

JOIN THE FUN!

Visit Henri Heron's Louisiana Wetlands



Sticker page inside!

Message to Parents:



Our wetlands will only persist through conservation. As parents and teachers, it is our job to use any opportunity to teach our children about the importance of conservation.

Teaching our children to understand conservation is an integral step to ensure our wetlands will continue to be in existence for future generations.

Use this activity book to start the discussion with your children about Louisiana's coastal wetlands and their conservation.

Jane Schwandt Frayle
Early Childhood Educational Consultant

Learn more about Louisiana's Coastal Land Loss and Restoration Efforts:

CWPPRA, the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act, is federal legislation enacted to identify, engineer and design, and fund the construction of coastal wetlands restoration projects. These projects provide for the long-term conservation of wetlands and dependent fish and wildlife populations. Projects funded by CWPPRA are cost-effective ways of restoring, protecting, and enhancing coastal wetlands. CWPPRA has a proven track record of superior coastal restoration science and monitoring techniques in Louisiana. Since 1990, the net Louisiana wetland area that CWPPRA has protected, created, or restored is 100,000 acres. Greater than 360,000 acres have also been enhanced.

As of 2014, CWPPRA has 150 active restoration projects with 101 completed projects, 18 active construction projects, and 31 projects currently in engineering and design. Three (3) of the 31 projects in engineering and design are scheduled for construction in 2014. The success of the CWPPRA program has been essential in providing critical ecosystem stabilization along Louisiana's coast and has provided pioneering solutions for land loss.

In addition to the physical land gains made by CWPPRA, this interagency organization has been instrumental in educating the public about Louisiana's land loss and in fostering public participation in coastal restoration activities.

Place the matching sticker on Henri's friends in the drawing.
Stickers are located on the sticker page at the back of the book.





Hi! I'm Henri Heron. Louisiana wetlands
are my home.

My friends and I live here.

My home is lovely.

Can you help me find my friends?



I'm Allie Alligator. Can you help me save the swamp?

Sure! You can plant local native trees.

Native plants occur naturally and have been around Louisiana for a long time.

The bald cypress is a native tree!

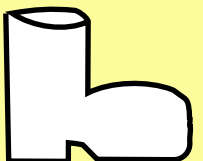
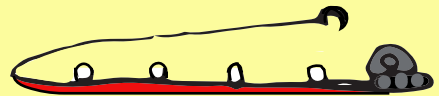
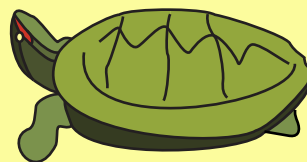
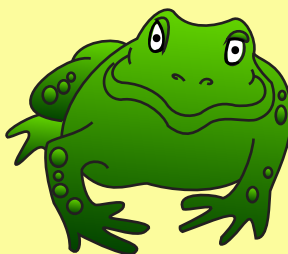
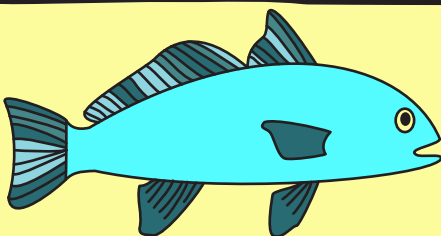
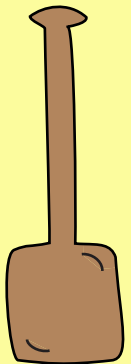


Alligators live in swamps.

Swamps are wetland areas with trees.

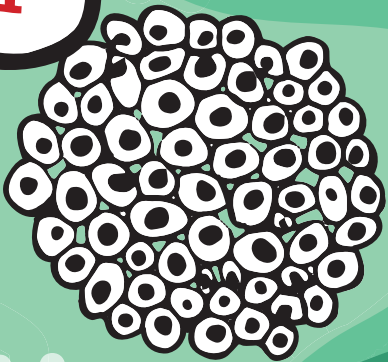
See if you can find these hidden pictures in the swamp.

Hidden Picture Puzzle: Circle the hidden objects in the picture.





1



Hi!

Many frogs live in Louisiana.

Did you know all of Louisiana's native frogs and toads lay eggs?

Eggs are laid in water.

Eggs hatch into tadpoles.

Tadpoles grow into adult frogs.

Order the life cycle.

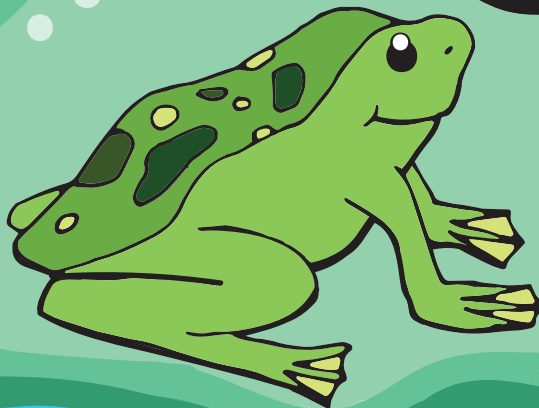
Put a (1) one next to the frog egg mass.

Put a (2) two next to the tadpole.

Put a (3) three next to the tadpole with legs.

Put a (4) four next to the young frog.

4





3

This is my friend Freddy Frog.
He lives in a marsh filled with
fresh water.

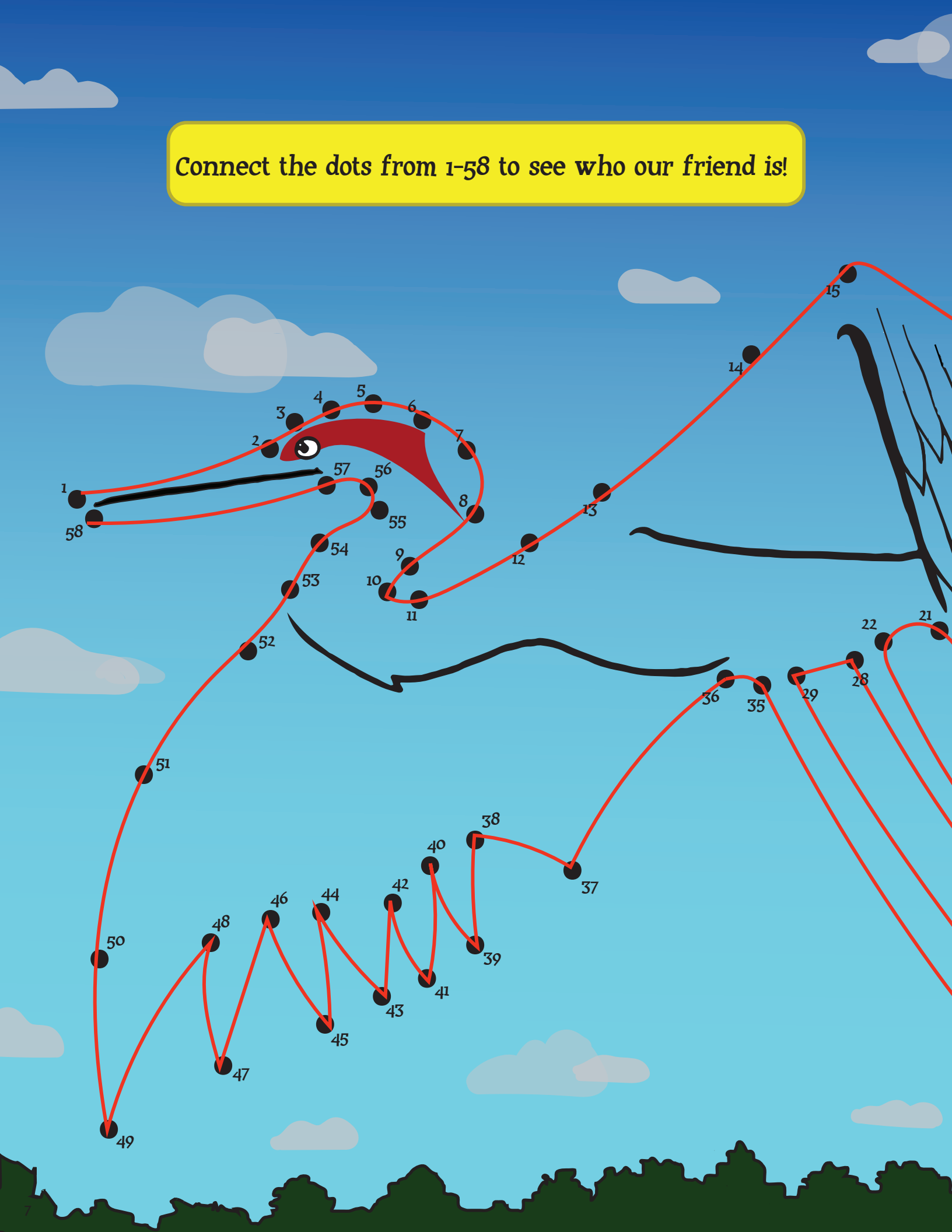
Can you help save fresh marshes?
Sure you can!

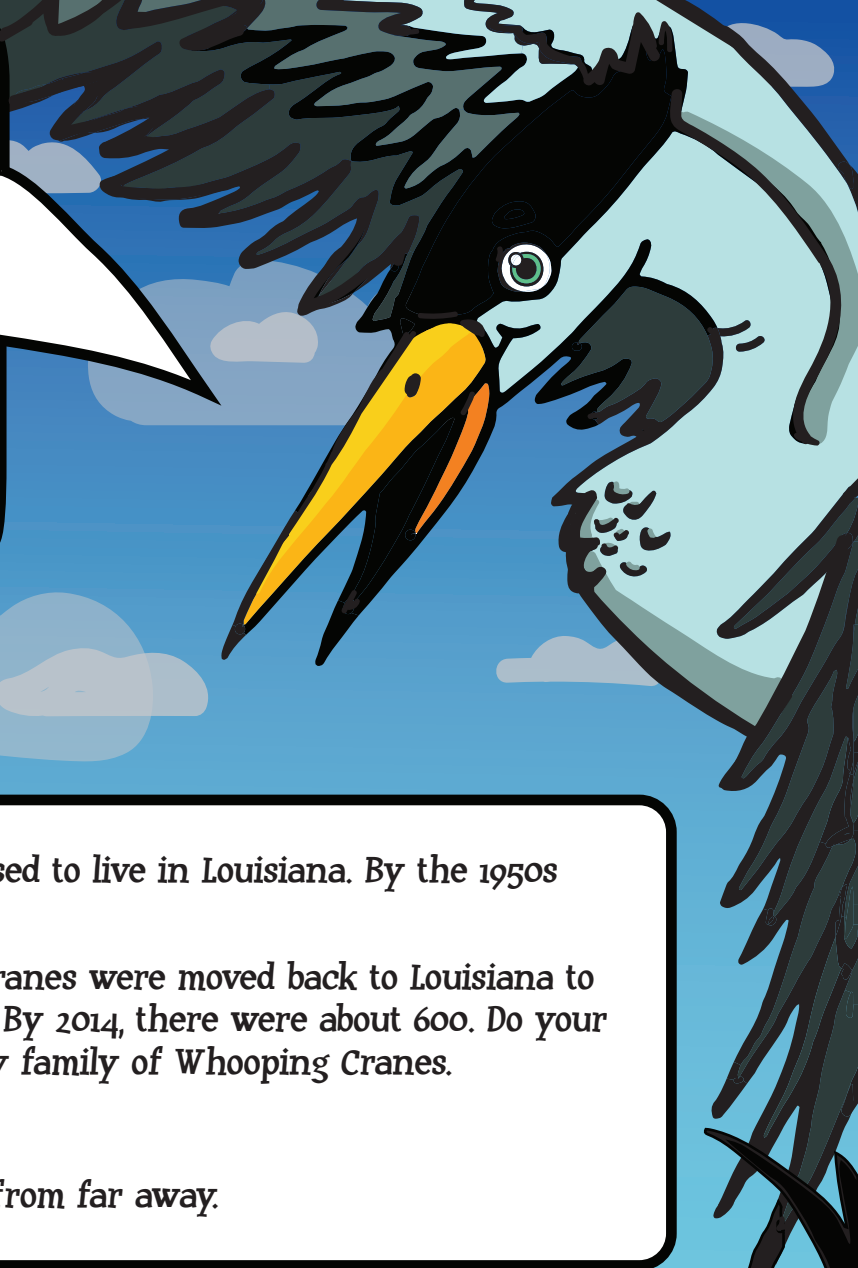
Grow beautiful native plants that
flower.



2

Connect the dots from 1-58 to see who our friend is!





This is my friend Willie Whooping Crane. Willie is shy! If you see him, watch him from afar.

The red patch on his head reminds you to STOP and stay away.

Willie lives in the wetlands south of Lafayette, Louisiana. He lives in the White Lake Wetlands Conservation Area in Vermilion Parish.

Help save Willie and his cousins.



Whooping Cranes used to live in Louisiana. By the 1950s they were all gone.

In 2011, Whooping Cranes were moved back to Louisiana to begin a new family. By 2014, there were about 600. Do your part to help save my family of Whooping Cranes.

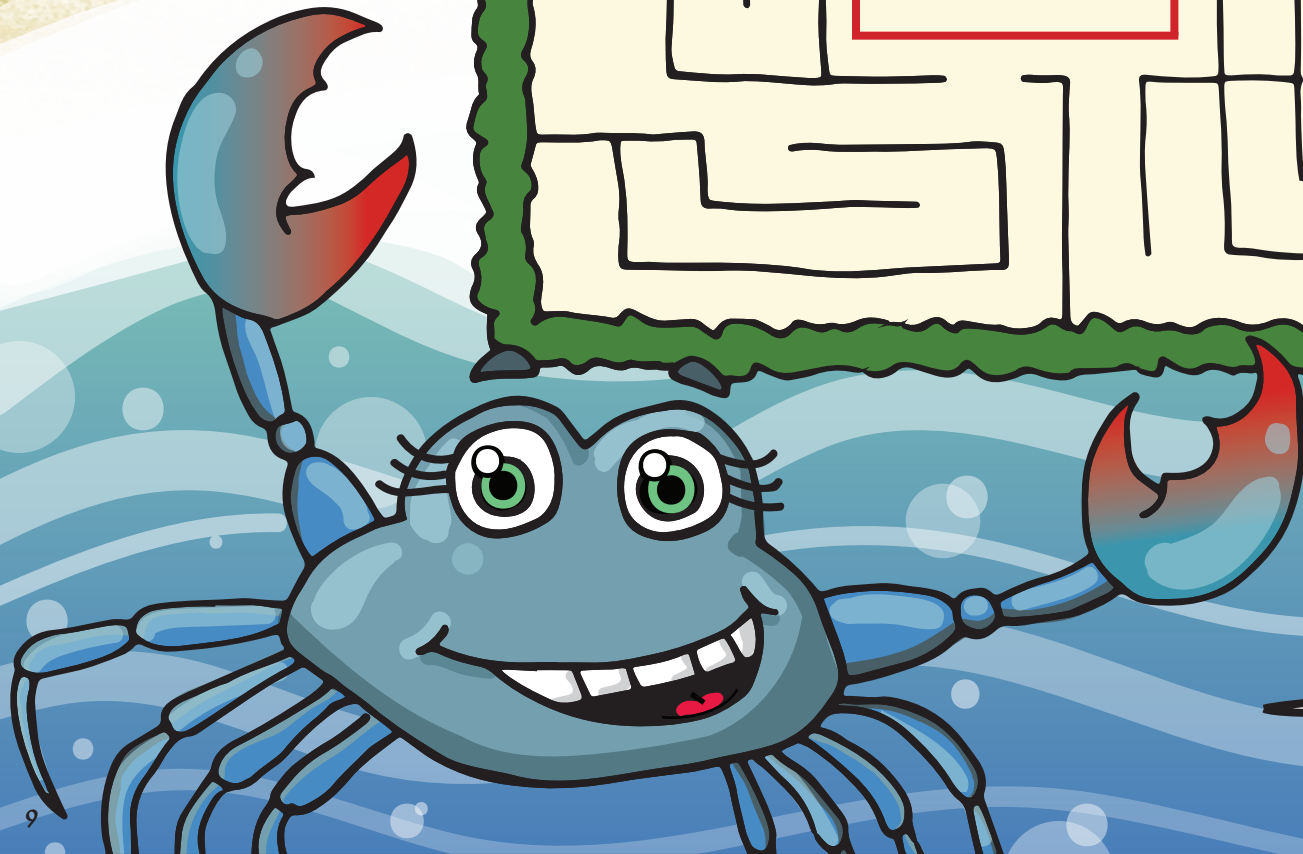
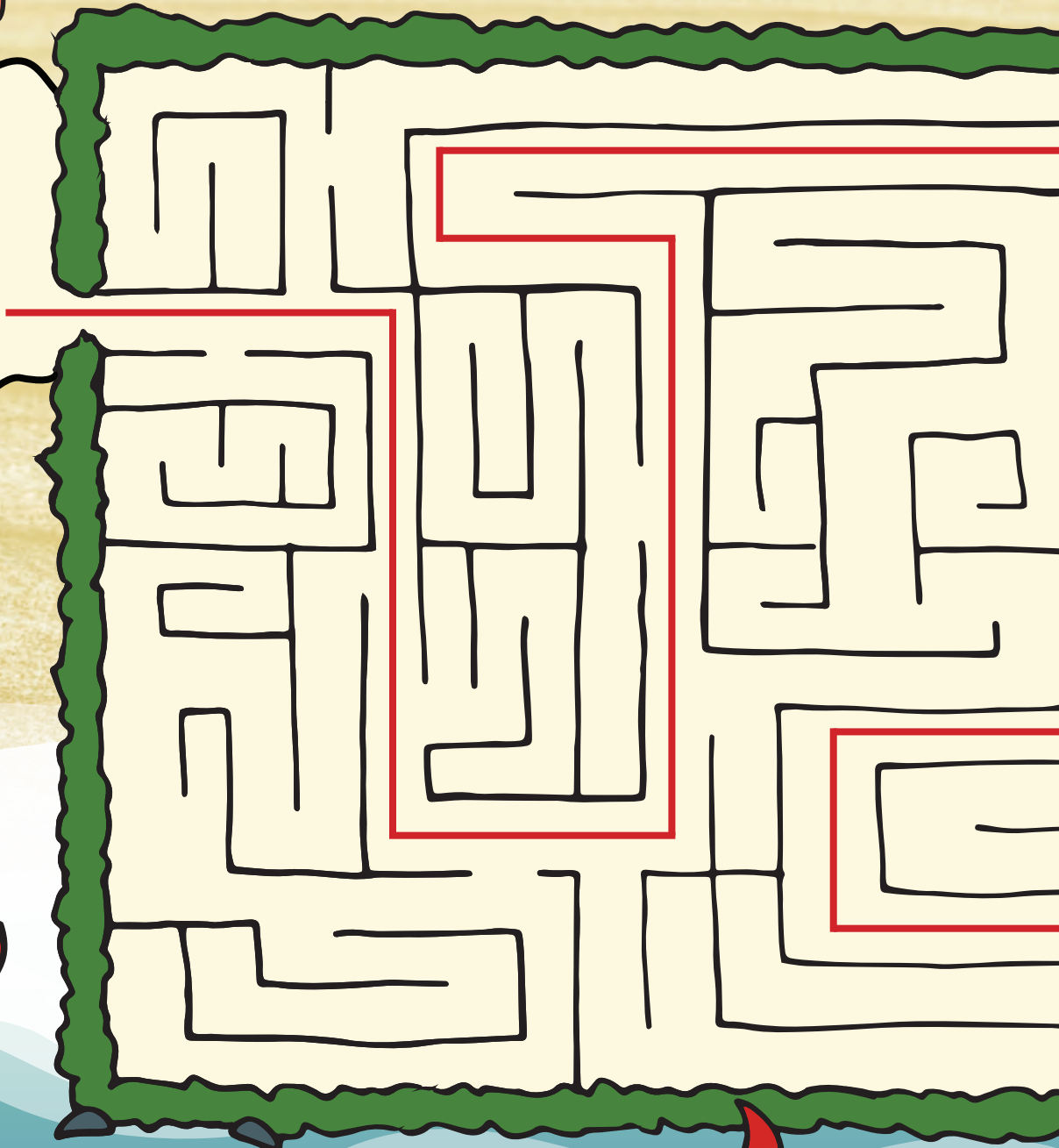
Do not disturb us.

Enjoy watching us from far away.



Help Cayla find her way through the maze to her friends.

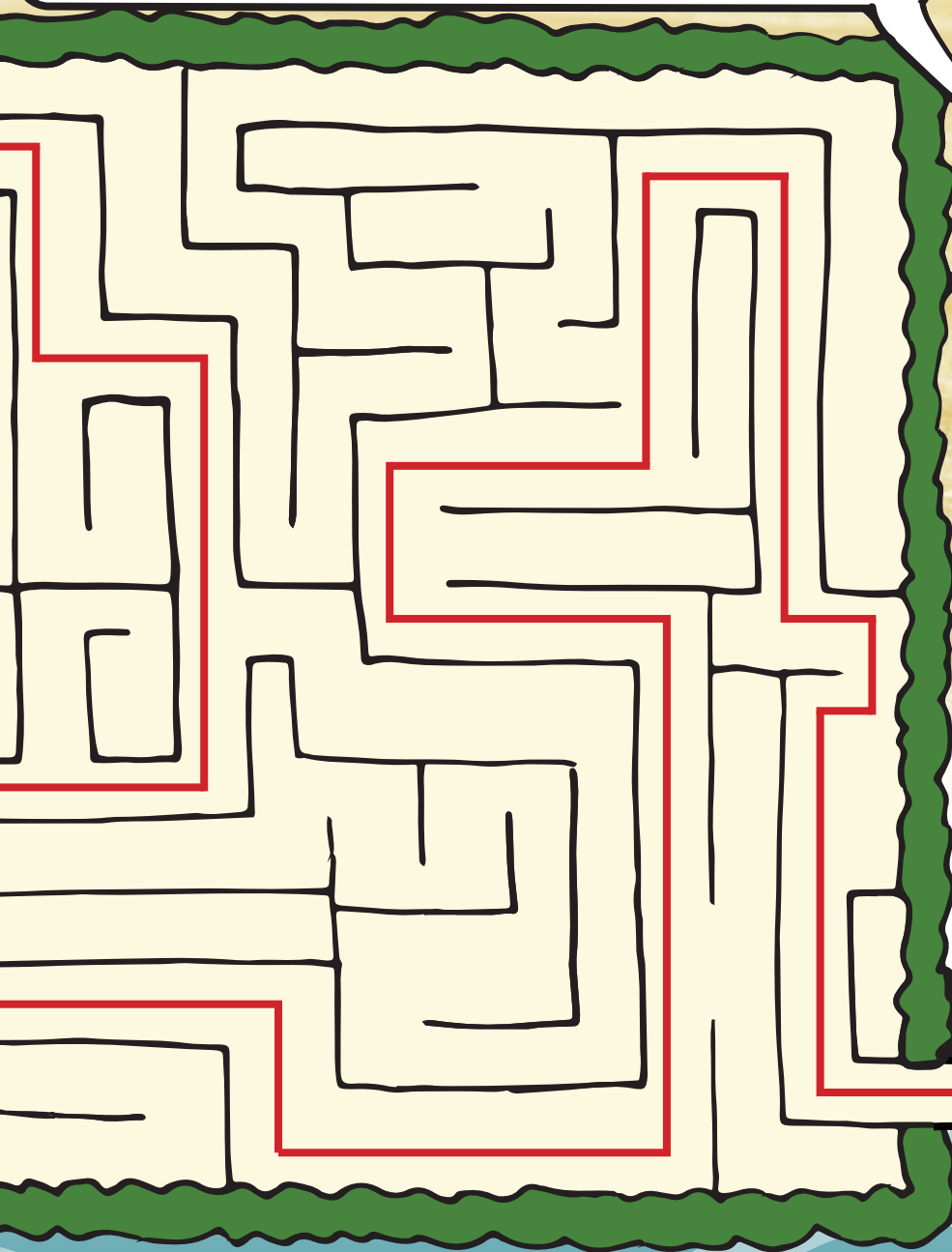
START



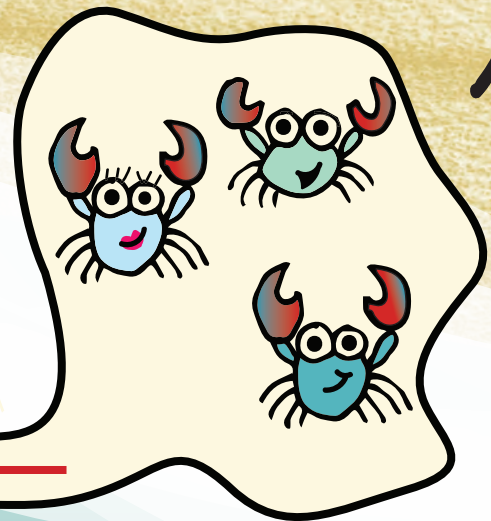
This is Cayla Crab. She lives on the bottom of bayous, bays, and lakes. She also lives in shallow waters near beaches.

Girl blue crabs are easy to identify. They have red tipped claws. Crabs have special hind legs shaped like paddles for swimming.

Can you help Cayla?



FINISH



Sure you can!

Learn more about animals that live in a variety of wetland habitats.

Wetlands support a remarkable variety of plants and animals. Take time to observe these creatures.



Hi, I'm Sammy Shrimp!

Shrimp live in the marsh grasses.
Shrimp eat grass for food.

Help save habitats for shrimp like me.
Can you help me?

Find the Differences! Look at these two pictures. Find the things that are different.



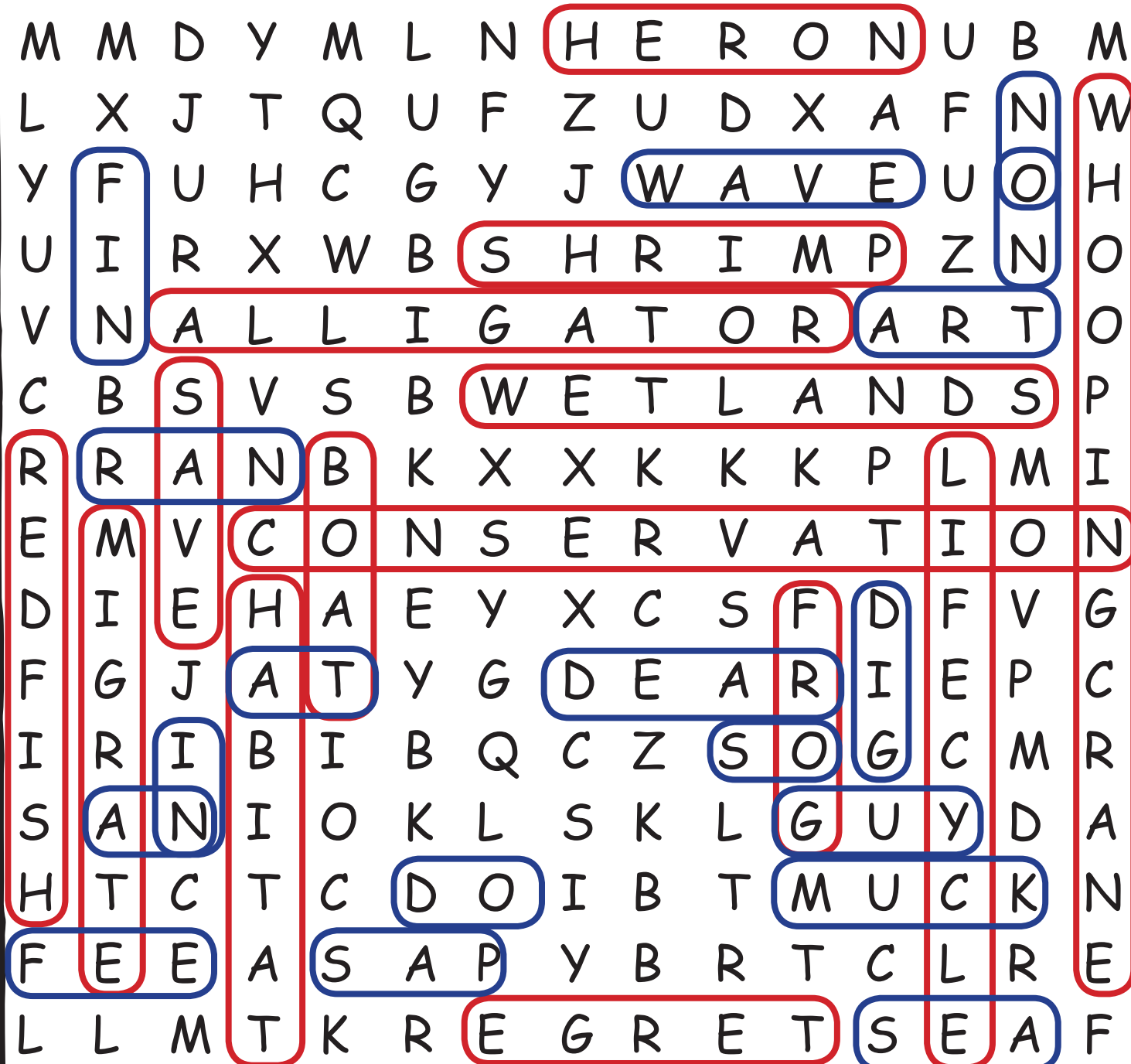
Sure!

Don't throw things overboard when you are fishing. Help keep Sammy's home clean.

Don't litter!



WORD SEARCH



Find
More
Words

2 letter words

do at
in so
no an
on

3 letter words

sea fee
fin dig
ran sap
art guy

4 or more letter words

muck
wave
dear

These are only a few of the many other words that can be found.



This is my friend Ruby Redfish.

She lives in the waters of the salt marsh.

Can you help Ruby?

Sure you can!

You can measure all the fish you catch. You can follow fishing rules.

Find these hidden words.

ALLIGATOR

WHOOPING CRANE

CONSERVATION

BOAT

FROG

EGRET

HERON

HABITAT

MIGRATE

LIFE CYCLE

SAVE

REDFISH

WETLANDS

SHRIMP

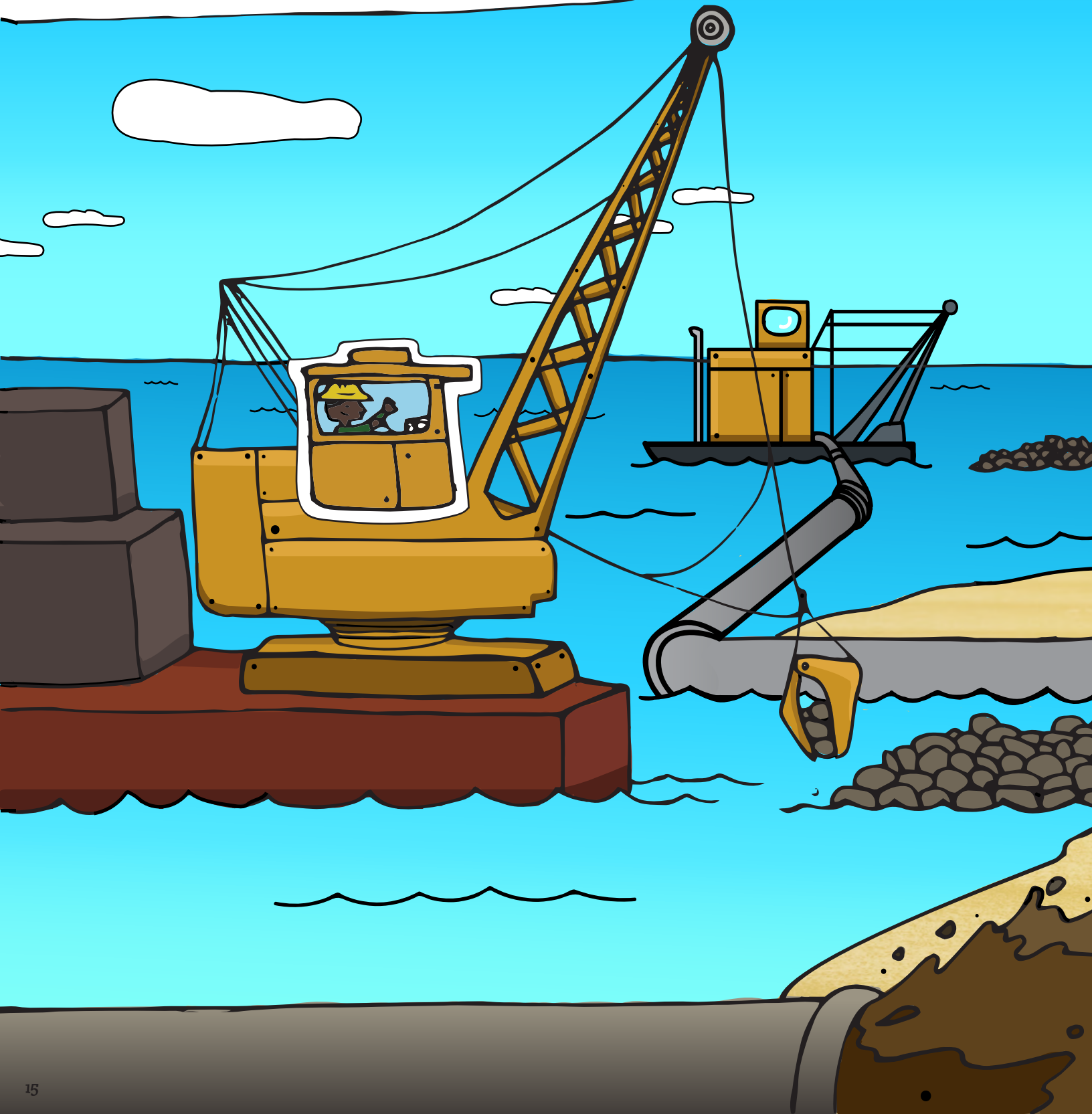
I'm Ruby Redfish!

You can easily find me by the spot on my tail!

The spot on my tail is black.

Place stickers on the equipment used to help rebuild Louisiana wetlands.

Stickers are located on the sticker page at the back of the book.





People are my friends too!

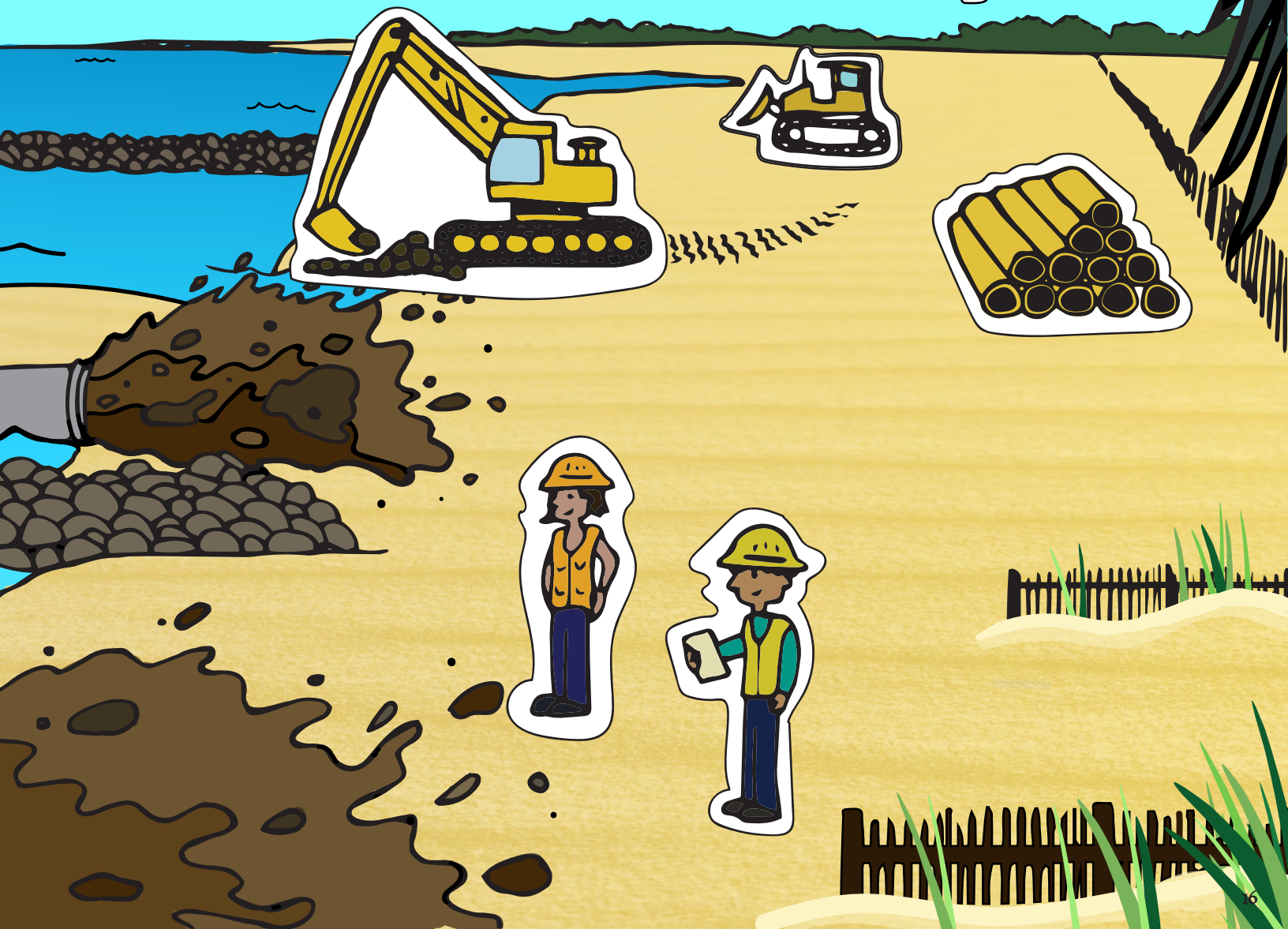
Wetlands are for people too!

These people are rebuilding Louisiana wetlands like our barrier islands.

Can you help?

Sure! Learn more about the ways people are helping to save Louisiana wetlands.

Share what you know.



How can you help save the wetlands?

Draw a picture of you and your friends in this wetlands scene showing how you can help.

Work hard to save the wetlands!

Plant native trees, grasses and flowering plants.

Take time to learn about nature.



Go bird watching.

Learn more about coastal restoration and protection. Share what you know with friends and adults.





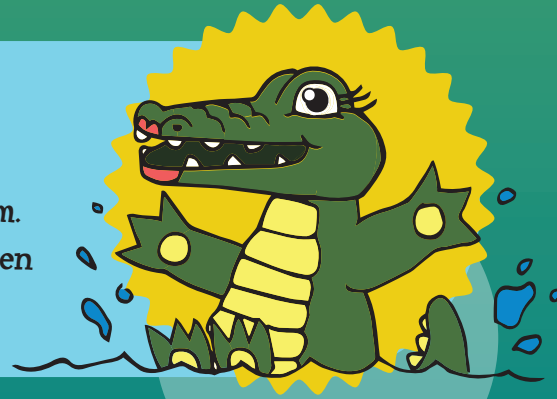
Measure all fish.

Pick up trash.
Don't litter.
Recycle when you can!

Observe plants and
animals in nature.

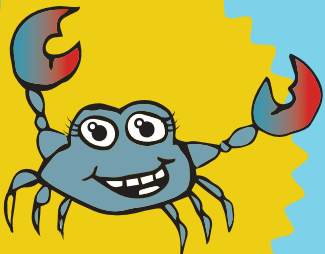
Learn More about Louisiana's Wetlands

Did you know that the Louisiana state reptile is the American Alligator? The largest population of American Alligators in the world is in Louisiana. Alligators are very fast in the water. They use their tails to help them swim. Alligators have nostrils that face upward, which allows them to breathe when the rest of their body is underwater. They are good at hiding in the water.



In order to grow, young frogs and toads shed all their skin frequently. After they remove their old, dead skin, they usually eat it! It is thought that the dead skin is a nutritious, easy meal for the frogs and toads and may help to keep them safe from predators by not leaving a scent trail.

Whooping Cranes are the tallest birds in North America. They can grow as tall as a human adult. Every Whooping Crane has a red crown by the time it is one year old. The new Louisiana Whooping Crane reintroduction project began with the release of a group of young cranes in 2011 in Vermilion Parish. By 2014, of the 30 surviving birds that reached maturity, there were three mated pairs. This Louisiana group does not migrate, but many Whooping Cranes do.



All crabs have an exoskeleton which means their skeleton is on the outside of their bodies. If you are going to hold a blue crab, be sure to hold them from the back so you don't get pinched. Insects and spiders are relatives of the crab. Girl blue crabs can lay 1,000,000 eggs at one time. Most of the crab eggs are eaten by fish. The scientific name for blue crab is *Callinectes sapidus*; this means "beautiful swimmer."

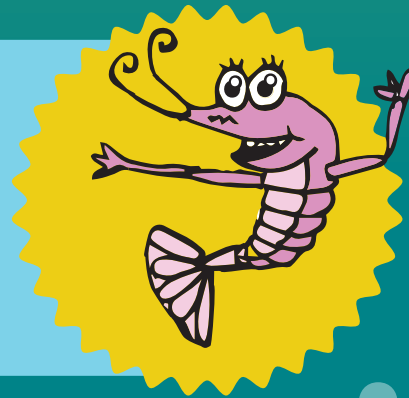


Here are some fun facts about my friends!



Redfish can produce a “drumming” sound by using special muscles that rub against their inflated air bladder. It sounds like fingers rubbing on a balloon. The redfish can live for over 40 years.

Shrimp are omnivores. They eat dead plants, worms, snails, and algae in the water. Shrimp live in brackish to salt water but eventually all Louisiana shrimp return to the salt water in the Gulf of Mexico. Shrimp live for about 2 years.



The Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act team helps to rebuild Louisiana wetlands! The program has over 150 wetland restoration projects! Scientists, engineers, and construction workers work together to rebuild wetlands. Sometimes sediment or mud is pumped through pipes to rebuild wetlands. Sometimes a fence is built and grass is planted to protect areas. Sometimes water is allowed to flow into different areas to improve wetland habitat.

Wetlands are unique land areas that contain water, water-loving plants, and wet soils. Wetlands can contain fresh, brackish, or salt water. Each water type supports a different group of plants and animals. These habitats all need special care by every visitor!



Find Us on the Web!



www.LaCoast.gov



www.facebook.com/CWPPRA



www.flickr.com/CWPPRA

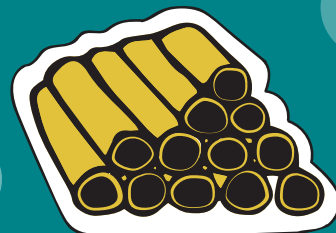
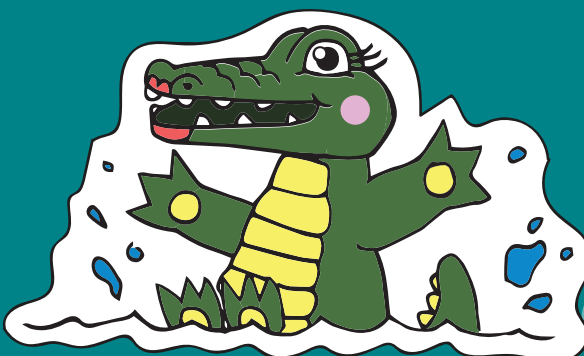
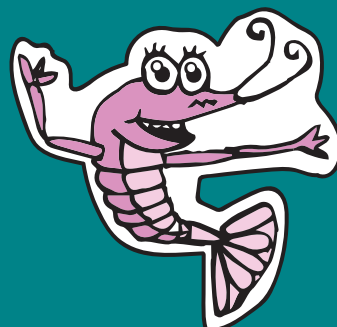
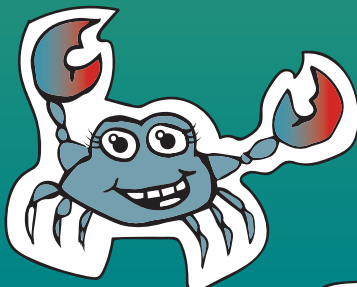


www.twitter.com/CWPPRA



www.cwppra.wordpress.com

STICKERS





Graphic Design and Illustration by: Josh Coen

Mr. Coen is a Louisiana native who graduated from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. He currently resides in Los Angeles, California, where he is continuing his work in photography and graphic design. Mr. Coen is immensely passionate about the environmental issues in Louisiana and is proud to be part of the outreach and education efforts of CWPPRA. His hope is that the activities in this book will bring today's youth closer to understanding their role in coastal restoration.

Special thanks to:
Nikki Cavalier, artist, designer and USGS Intern

Thanks to the CWPPRA Public Outreach Committee Members:
Scott Wilson, Holly Martien, Adele Swearingen, Barbara Keeler, Mel Landry, Allison Murry, Lee Mueller, Lawrence Cutno, Chuck Perrodin, Alma Robichaux, Rex Caffey and Kate Spear.

Thanks to the CWPPRA Public Outreach Staff:
Susan Testroet-Bergeron, Cole Ruckstuhl, and Kathy Ladner

Special thanks to USGS Scientists:
Rebecca Moss, Heather Baldwin, and Brad "Bones" Glorioso

To LEARN MORE ABOUT LOUISIANA WETLANDS VISIT www.LACOAST.gov



COASTAL WETLANDS PLANNING, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION ACT

RESTORING COASTAL LOUISIANA SINCE 1990

MANAGING
AGENCIES :

