

Splash

Coloring and
Activity Book



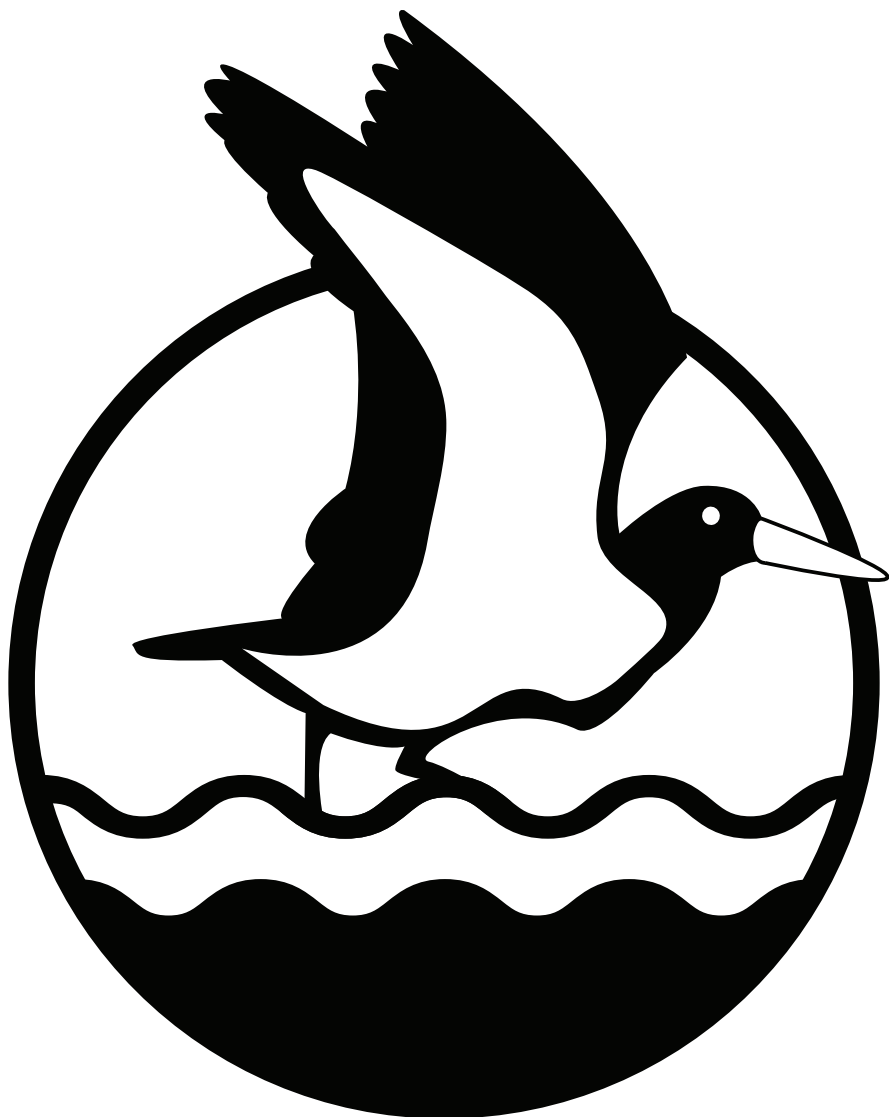
SPLASH

STOPPING PLASTICS AND
LITTER ALONG SHORELINES

by Celeste Silling

COLOR!

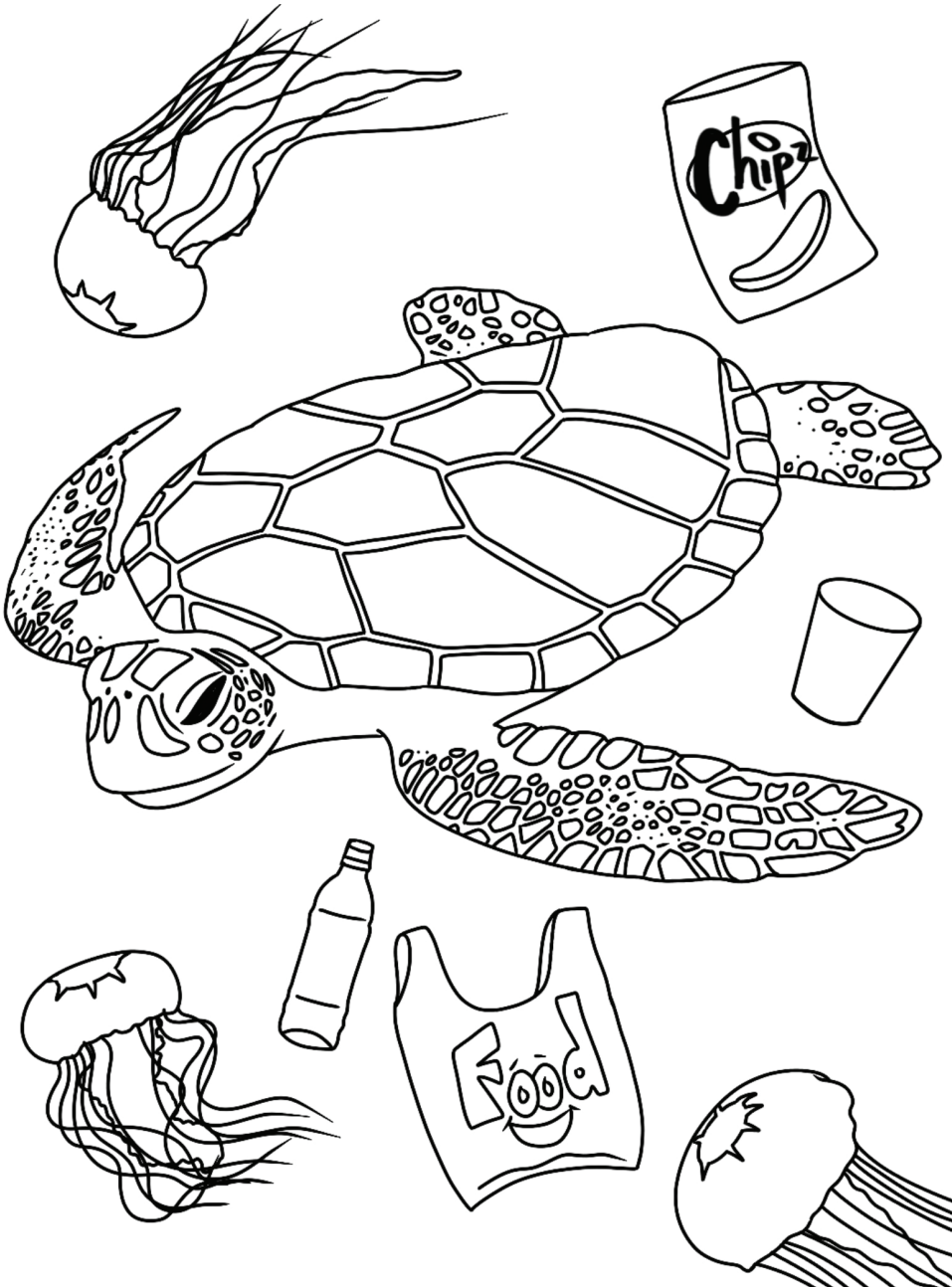
Hi, we're SPLASH, or Stopping
Plastics and Litter Along
Shorelines! We're on a mission
to create a cleaner environment for people, birds, and
other wildlife. Join us in the pages of this book and
learn about all the amazing critters that call the Texas
coast home and how we can protect them from trash
pollution!



Sea Turtles eat jellyfish as a natural part of their diets. Unfortunately, they often

COLOR!

mistake trash for jellyfish and eat it. Help this turtle tell the difference between food and trash by coloring the jellyfish purple and the trash orange.



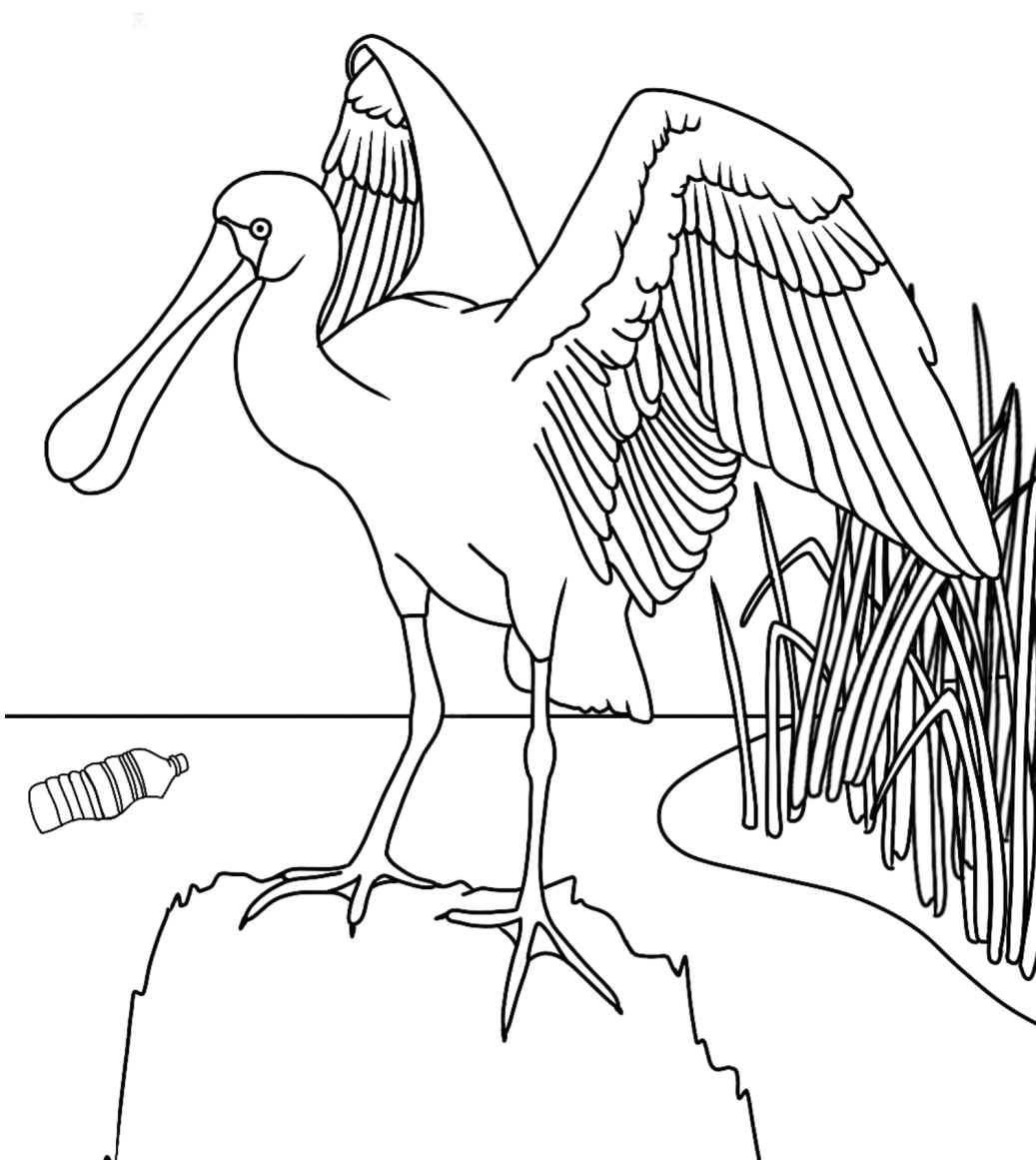
MAZE!

Fishing line and balloon strings can hurt animals by entangling them. Shorebirds often get so tangled up that they can't walk. Help this Wilson's Plover avoid the string



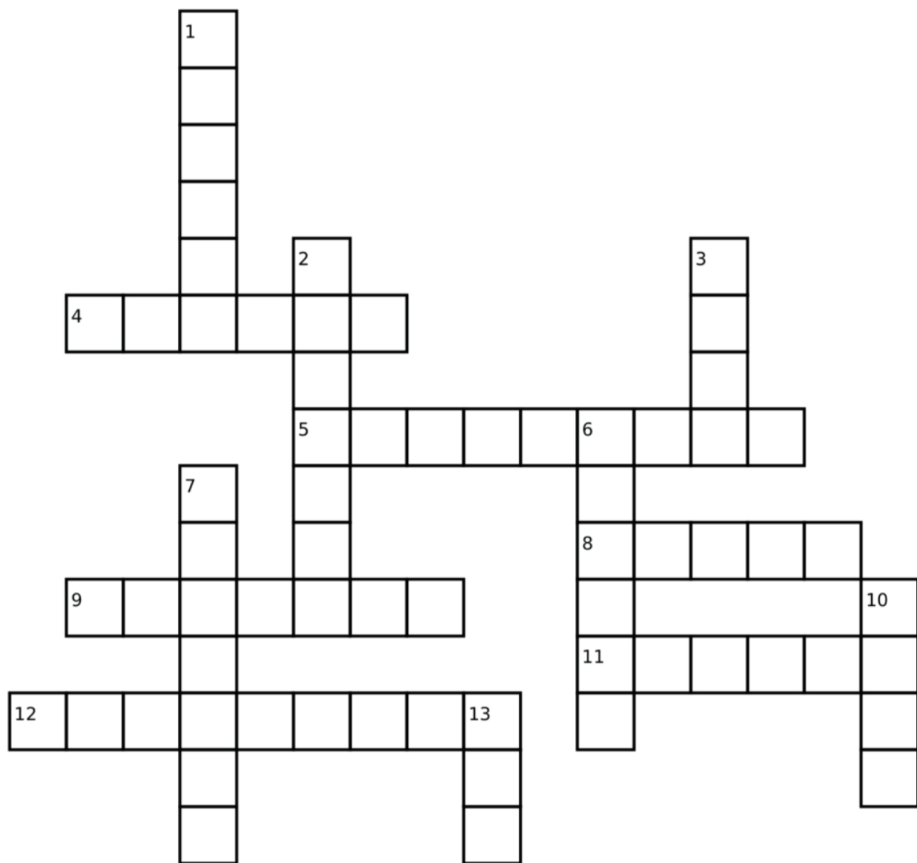
COLOR!

This bird, the Roseate Spoonbill, is a large waterbird. It has light pink feathers and a spoon-shaped bill that helps it scoop up fish and other prey. These birds often walk through shallow water, where they can easily get tangled in fishing line and other trash.



CROSSWORD!

What are some of the things that we could find at the beach?



Down:

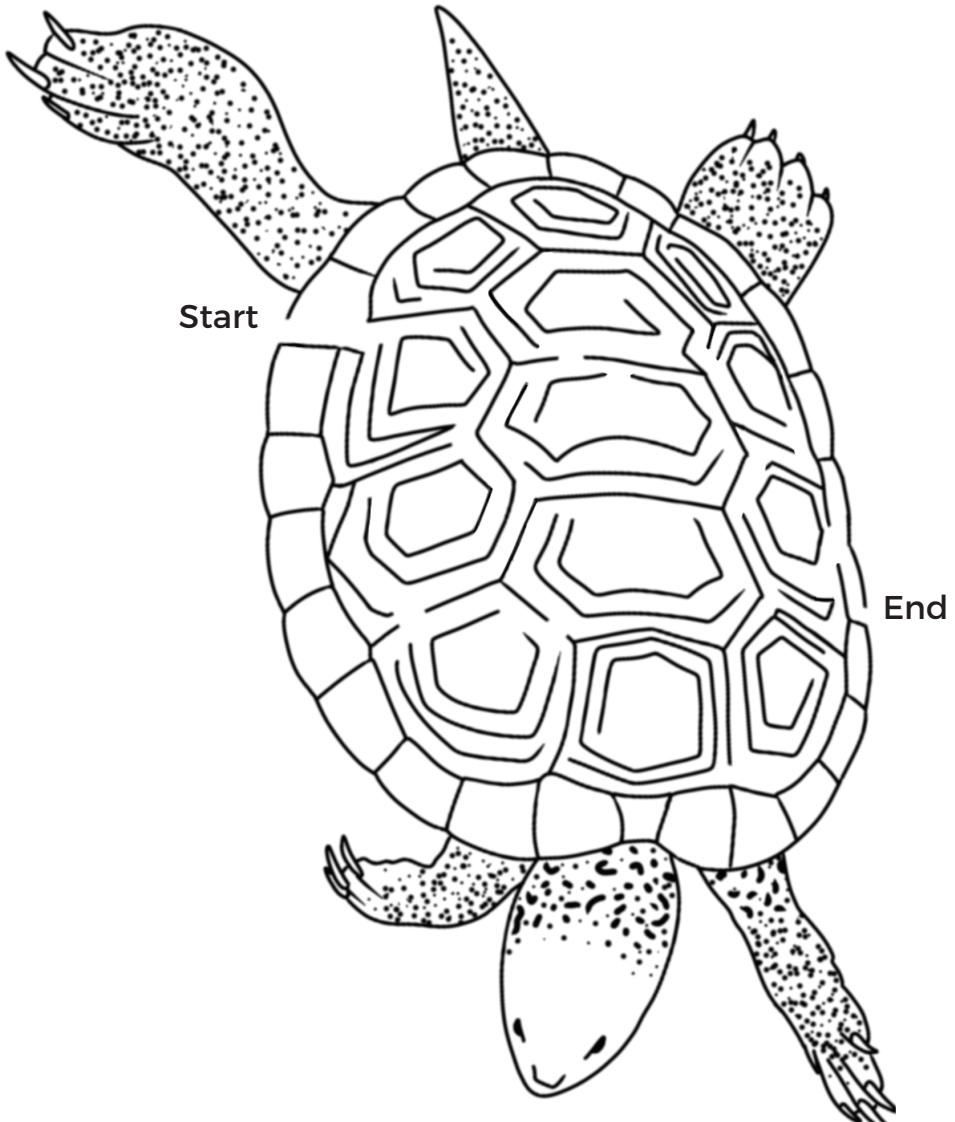
1. Mollusk that makes up oyster reefs
2. What most disposable bottles are made of
3. Seabird fond of human food
6. Beverage container
7. Marine mammal

Across:

4. Marine amphibian with a shell
5. Pink bird that likes fish
8. Littered or disposed items
9. Water bird with a large beak
11. Trash left on the ground

MAZE!

Diamondback Terrapins are turtles that live in the brackish water of estuaries. They often get trapped in baited blue crab traps and drown. Traps can continue to catch animals even after they're abandoned.



Drinking from a reusable bottle instead of single-use ones can save hundreds of bottles from entering the ocean! Match each bottle with it's identical partner by coloring them both the same color. Then, decorate the reusable bottle in the center with colors and stickers!

COLOR!



WORD SEARCH!

Trash in the ocean is called marine debris. There are a lot of different types of marine debris, and it can be made of anything from wood, to plastic, to metal. Some materials, like paper and cotton, break down quickly in the water. Other materials, like plastic and glass, can last forever. Let's look at some of the different trash items and that we can find in the sea and on the beach.

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

Cardboard

Fragment

Plastic

Bottle

Tackle

Nurdle

String

Tire

Can

Litter

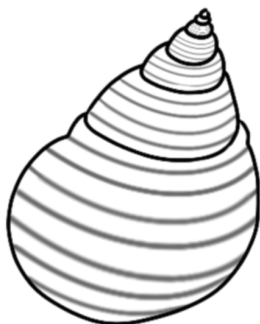
Net

Rope

Texas beaches have a wide variety of shells. These shells were made by mollusks and are sometimes reused by crabs and other marine animals.

COLOR!

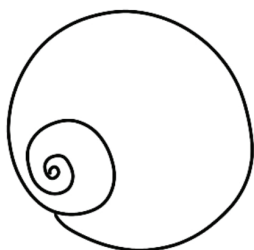
Marsh
Periwinkle



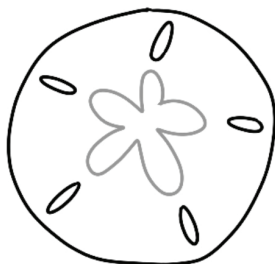
Eastern
Oyster



Moon
Snail



Sand Dollar



Campeche
Angel Wing



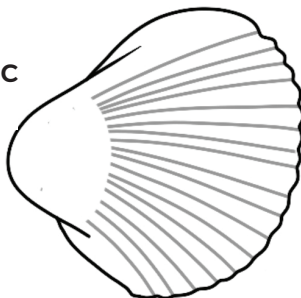
Lightning
Whelk



Atlantic Bay
Scallop



Atlantic
Cockle

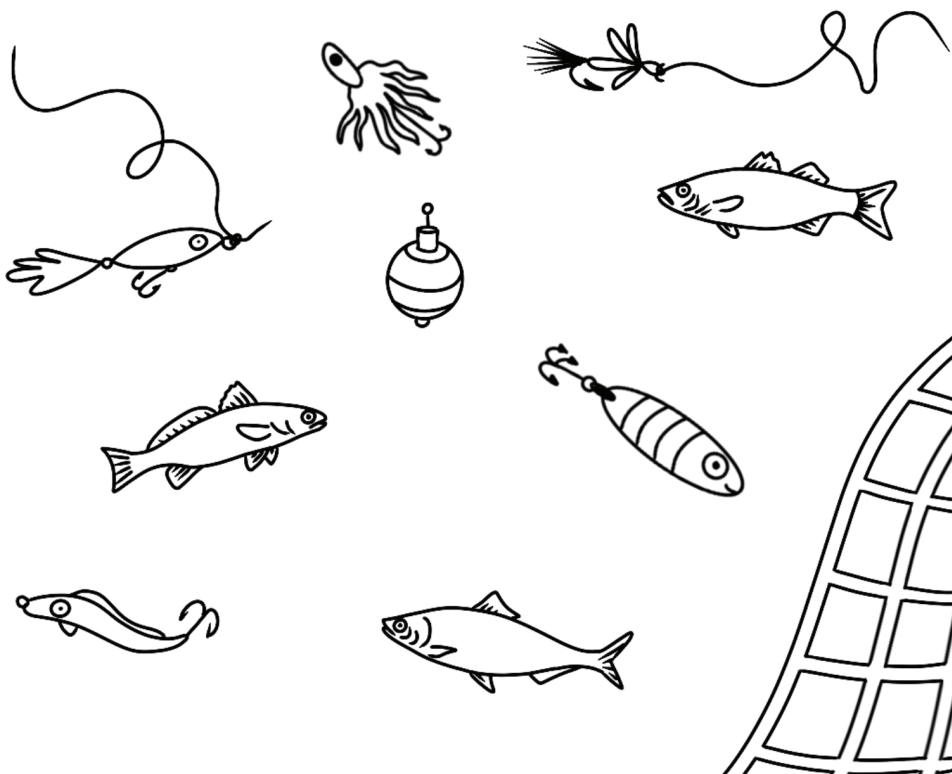


COLOR!

Fishing line, lures, nets, traps and other fishing gear can continue to catch animals even after being discarded in the ocean. This is called ghost fishing.

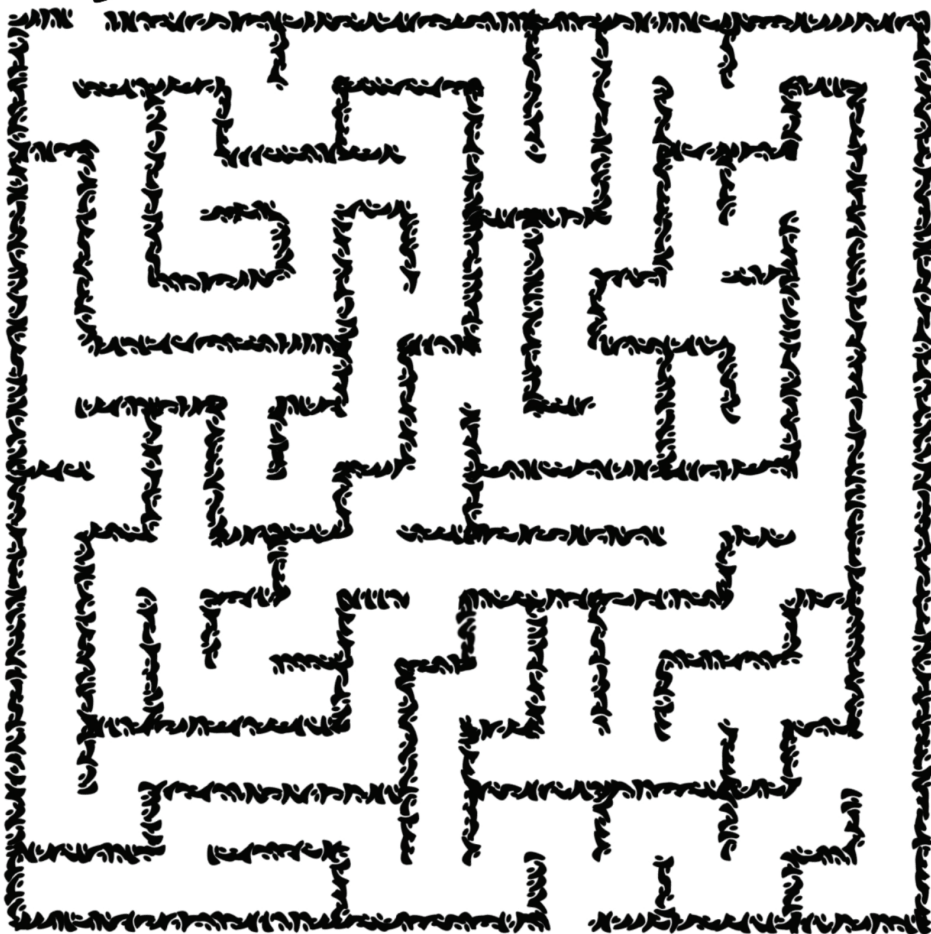
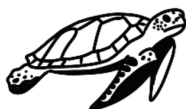
Terns and some other seabirds hunt by diving into the ocean and catching fish in their beaks. Sometimes it's hard for them to tell the difference between fish and

trash. Help this Least Tern find the fish by coloring them green, and color the lures, lines, and net other bright colors.



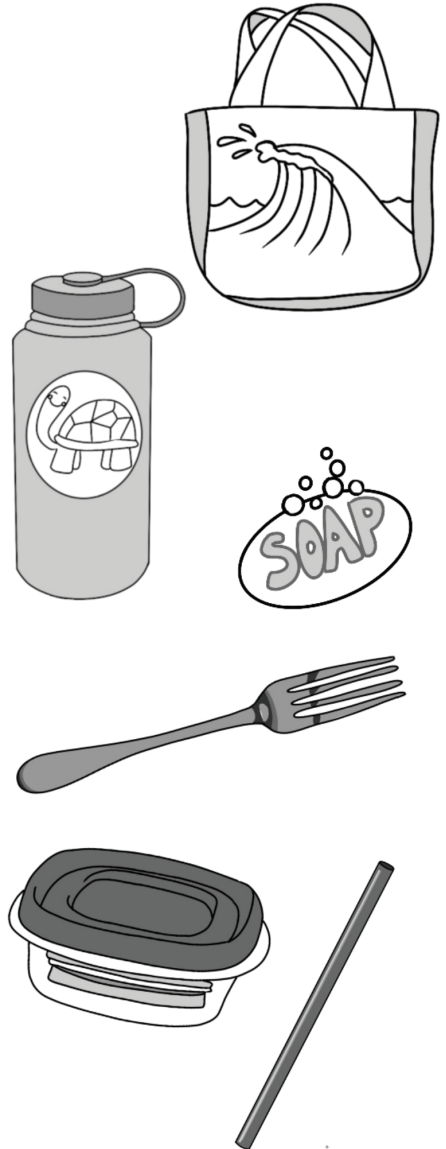
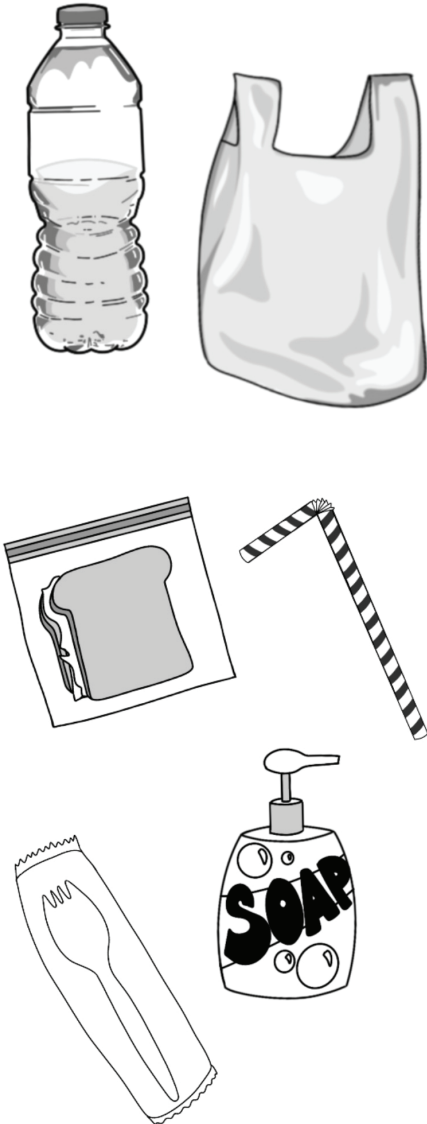
MAZE!

Microplastics are super tiny pieces of plastic. The ocean is full of them, and animals often eat them on accident. Help this turtle swim through the microplastics to find the jellyfish!



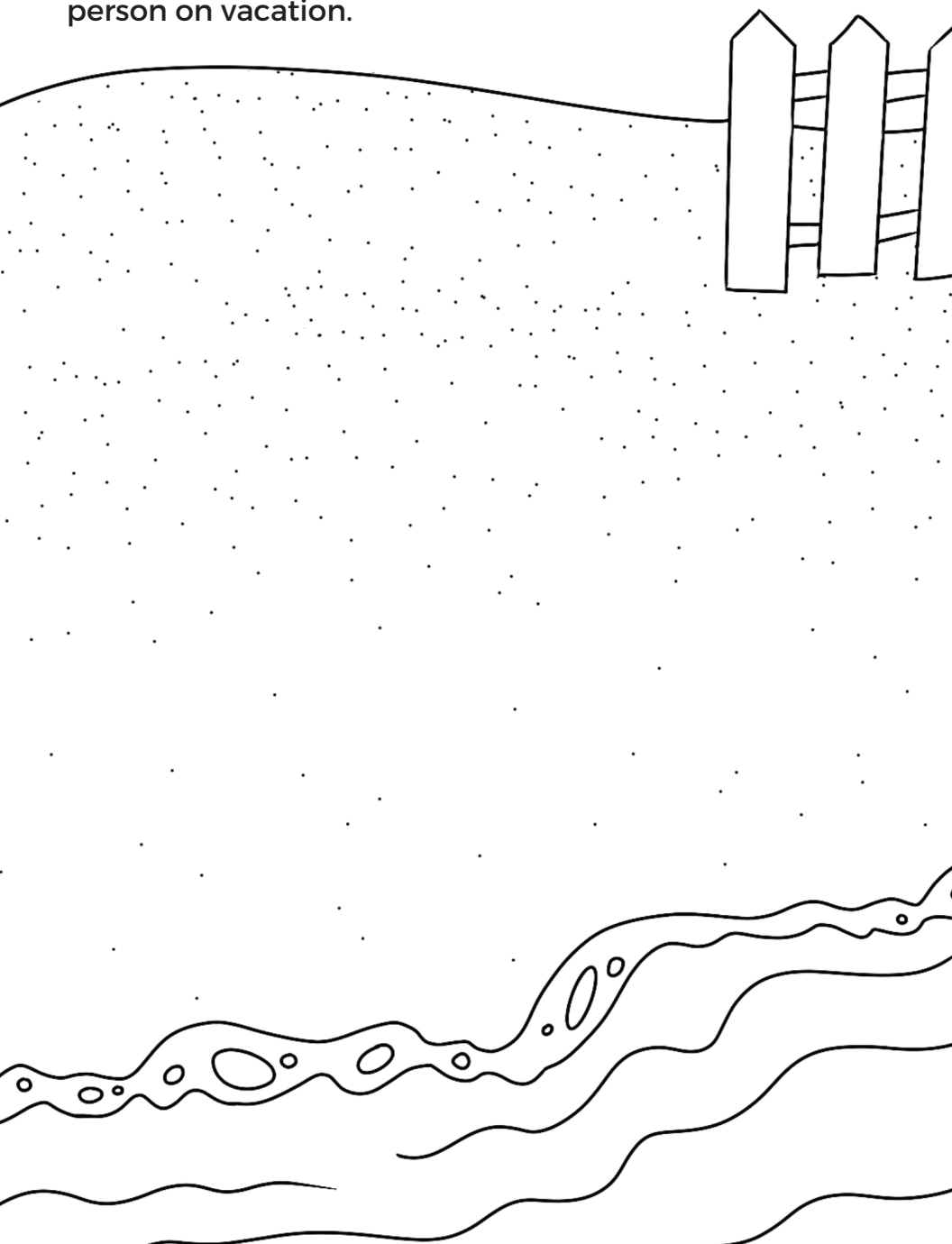
MATCH!

Using reusable items instead of single-use items can help you create less trash! Match the wasteful item with its reusable alternative.



COLOR!

Restore this beach! Draw grass to help make dunes, birds foraging on the beach, add a trash can, draw a "Do not litter" litter sign, and draw a person on vacation.



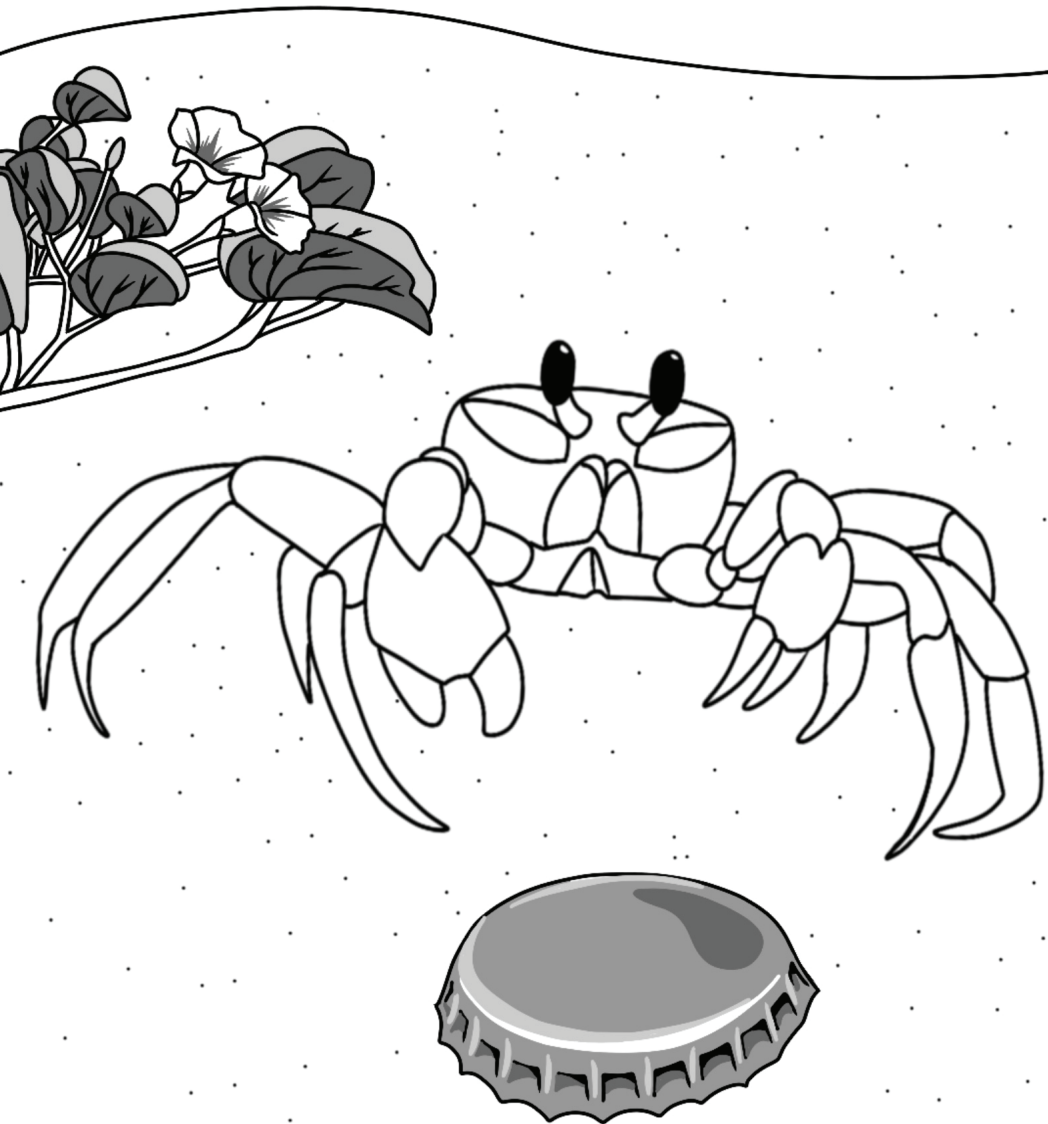
CONNECT THE DOTS

This bird, the American
Oystercatcher, lives on
beaches and oyster reefs.
It has a bright orange bill
that it uses to open
mollusk shells and eat
the yummy insides.



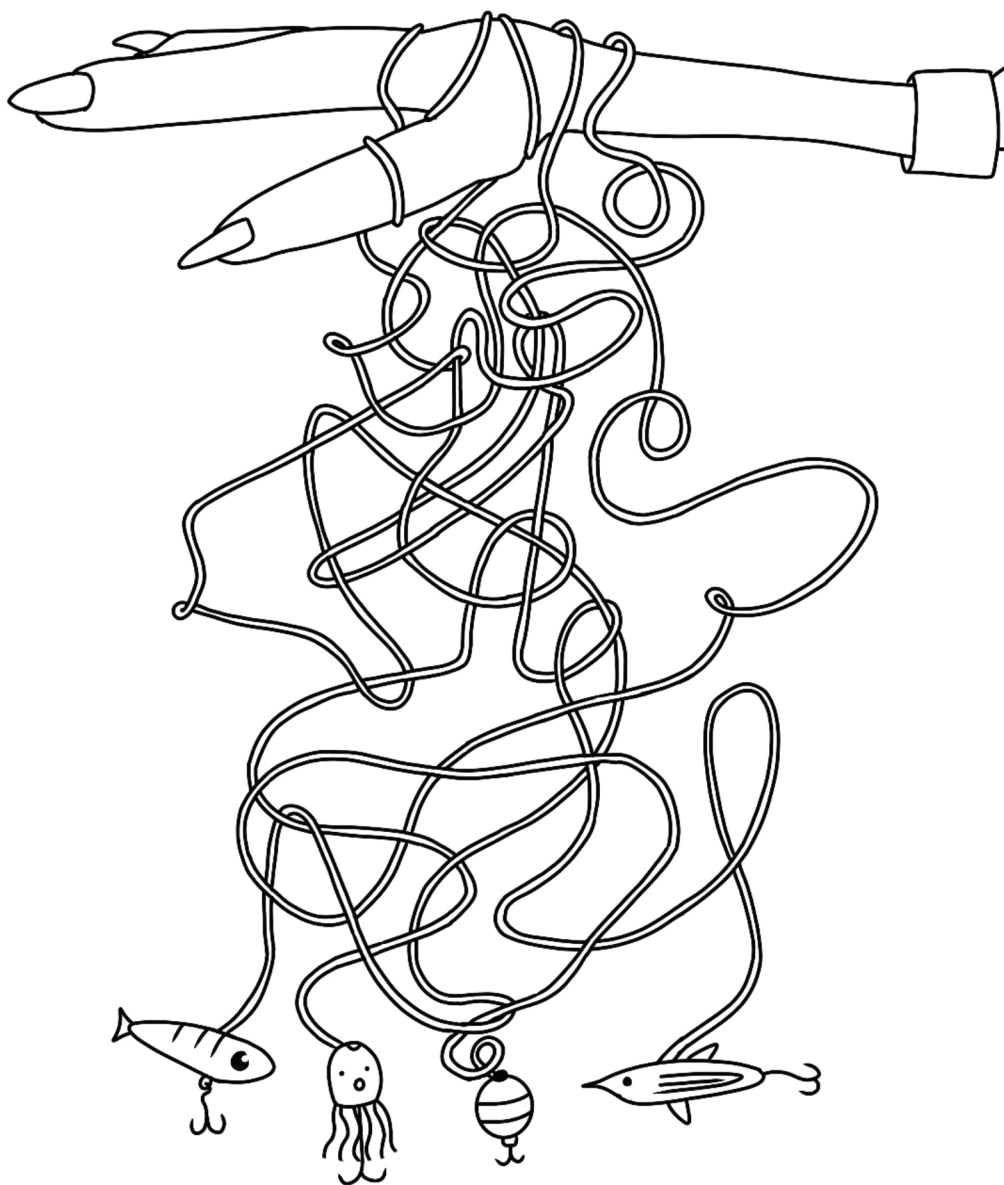
COLOR!

The Atlantic Ghost Crab is active during the nighttime and morning, constructing burrows in the sand and hunting for eggs, mollusks, and arthropods. Beach visitors love watching them scuttle over the sand. Another favorite sight on the beach are Beach Morning-Glories, which have circular leaves and bright purple flowers.



MAZE!

This American Oystercatcher has fishing line tangled around its foot. The bird is in pain and can't move, so we need to untangle it! To help, color each of the strings a different color all the way from the lure to the foot.



COLOR!

This is the state of Texas. That shape inside is the Galveston Bay Watershed. A watershed is

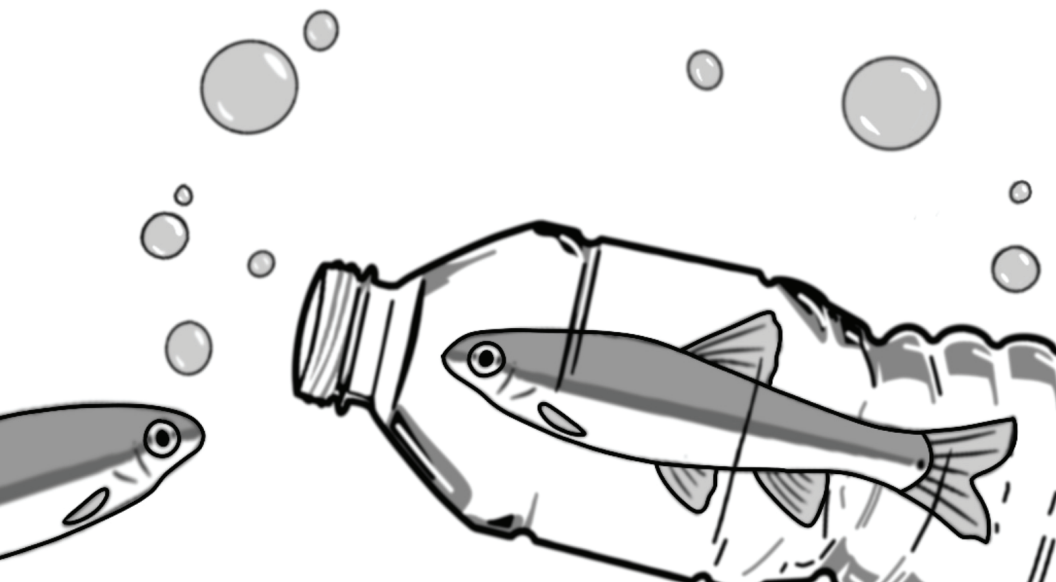
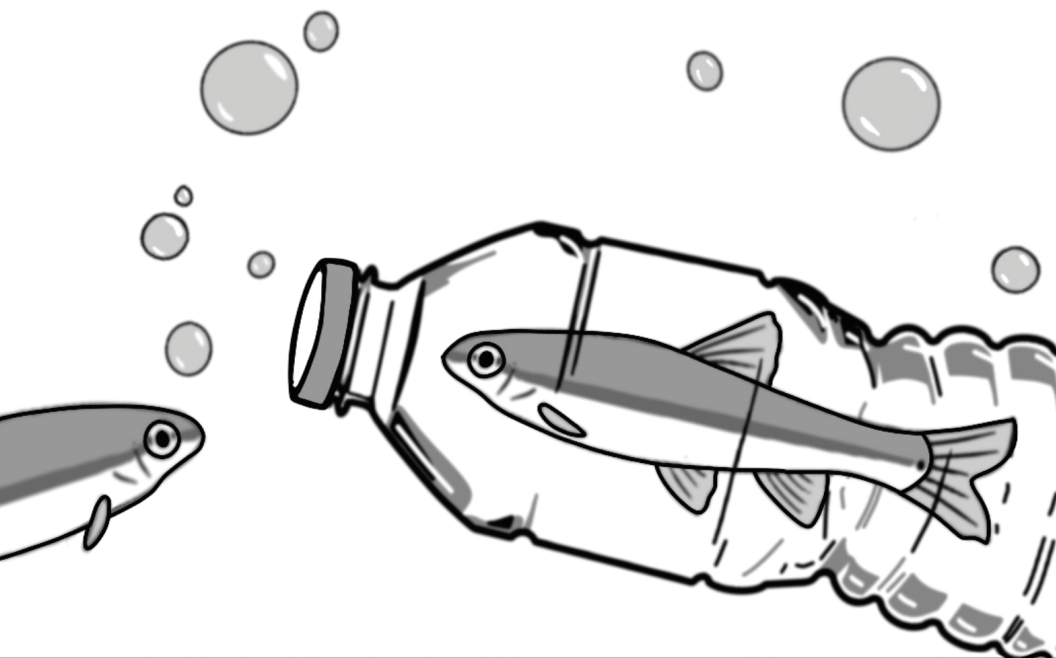
an area where all of the water drains to one place. In the Galveston Bay Watershed, all of the water drains to the Galveston Bay. Often, that water transports trash.

With a red line, show the path trash could take from Dallas to the Galveston Bay. With a blue line, show the path trash could take from Houston to the Galveston Bay.



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!

There are three differences between these pictures. Can you find



COLOR!

There's so much trash on this beach! Let's color the different kinds. Color the beverage

containers yellow, the food wrappers and containers blue, the straws red, the clothing pink, and the school supplies green.



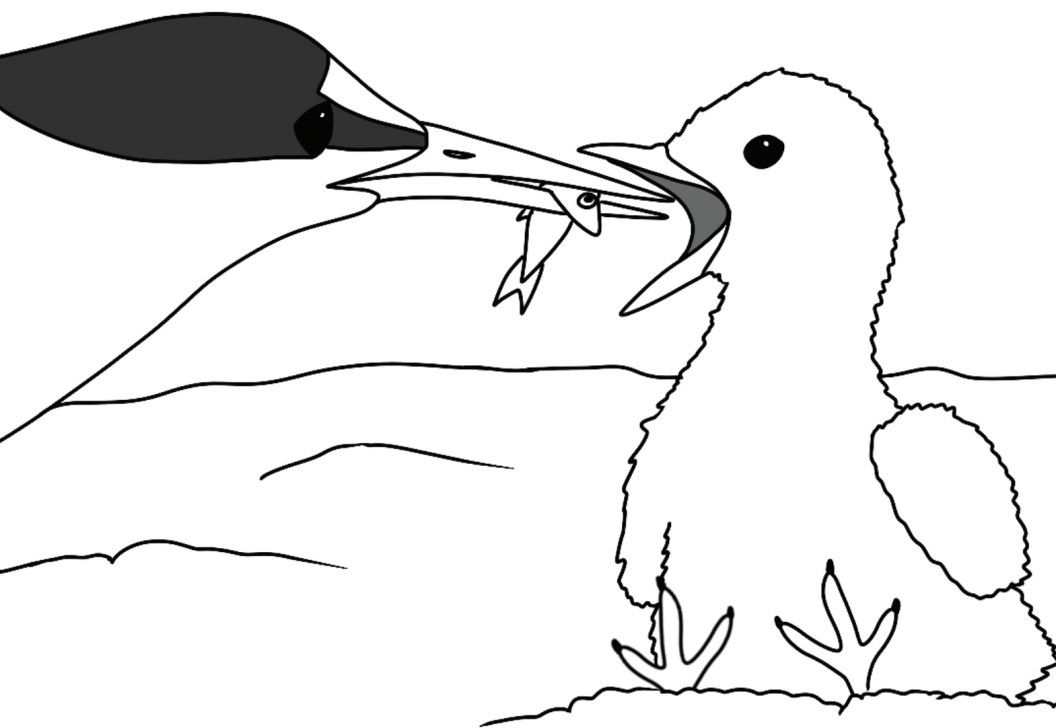
Sometimes, people need a reminder not to litter. Design a sign that either shows people how to properly throw away trash, or shows wildlife being affected by trash.

DESIGN!



COLOR!

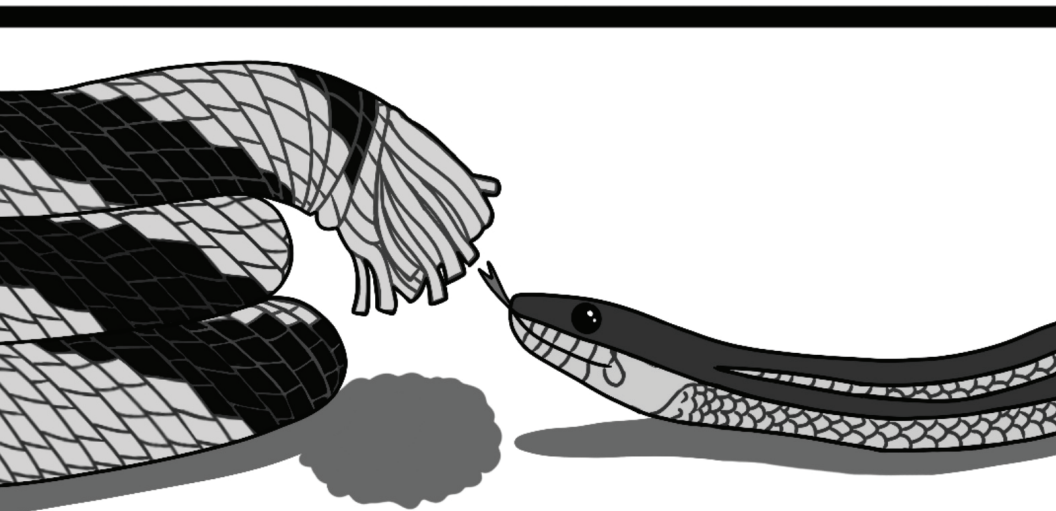
Least Terns like to nest in big groups called colonies. They lay their eggs directly in the sand and incubate them for about 21 days. A few days after the eggs hatch, the chicks can walk. They lay in the sand, sometimes in the shade of some grass, and wait for their parents to return with food. The adult terns dive in the sea and fly back to the chicks with small fish in their beaks. When the Least Tern chicks grow up into fledglings, they learn to fly and catch fish for themselves.



The Gulf Salt
Marsh Snake
lives in
brackish or
saltwater
wetland

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!

areas. Because coastal wetlands face several problems such as pollution, these snakes are at risk of losing habitat and becoming threatened or endangered. There are three differences between these pictures. Can you find them?





SPLASH is creating a cleaner environment for people, birds, and other wildlife in the greater Houston-Galveston region through community science, education, and outreach.

To learn more, visit us at
www.splashtx.org

and follow us on all social media
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