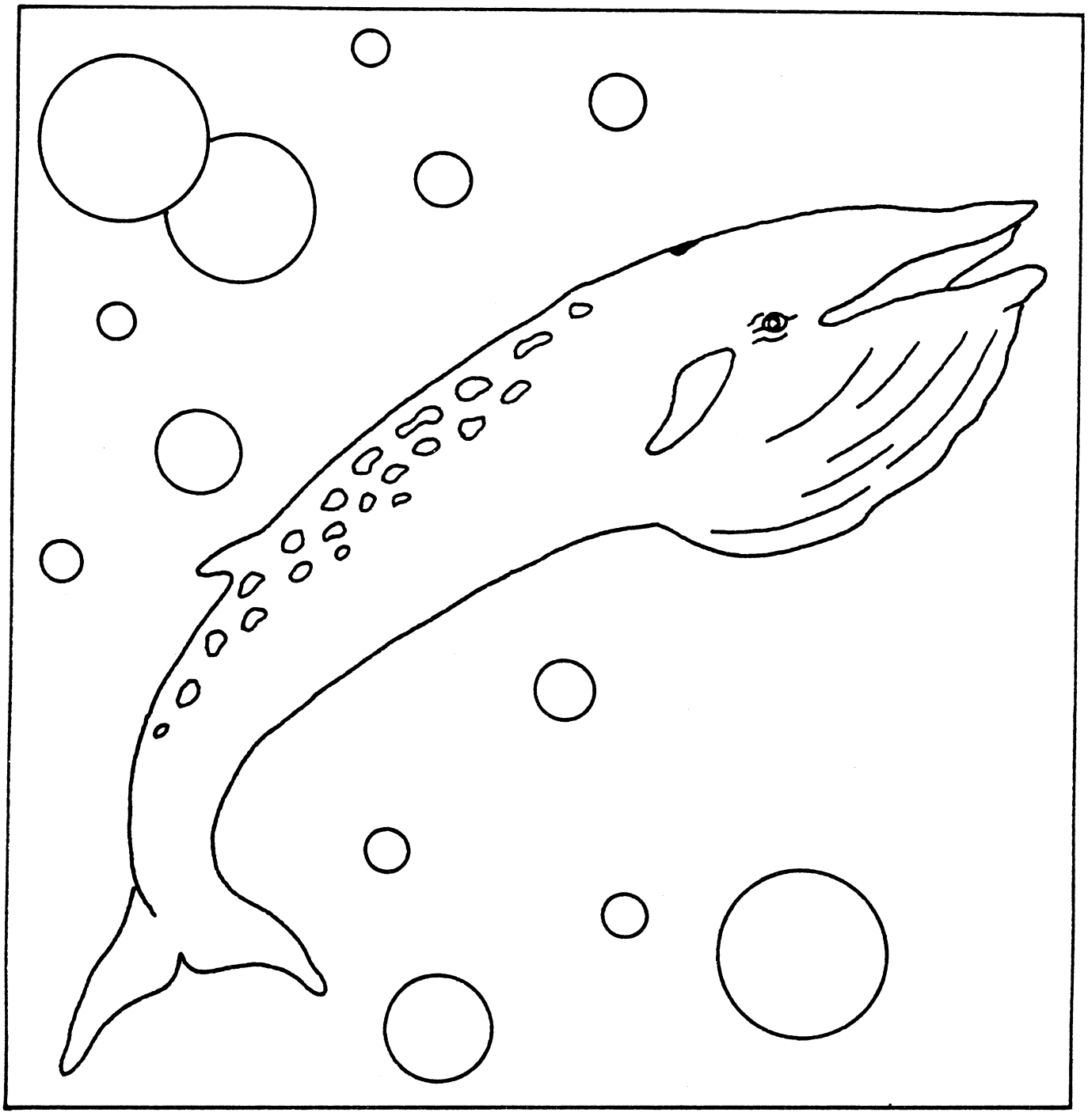
A Message From Your Water Friends

Wetland, coastal and marine habitats are very special places. Plants, insects, birds, fish and mammals make their homes in these habitats. It is important to us that no one harms or changes them.

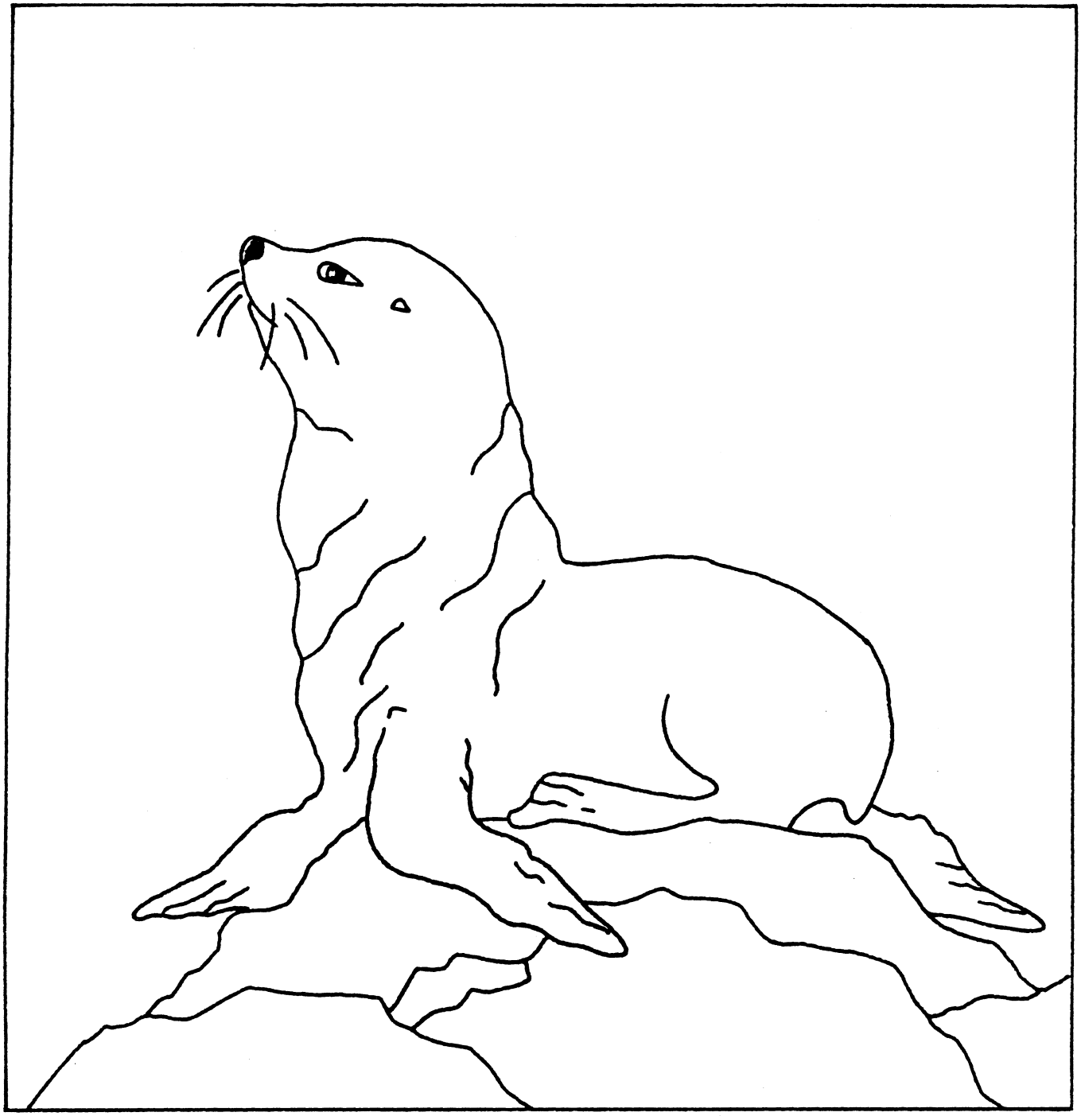
Please help us keep our homes beautiful, clean and safe!



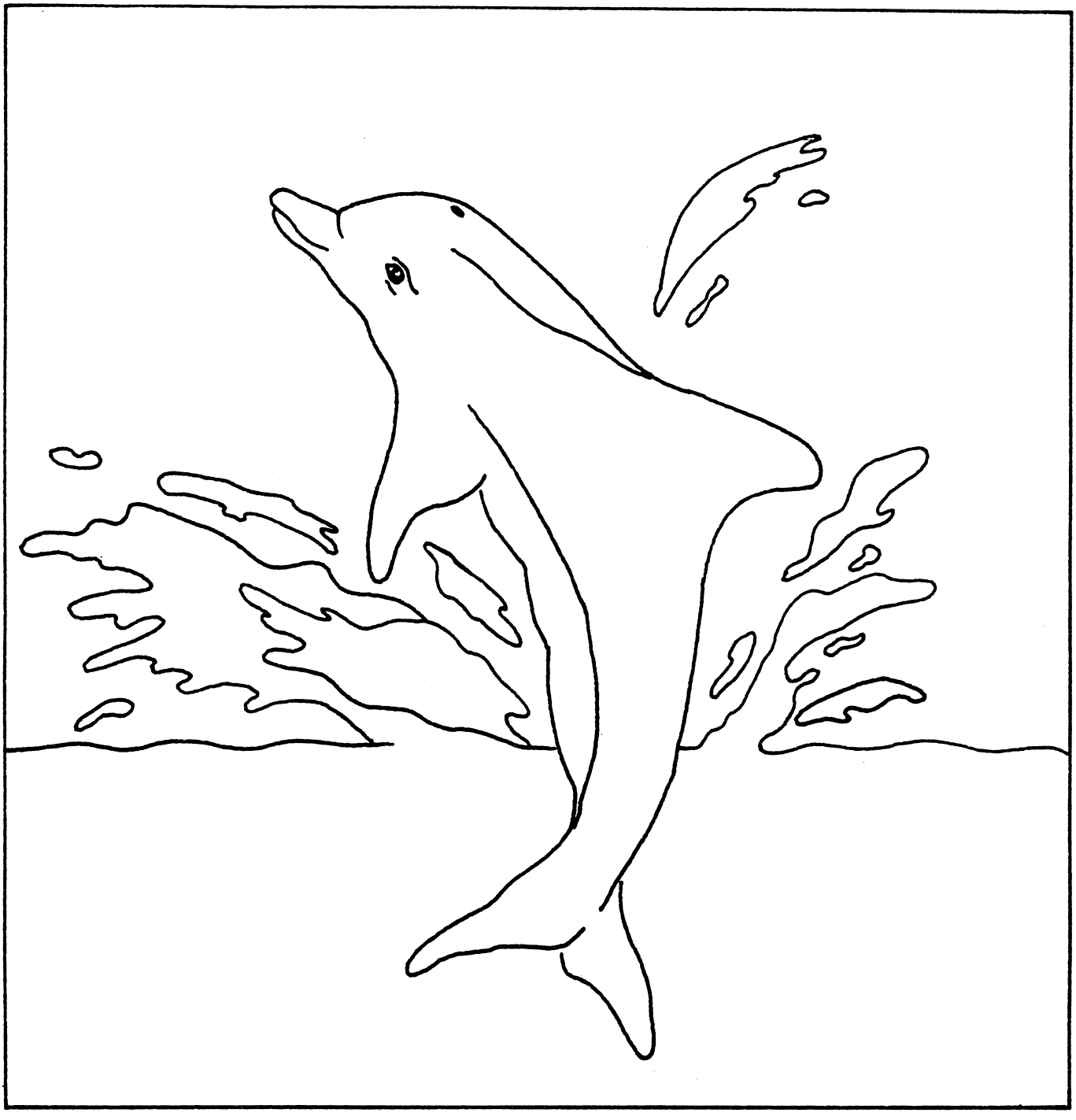
WETLAND HABITAT *COASTAL HABITAT* *MARINE HABITAT*



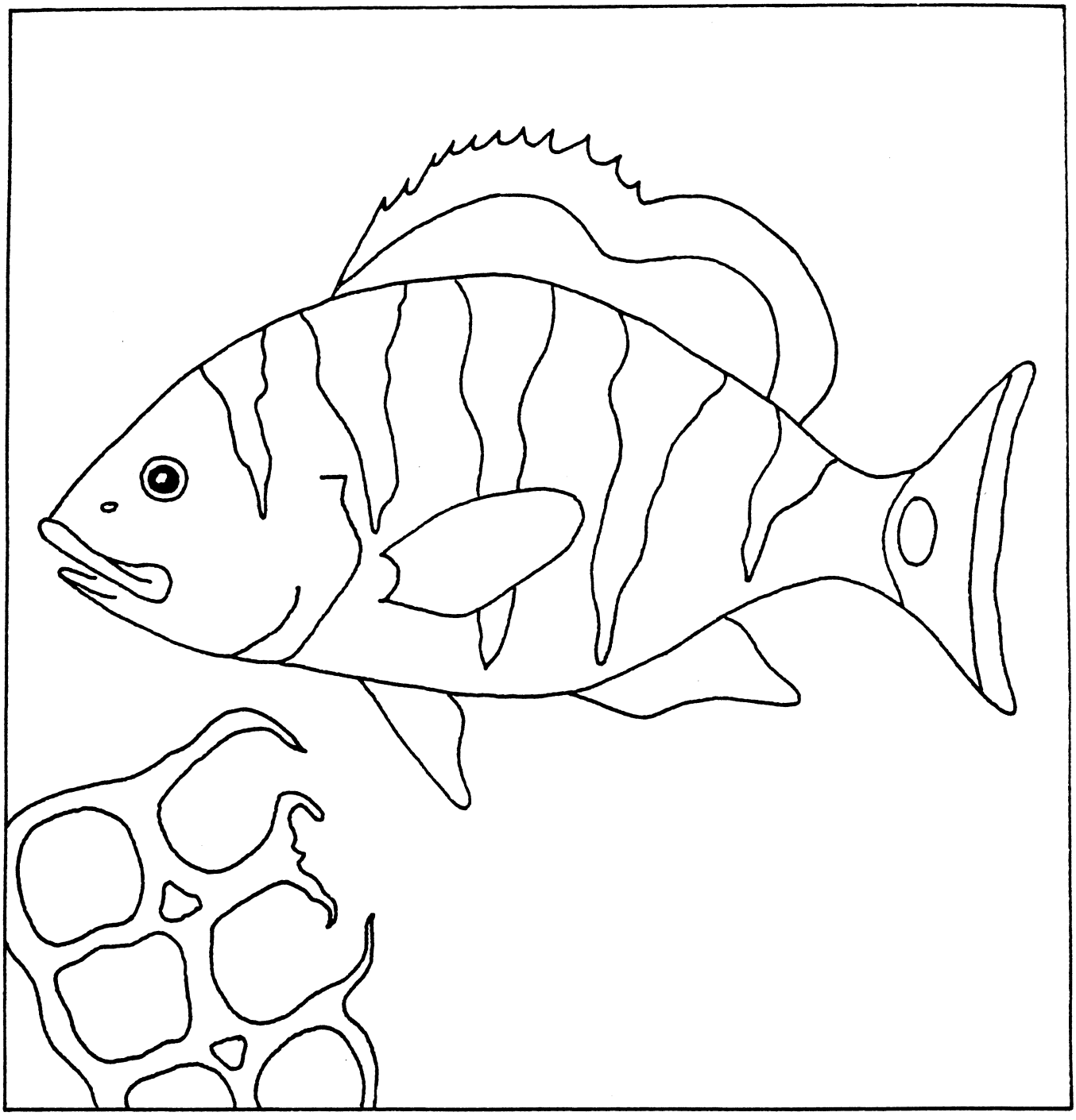
I am Bobby the Blue Whale, the largest animal to ever live on earth. In order to grow big and strong, I eat several tons of food a day. To collect the food I need, I swim with my large mouth wide open. Sometimes trash may become mixed with my food and that can make me sick. Trash does not taste very good - yuck!



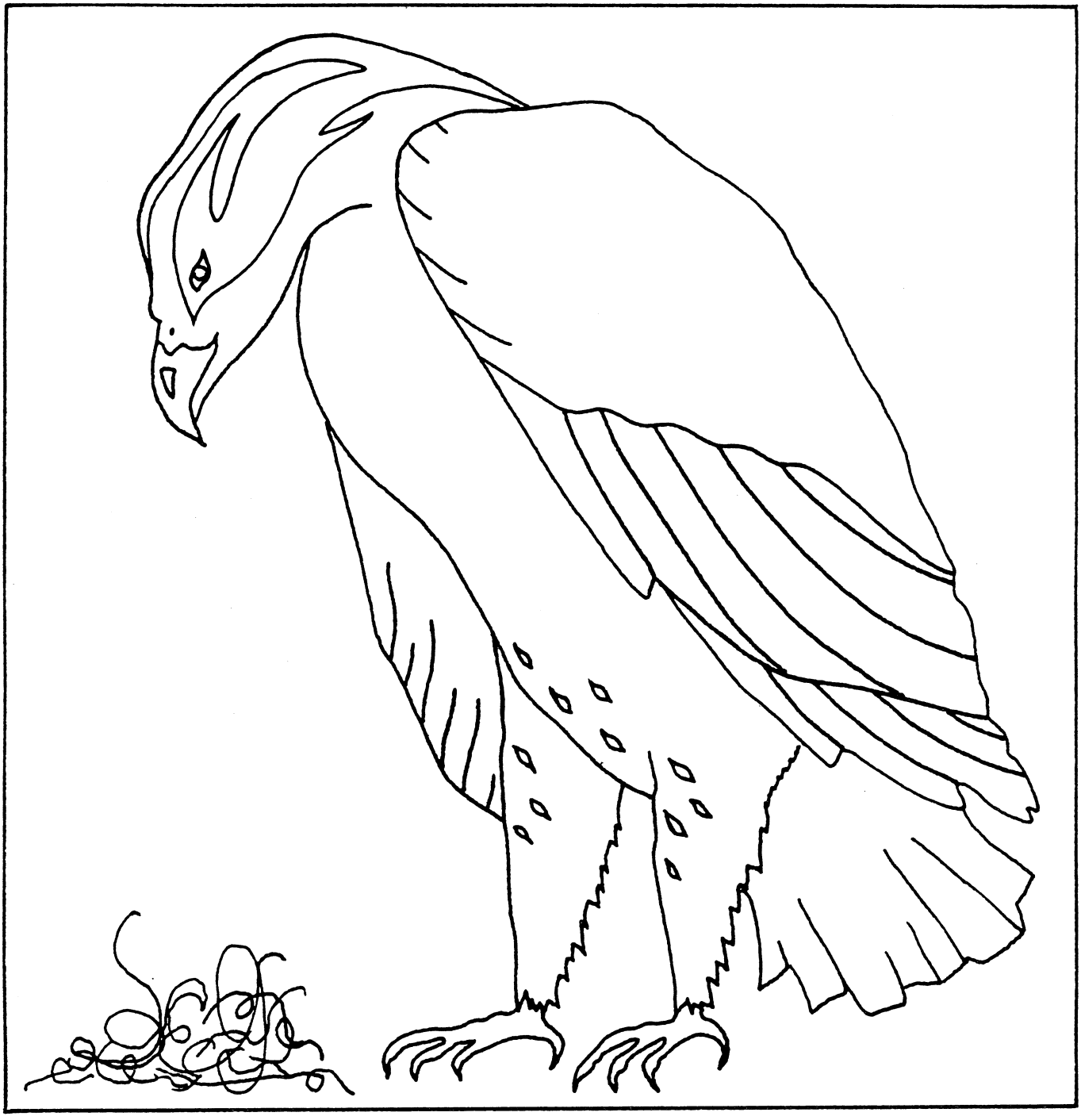
You can call me Sally the Seal. I like to visit harbors and boat docks. Sometimes when I pop my head out of the water to take a breath of air, oil covers my beautiful fur. It makes me smell terrible. Be careful and don't pollute!



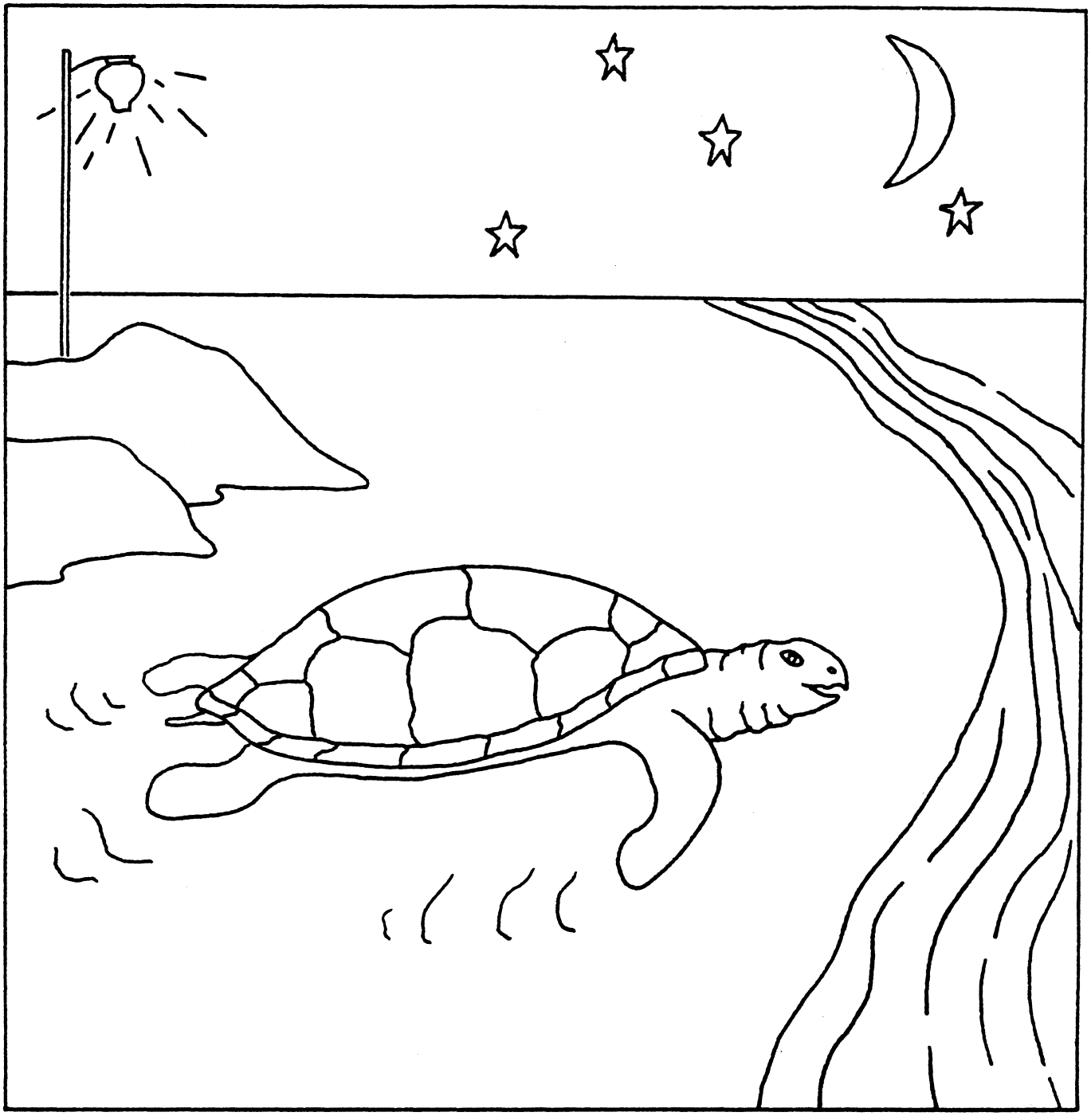
Everyone calls me Dolly the Dolphin. I swim and play all the time. Sometimes people throw their torn nets into the water. This is not good because I can become tangled in the nets and may not be able to swim to the surface to breathe. Torn nets should be taken to the shore and thrown away. Please keep my home safe!



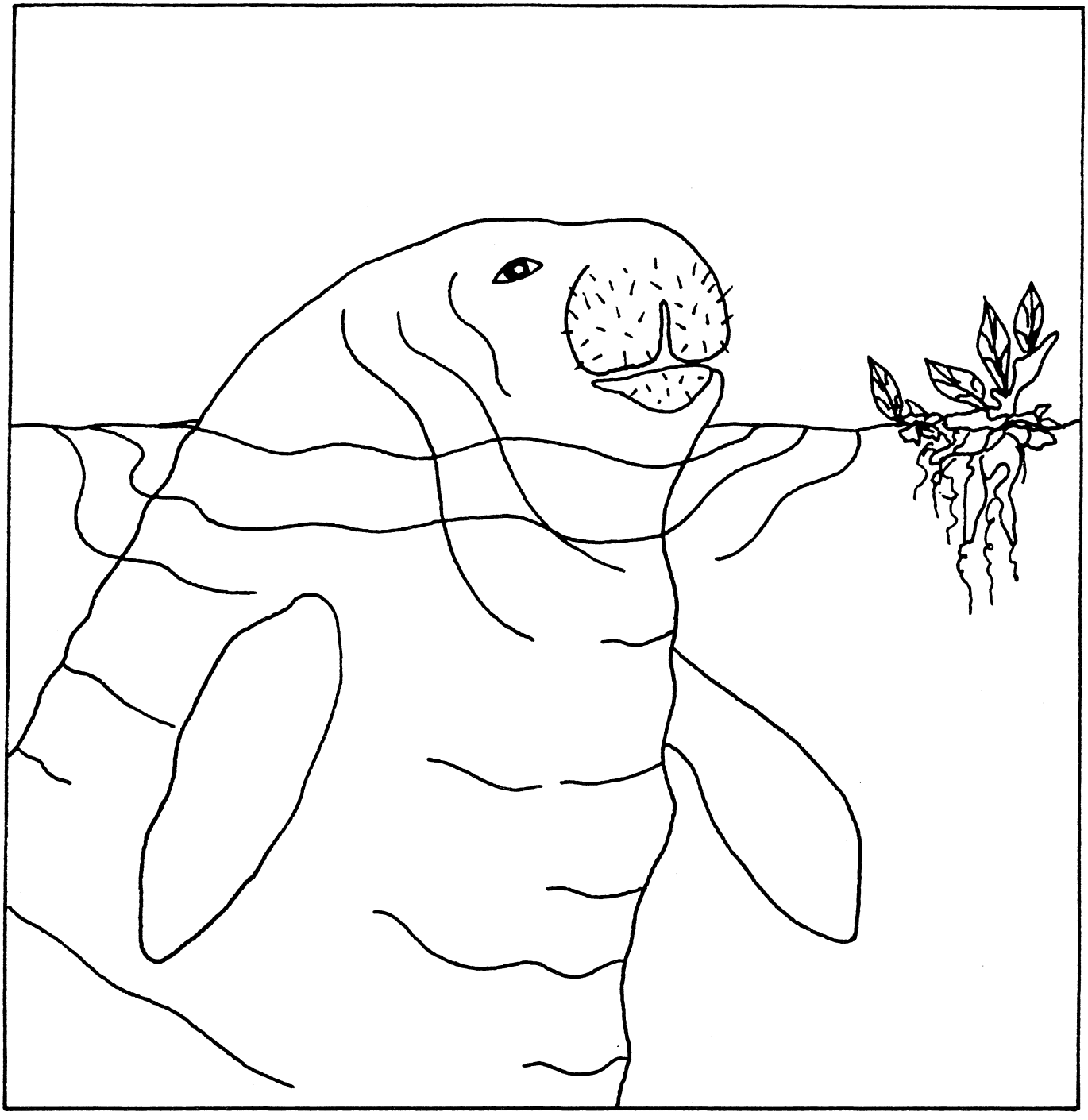
They call me Freddie the Fish. Swimming is the name of my game. I cannot see plastic that has been thrown into the water. This can be very dangerous for me because I may become tangled in it. If that happens my body will not be able to grow. Please do not throw plastic in the water.



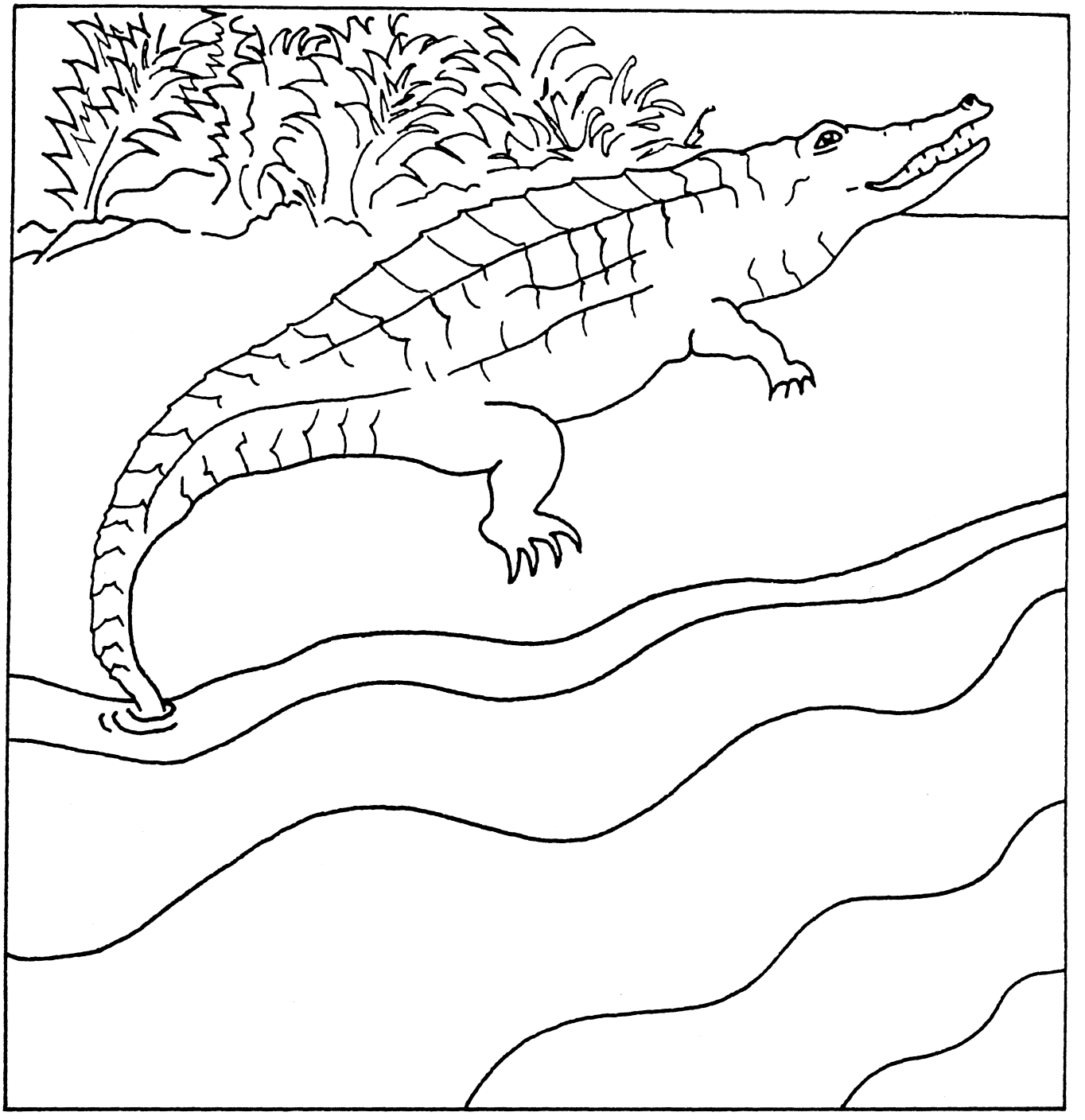
Hi, my name is Ollie the Osprey. I soar high above the water and beaches. Sometimes when I walk on the beaches and search for food, I become tangled in fishing line that someone has left behind. Freeing myself from the tangled line is a tough job, because I do not have hands to help me. Everyone should remember to take all of their fishing line home with them.



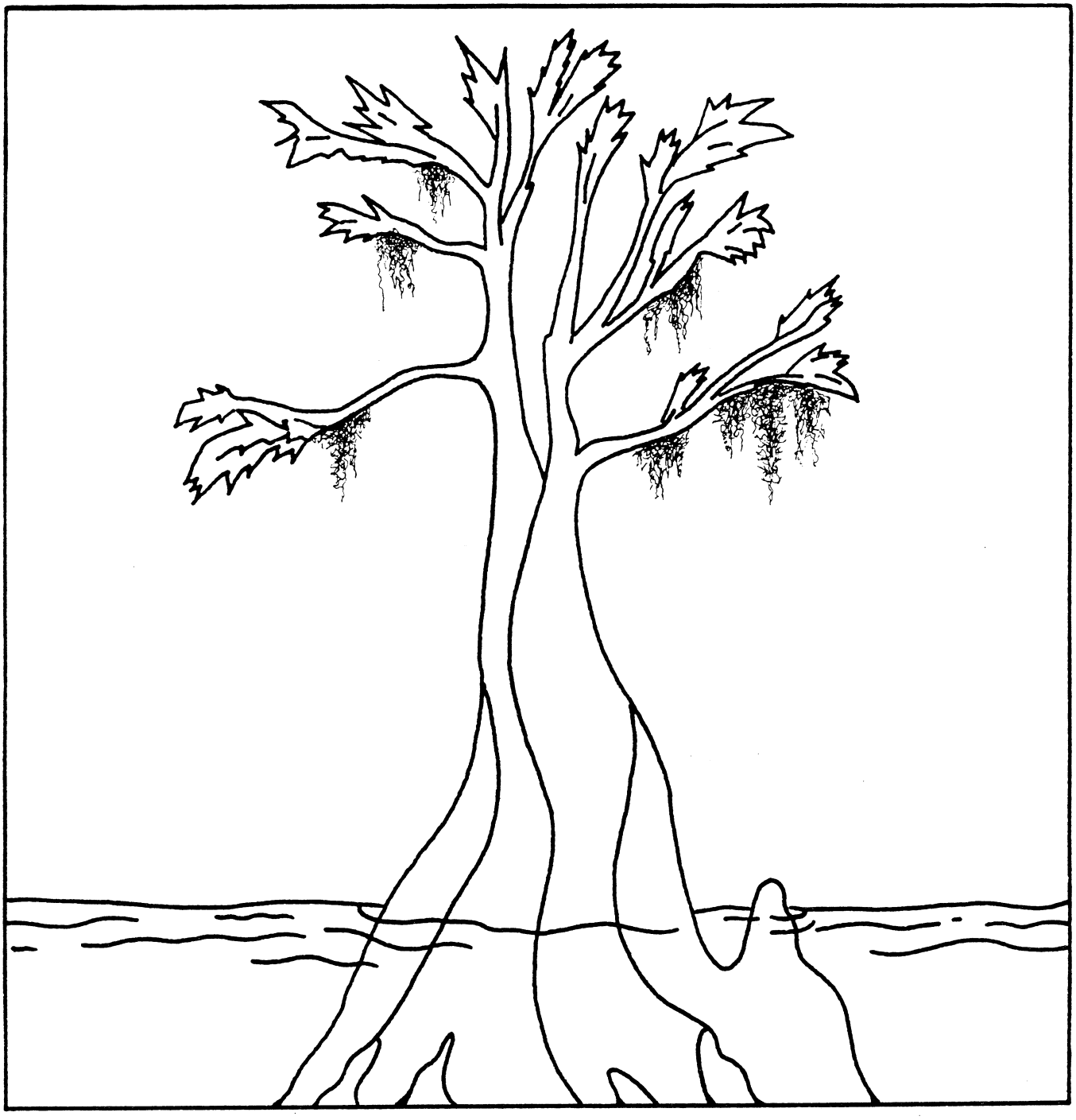
I am Trixie the Turtle. I swim in the ocean and lay my eggs on the beach. After my babies hatch from their shells, they look for moonlight to show them the way to the water. Sometimes when there are bright lights on the shore, my babies become confused and crawl towards them. Please help my babies find their way to the water by keeping lights along beaches turned off or turned low.



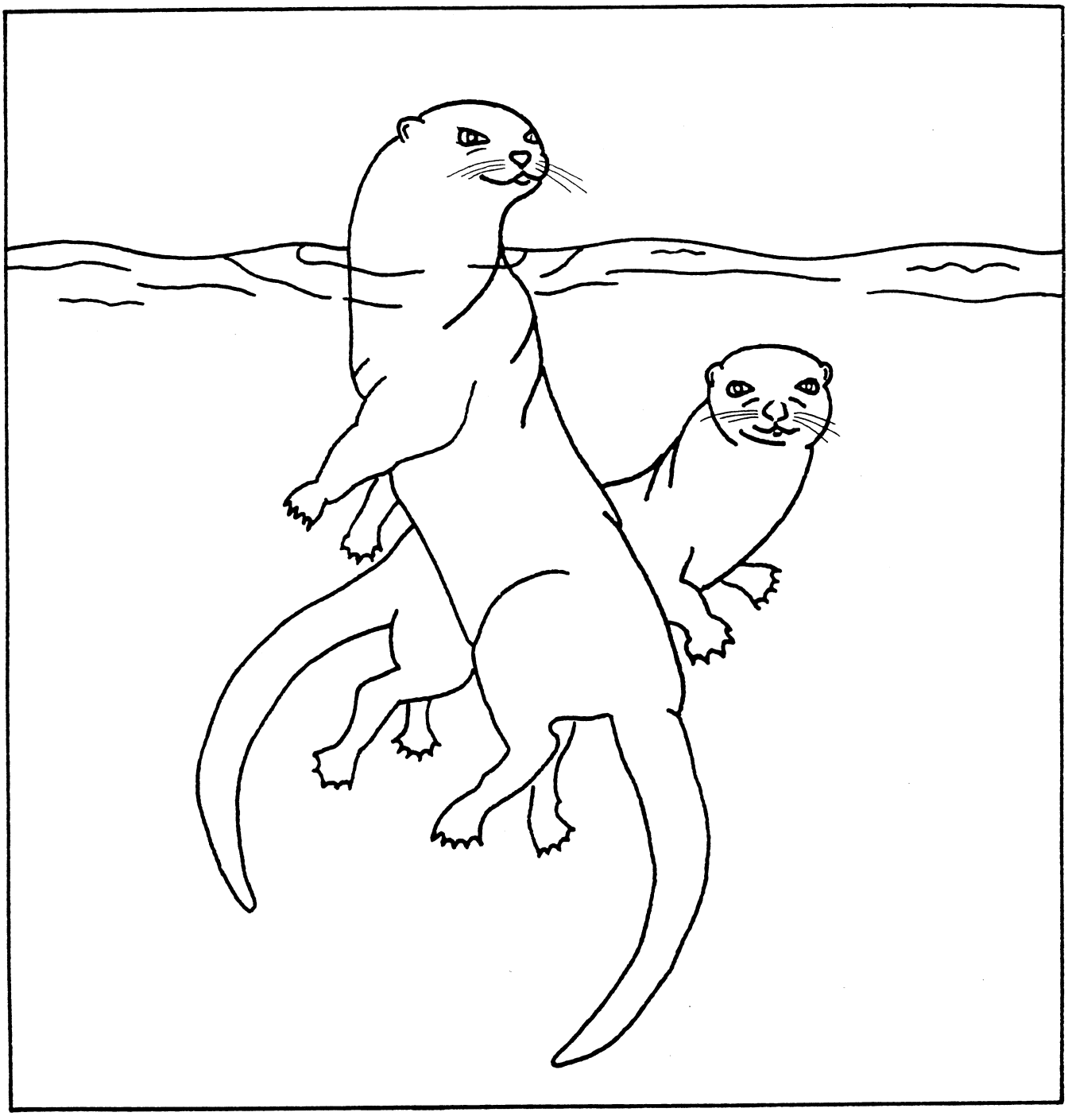
My friends call me Mary the Manatee. I am a very slow swimmer. I like to stay near the surface of the water where there are green plants to eat. It is hard for me to move out of the path of fast motorboats. Please be careful and do not run into me. That can really hurt - ouch!



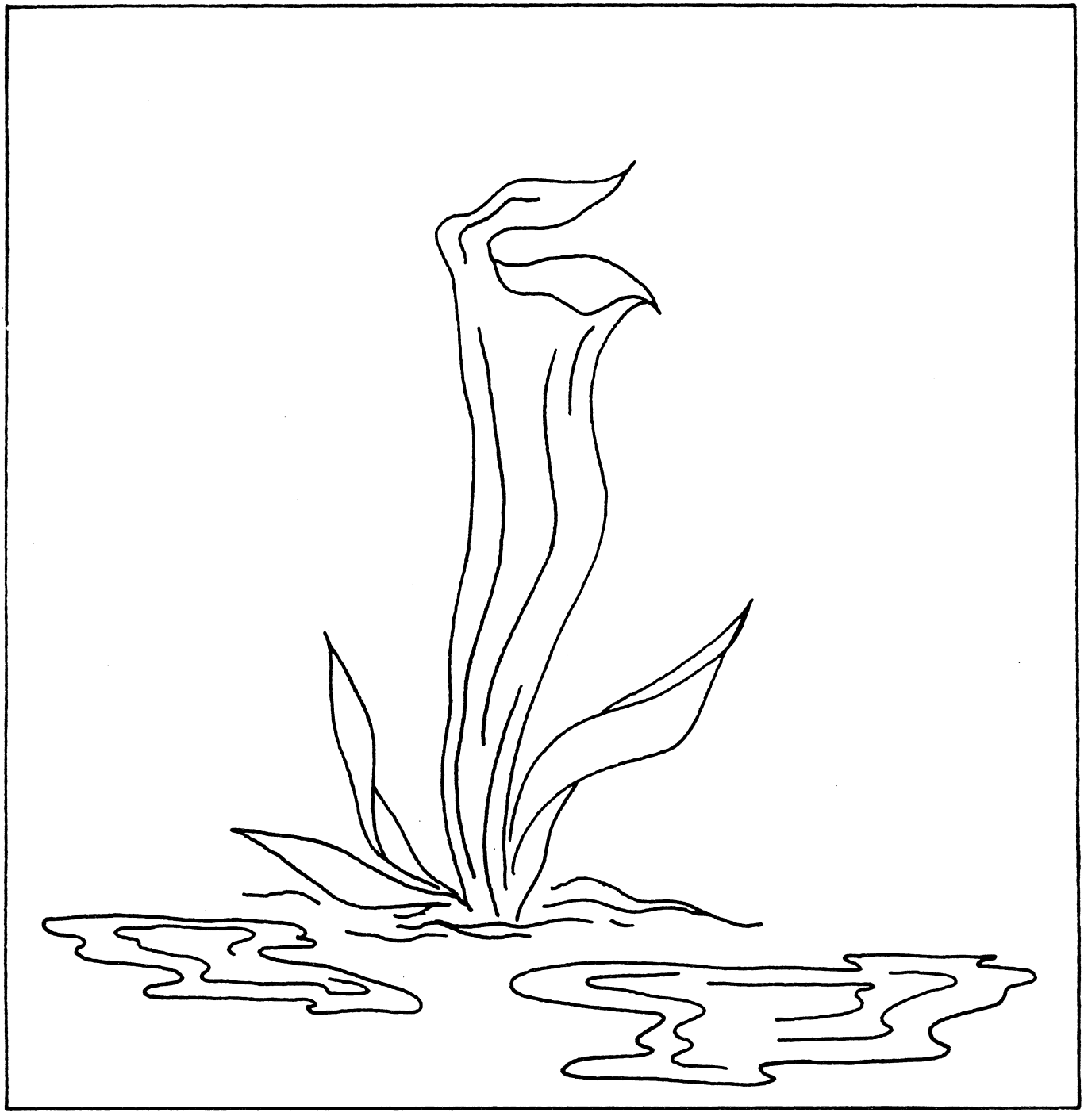
Everyone calls me Allie the Alligator. I swim in the bayous and lie on the sand when the sun is shining. It is hard to find room on the sand when people have left their trash behind. It looks awful and smells very bad. Please stash your trash when you are on the water and throw it away when you get home. Remember, keep our bayous clean!



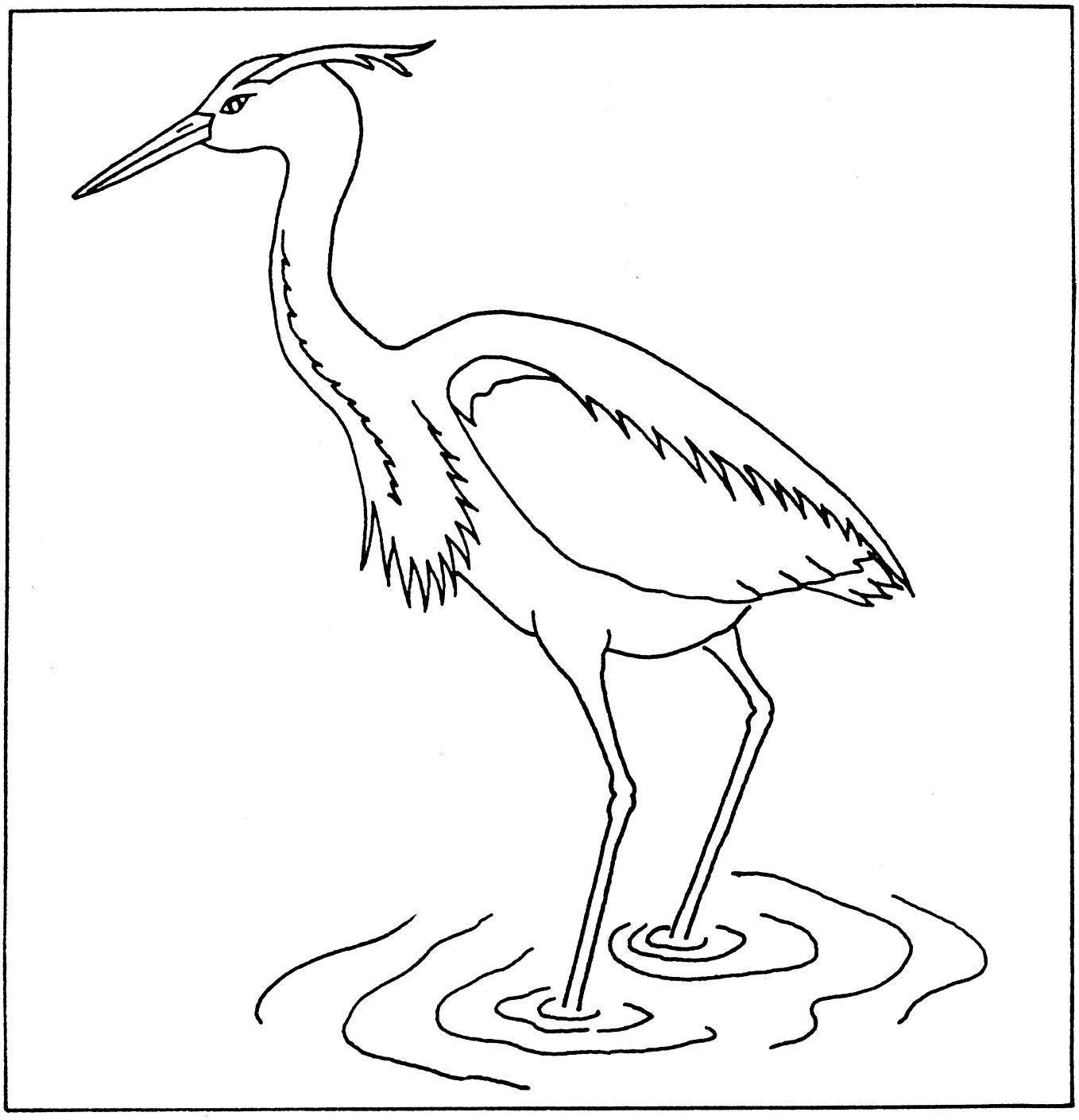
Chris the Cypress Tree is my name. Birds make their nests on my branches and water animals like to hide around my roots. If no one cuts me down, I will live for a thousand years. Wow, that's a long time!



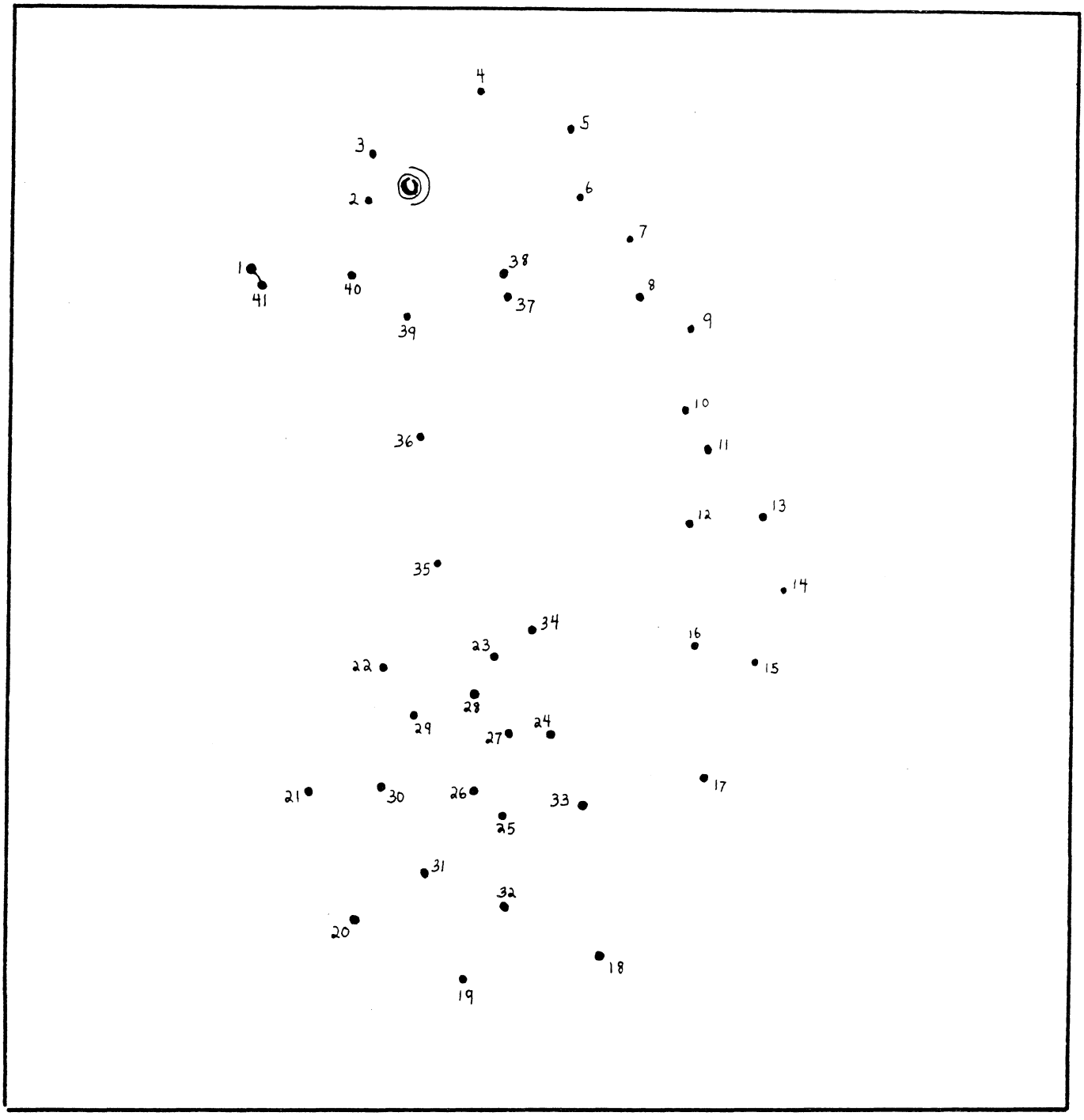
We are Potter and Cotter the otters. We live in places that have plenty of water. Please do not let anyone drain the water from our homes and fill them with dirt! Oh no, if that happens, where will we play?



My name is Penny the Pitcher Plant. I live in special wetland habitats. Pitcher plants are some of your best friends because we love to eat bugs. Please do not pick us so we can keep catching bugs. They are yummy!



I am Gregory the Great Blue Heron. I like to wade in shallow water and look for good things to eat. Sometimes people dredge through the shallow waters and I cannot find food that helps me to grow. Please do not dig through my feeding grounds.



What am I?

Connect the dots from 1 to 41 to find out.

CAN YOU FIND THESE WORDS?

Wildlife
Recycle
Reuse
Renew
Volunteers
Beach
Cleanup
~~Save~~
Island
Ocean
Plastics
Turtles
Water
Litter Law
Trees
Stash Your Trash
Conserve
Fishing Line
People
Marine Debris
Mississippi
Entanglement
Swim
Boater
Play
Aluminum
Leave
Paper
Foot
Birds
Yes
Dolphins
Teach
Gulf

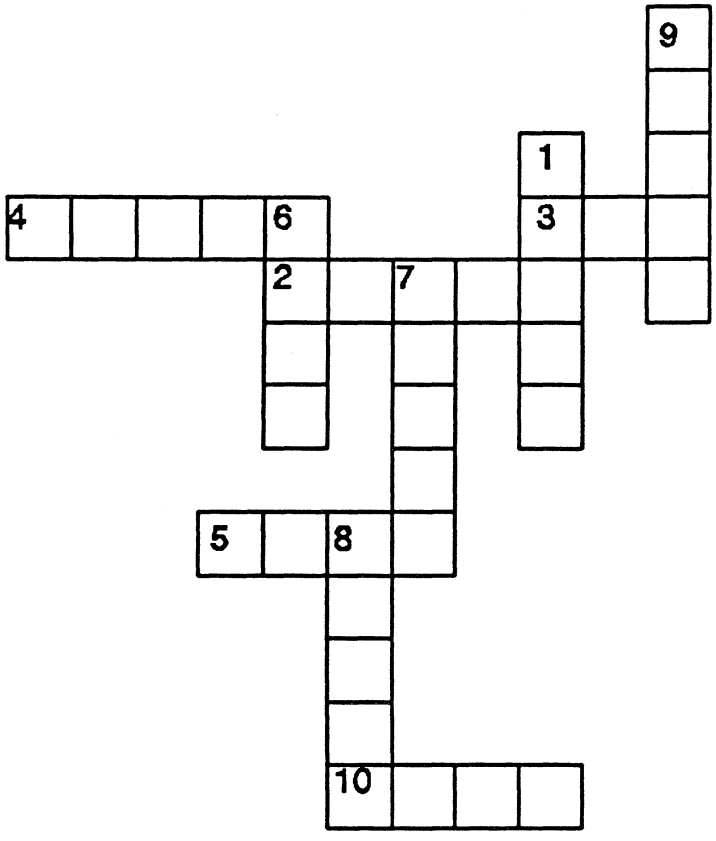
Directions: Circle each letter of the word. The words may be spelled in any direction. The remaining letters will spell a phrase which asks you to help prevent marine debris.

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

Match the phrase with a word.

1. The largest animal on earth	A. September
2. Birds get tangled in it	B. Volunteers
3. Aluminum cans and newspapers	C. Cypress Tree
4. Can live for a thousand years	D. Nets
5. Turtles lay their eggs there	E. Blue whale
6. National Beach Cleanup	F. Manatee
7. People who help pick up trash	G. Fishing Line
8. Dolphins get caught in them	H. Footprints
9. This animal is a slow swimmer	I. Beach
10. What should be left on the beach	J. Recycle

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

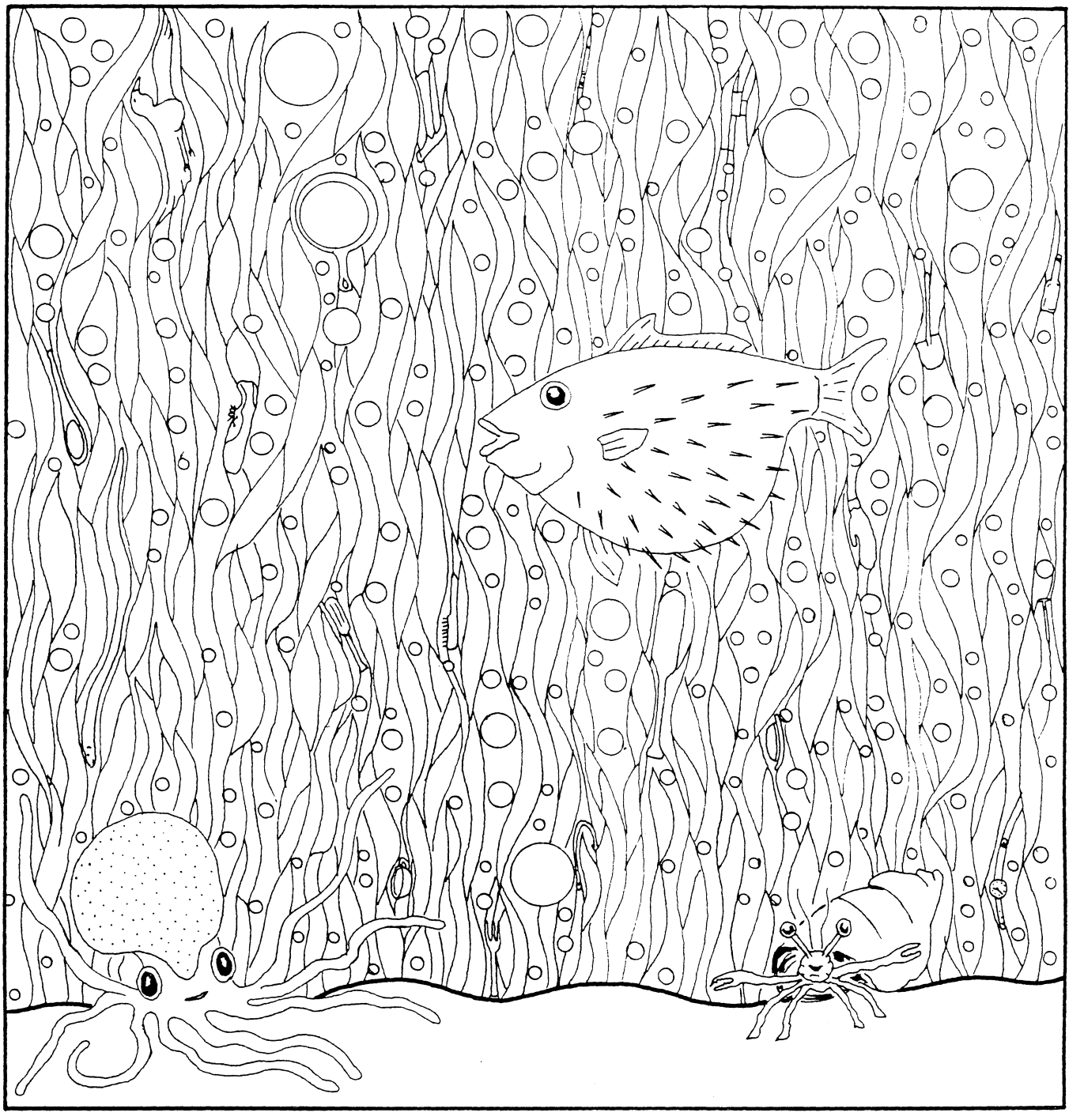


ACROSS

2. People drink lots of ____.
3. We breathe the ____.
4. Many ___ fly in the sky.
5. Many ___ live in the ocean.
10. Planet earth is our ___ sweet home.

DOWN

1. We live on planet ___.
6. People ___ in the ocean.
7. Do not throw your ___ in the water.
8. ___ YOUR TRASH
9. Do your ___ show you care



Hidden Pictures

Can you find the following objects in the picture?

watch	cup	hammer	hairbrush
shovel	fork	fishing hook	pencil
mitten	paddle	bottle	bird
screwdriver	spoon	frying pan	nail
eel	hat	shoe	boat

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THE YEAR OF THE GULF OF MEXICO
AMERICA'S SEA ~ KEEP IT SHINING