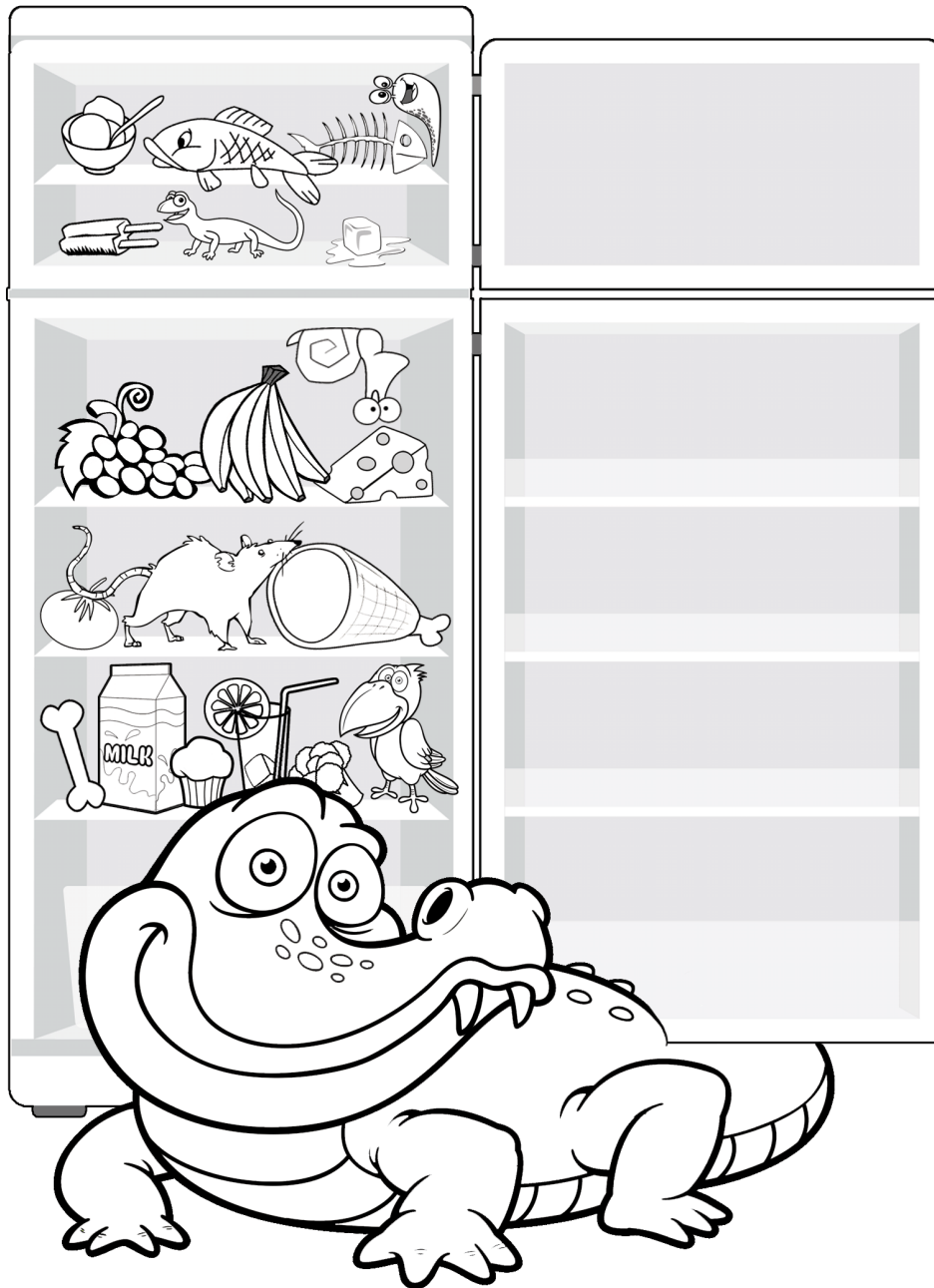


Alligator In My Refrigerator!

Hopefully you will never have an alligator raid your refrigerator, but if you did, what would the alligator be looking for? Circle the things in the refrigerator that are for alligators and not humans.

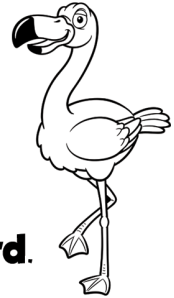


Alligators rummage around for food in the... **MARSH MUD!**

Ocean Weather Birds of a Feather!

The marsh mud and sea shore are home to many different types of aves, which is the scientific word for birds! Every type of bird has differences that make it unique. Can you match these sea birds to their descriptions?

1. Often called a "buzzard," this bird uses regurgitation as a defense technique when it feels threatened.
2. This large bird has a throat pouch used for catching prey.
3. This bird has a long, slender neck and is the largest flying bird.
4. Often called a "seahawk," this sharp-beaked bird of prey is a predatory raptor like it's close relative, the eagle.
5. This pink bird is tall and often stands and sleeps on one foot. A group of this kind of bird is called a flamboyance.
6. The most common seen bird at the beach, these pesky birds have webbed feet and will steal your food if you look the other way!
7. Though not thought of as oceanic birds, this bird sits on the shoulder of pirates in folklore, often saying "Polly wants a cracker!"



Seagull	Vulture	Osprey	Crane
Pelican	Parrot	Flamingo	



Sea birds live, eat, and play around the... **MARSH MUD!**

Blackbeard Was a Pirate

Ahoy, matey! Blackbeard was one of the most fearsome pirates to sail the seven seas. Now you can be a pirate too! Strap on your boots and raise your flag... it's a pirate's life for you!



X MARKS THE SPOT!

No one has ever found where Blackbeard buried his treasure. Draw a treasure map of where you would bury your treasure around your school or house!

HOIST THE JOLLY ROGER!



Every pirate ship has its own unique flag known as a Jolly Roger. This helps fellow pirates identify other ships. What would your Jolly Roger look like? Draw your very own flag below.



Pirates love to stomp around in... **MARSH MUD!**

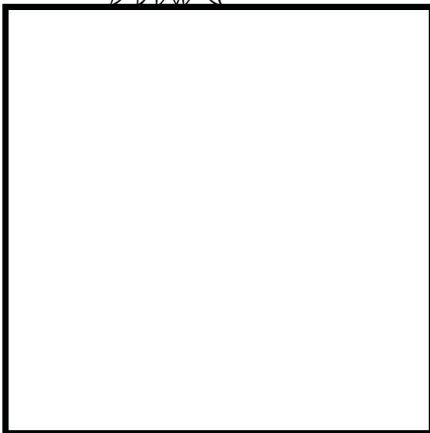
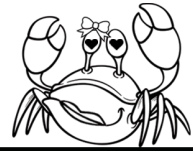
Fiddlin' with Energy!

All living things go through energy cycles that give each organism the energy they need to survive in their ecosystem. In the marsh, the sun shines down on the smooth cord grass, then the grass is eaten by fiddler crabs. That gives the male fiddler crabs energy to do the "fiddler groove" and attract a mate. Now it is your turn to draw this energy cycle in action!

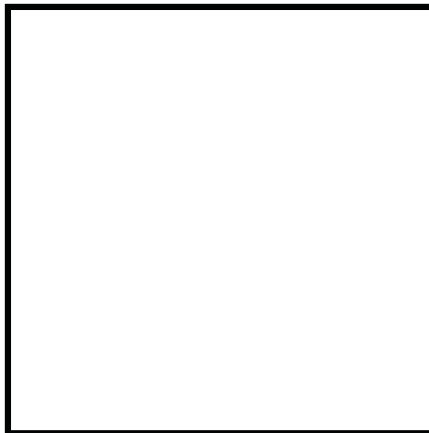


Fiddler Crab Energy Cycle

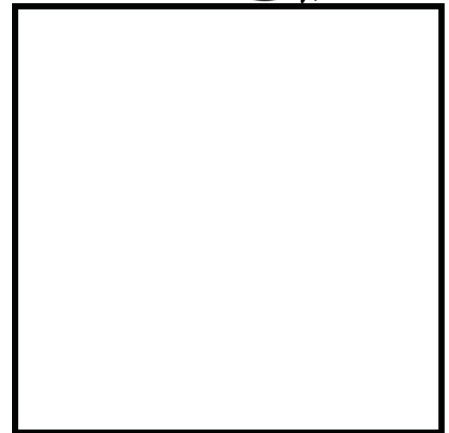
by: _____



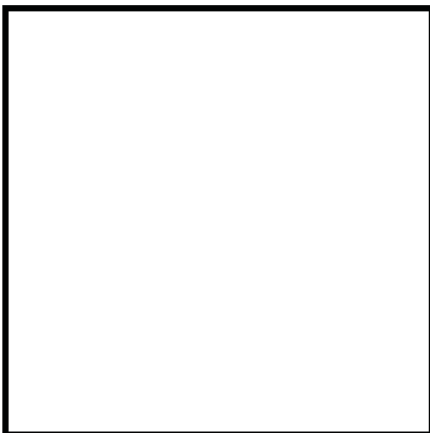
The sun shines down upon the smooth cord grass.



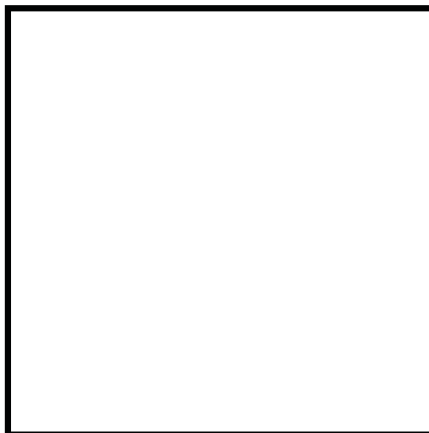
A hungry male fiddler crab arrives looking for a snack.



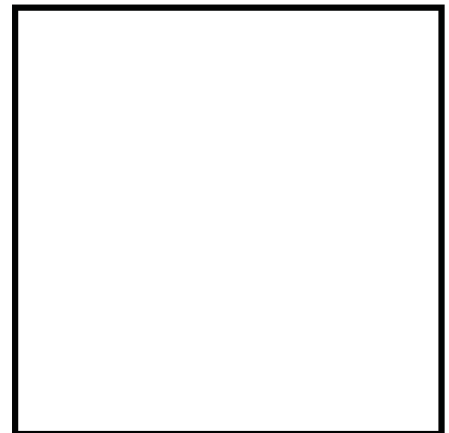
The male fiddler crab gets energized by the cord grass.



He puts his big claw in the air to do the fiddler groove.



A lady fiddler crab sees his dance and runs over to him.



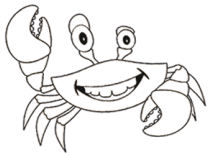
Both do the fiddler groove until they're out of energy.

Fiddler crabs find their energy in the... **MARSH MUD!**

Ooooo...Ghost Crab!!!

Ghostcrabs are masters of disguise and their light color allows them to blend into their environment and stay hidden to sneak up on their prey.
Can you find all the **MARSH MUD** words hidden inside this puzzle?

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



WORD BANK:



Observe
Investigate
Ecosystem
Consumer

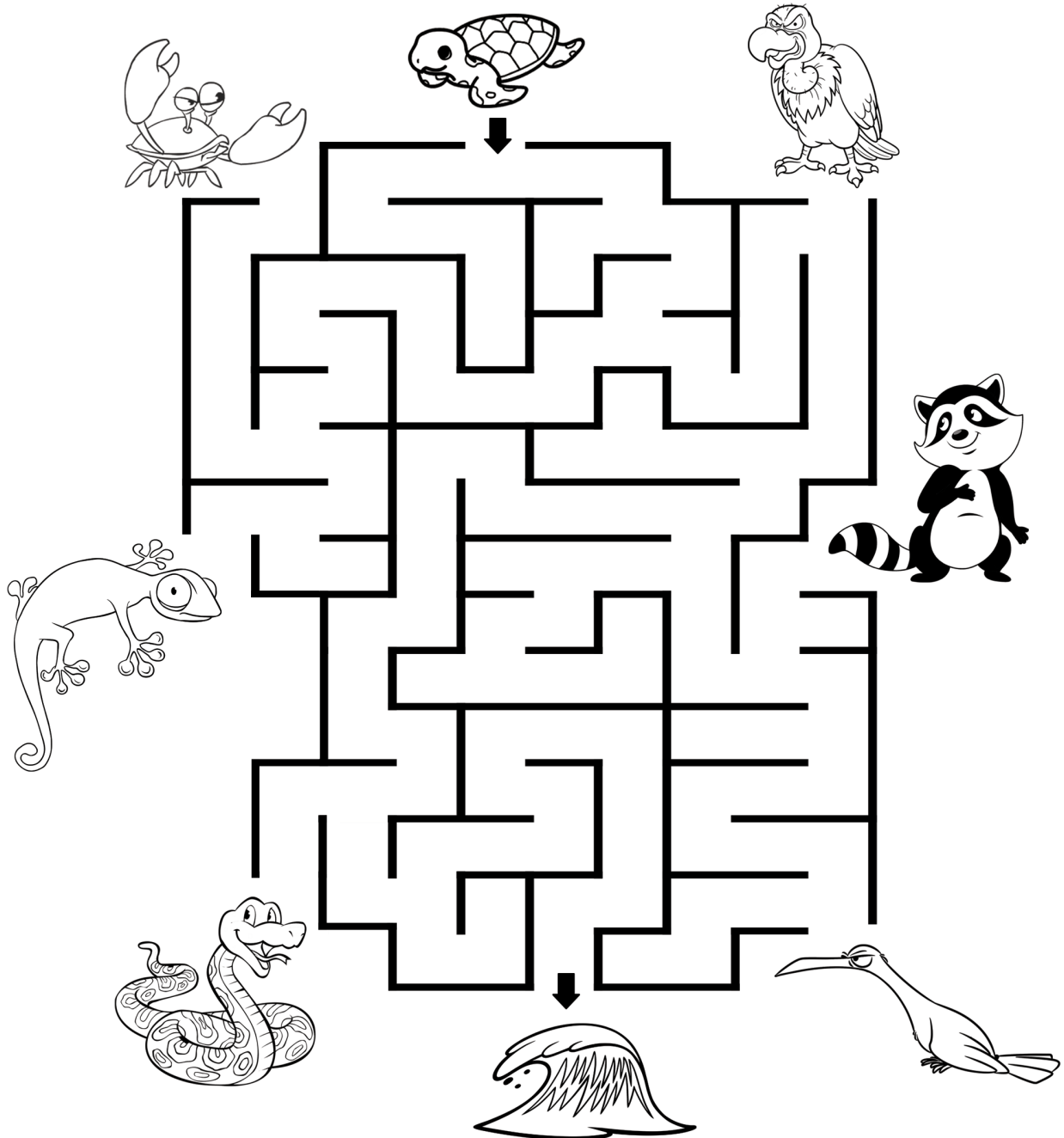
Habitat
Ocean
Producer
Decomposer

Ghost
Crab
Marsh
Mud

Ghost crabs are mad about... **MARSH MUD!**

Race to the Water!

Pregnant loggerhead turtles make a nest on the beach where they lay their eggs. When the baby turtles hatch, they have to race as fast as they can to get to the ocean before a pesky predator turns them into dinner. Help this baby loggerhead turtle get the water before he gets caught by a predator!



Baby turtles race to the ocean through the... **MARSH MUD!**