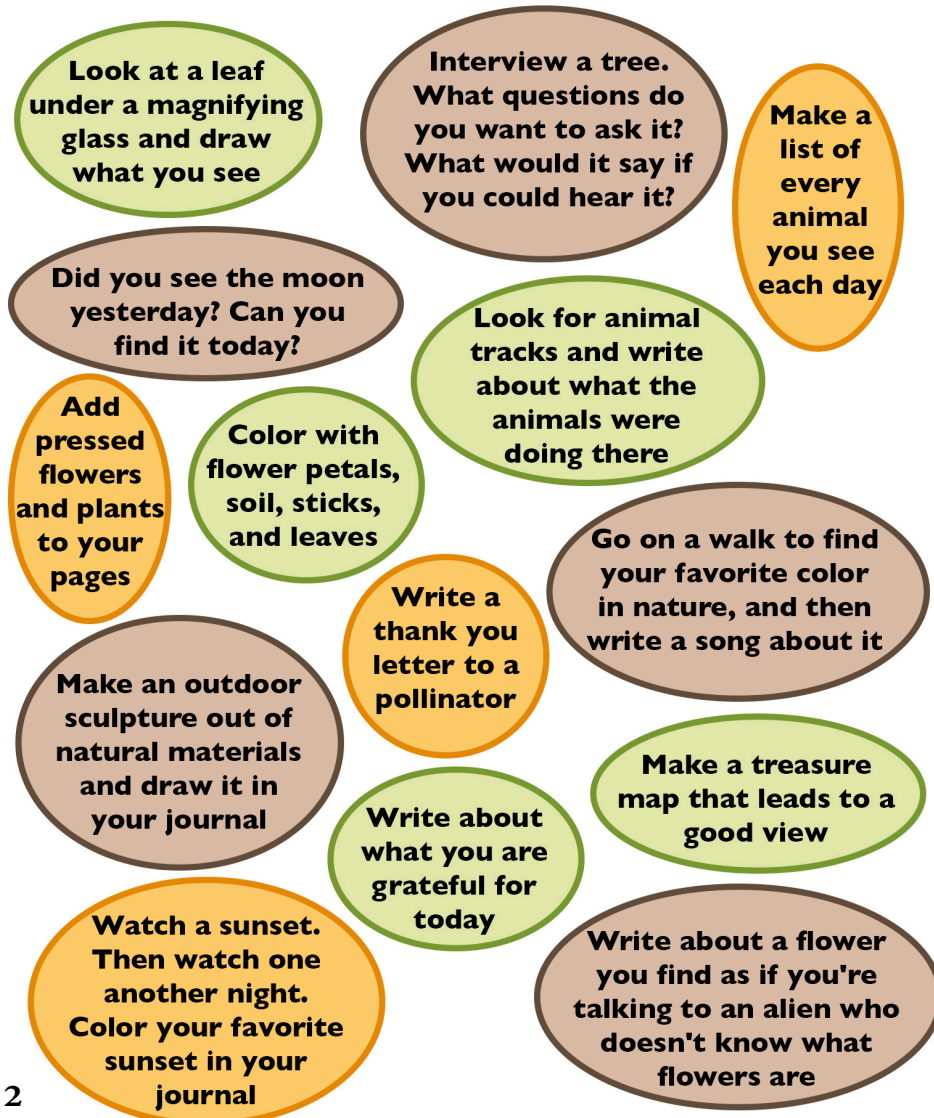




Everyday, try to notice something new about a place in nature near you, whether it is a plant outside your window, an animal passing by, or changes in the sky.

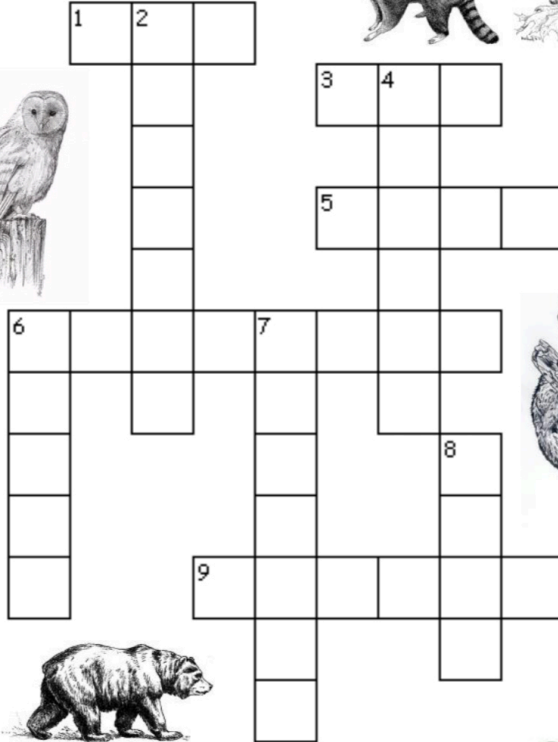
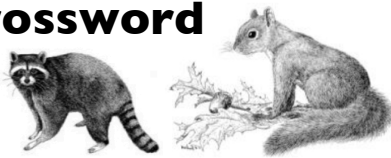
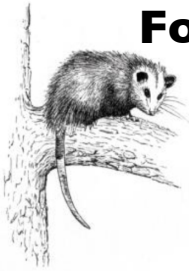
Record your observations in your nature journal by writing, drawing, painting, or even making up a song or poem!

Here are some ideas for what to include in your nature journal:



Use this blank page to record your nature observations!

Forest Friends Crossword



Across

1. I'm the only canine that can climb trees.
3. I'm a bird that hunts mainly at night.
5. I'm a type of raptor with excellent eyesight.
6. I have a big fluffy tail and like to eat nuts!
9. I'm a wild cat with a short tail.

Down



2. I'm the only marsupial in North America.
4. I have a long and slender body like a ferret.
6. I let out a really stinky spray when in danger.
7. I am sometimes called a bandit.
8. I am a really large mammal that can be quite grizzly.



Spring Camp

Nature Observation Journal



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Nature Sit Spot

A Sit Spot is a quiet place somewhere in nature where you just sit and don't do anything else. You might notice special things around you that you would have missed if you were moving around or talking! Can you think of a place outside you want to try a Nature Sit Spot in?

Sit outside for 10 minutes.

What do you hear, smell, see, or feel?

How does the sun feel on your face?

How about the breeze?

What are the clouds like today?

Draw yourself sitting in nature:

Something **very dry** - What would change if it were wet?

Something a human left behind - Can you clean it up to help the habitat?

What Birds Live Near You?

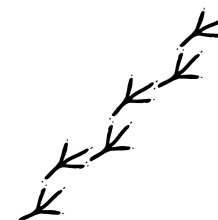


There are about 10,000 different species of birds! You can see, hear, or find evidence of birds almost anywhere you go outside. When you notice a bird, record your observations here!

- ❖ Did it leave behind any **droppings** (which look kind of like white paint splatter), **feathers, nests, cracked seeds, or tracks**?
- ❖ Was it **big** in size, or **small**? What **colors** was it? Did it have any **patterns** like dots or stripes? Was its beak **long** and pointy or **short** and triangular?
- ❖ Was it making any **sounds**? Was it sitting **still**? Was it **walking, hopping, or flying**? Was it **foraging** for food? What was it **eating**?

Something **strong** - Does it protect something fragile?

Something **fragile** - What keeps it from being damaged?



Birders love to challenge themselves to find as many different birds as they can!

Something **with a shell** - What could the shell be protecting?



Something **open** - Is this object ever closed?

Flower Observation

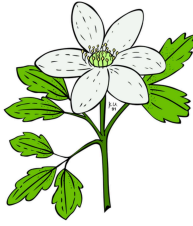
Have you ever *really* looked at a plant?

Botany is the scientific study of plants.

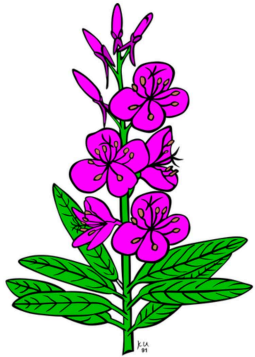
The closer you look, the more you will see!

Find a flower to observe and try to notice all of its different parts.

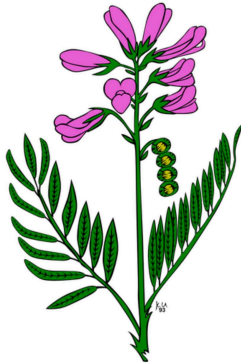
Can you find its smallest parts? What does it look like under a magnifying glass? Record your observations here!



Something **sharp** - Be careful! Was this object originally sharp or did it break?



Something **closed** - Is this object ever open?



Nature Observation Scavenger Hunt





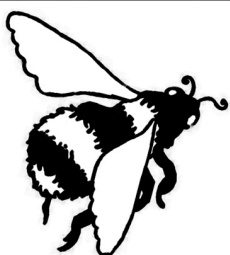



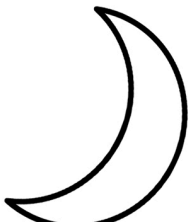








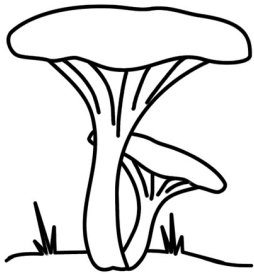


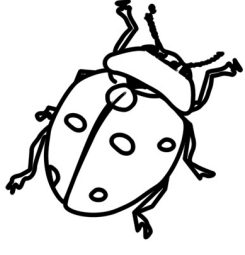

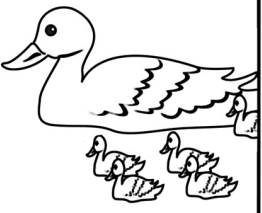

There is a scavenger hunt challenge on the border of the journal pages! Use the blank space to record your observations. On your next journey outdoors, look closely to find...

Something **smooth** - What caused the object to be smooth?

Something **spiky** - Why do you think it has spikes?

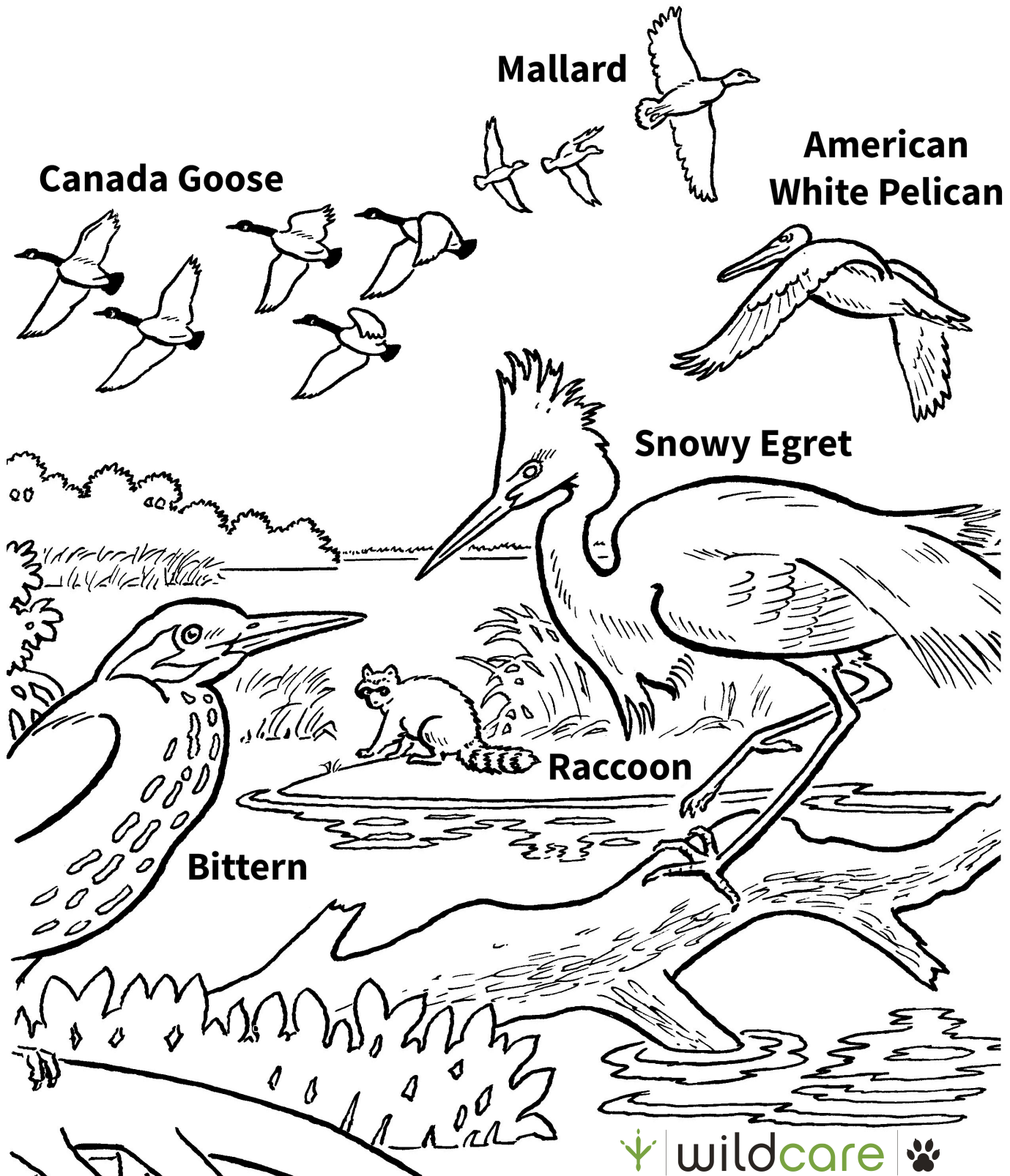
Something **soft** - What makes it soft? What does it look like under a magnifying glass?

Nature Walk Bingo

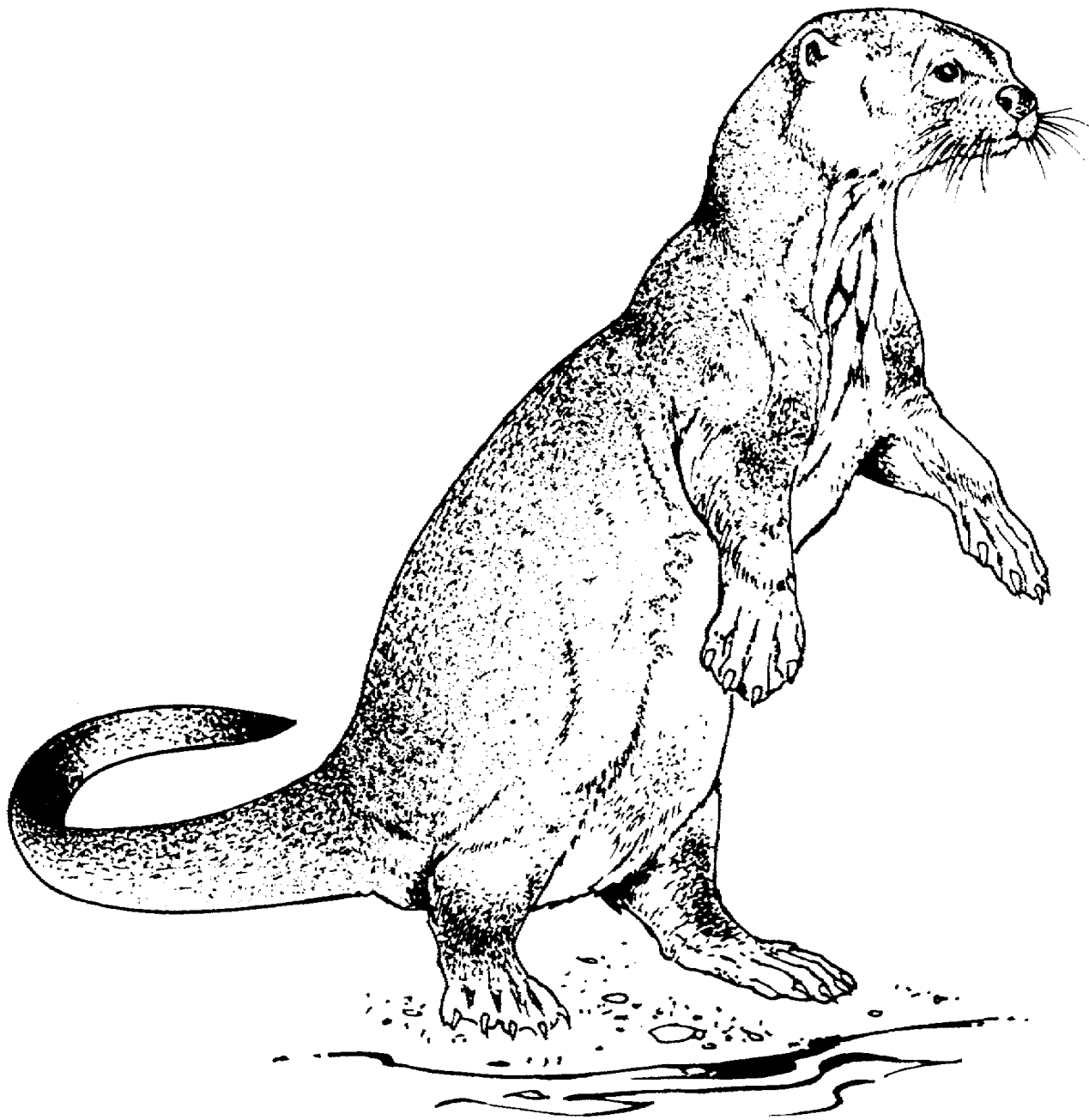
 hummingbird	 flower bud	 foot prints	 berries or fruit	 buzzing bee
 feel the wind	 spider web	 butterfly	 moon	 nest
 pick up trash	 listen to a bird singing	FREE SPACE	 4 different leaves	 ant
 cricket sound	 cloud that looks like an animal	 feather	 mushroom	 dew drops
 dandelion	 ladybug	 a really COOL ROCK	 baby animal	 animal tracks

California Wetlands

When you go on a walk in a wetland, you can find many different animals using the habitat in different ways. Animals depend on wetlands for food. Some animals raise their babies in wetlands. Other animals rest and refuel in wetlands on their long migrations.



River Otter

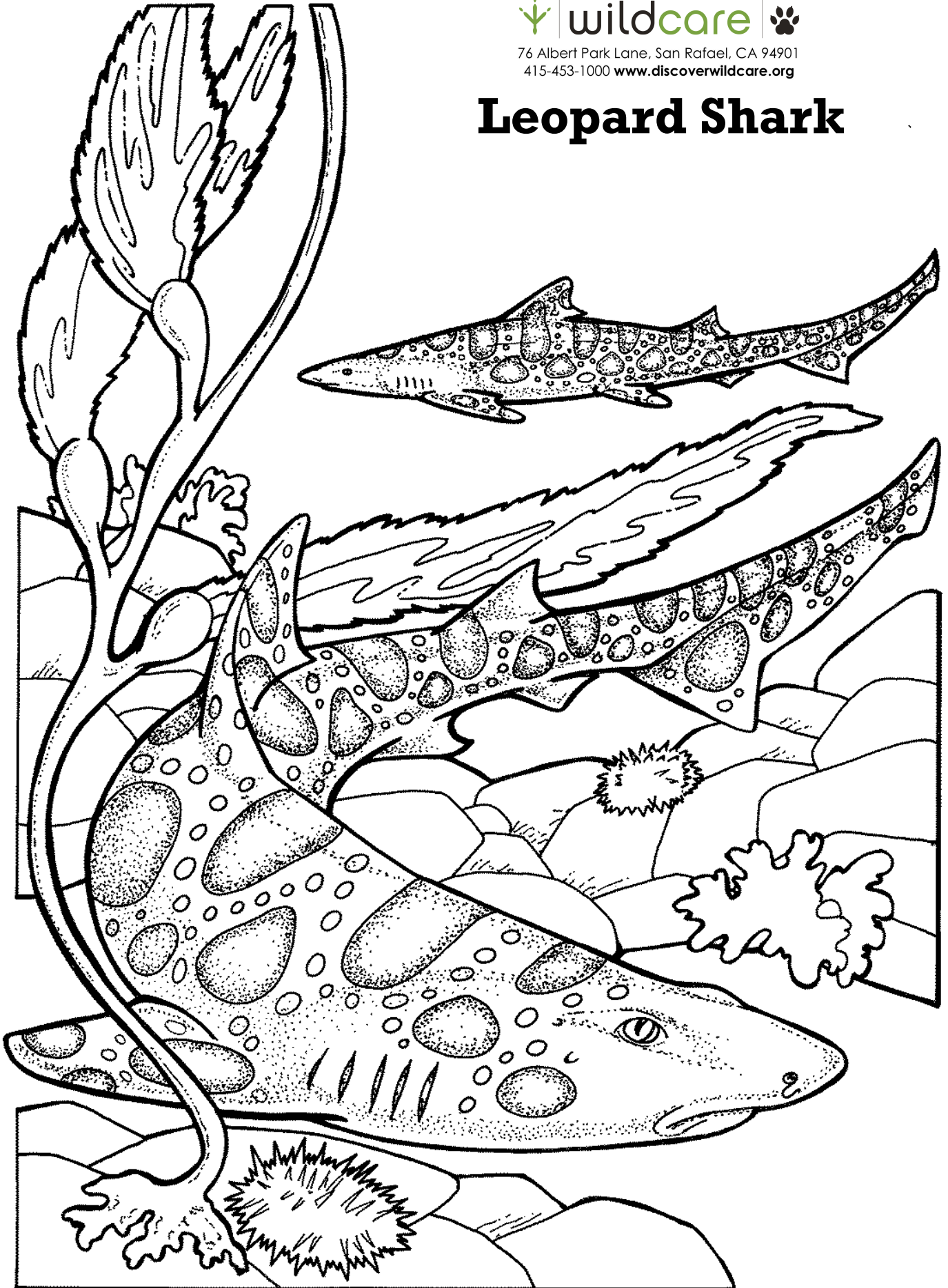


The **River Otter** chases fish underwater and rests on land inside a den.

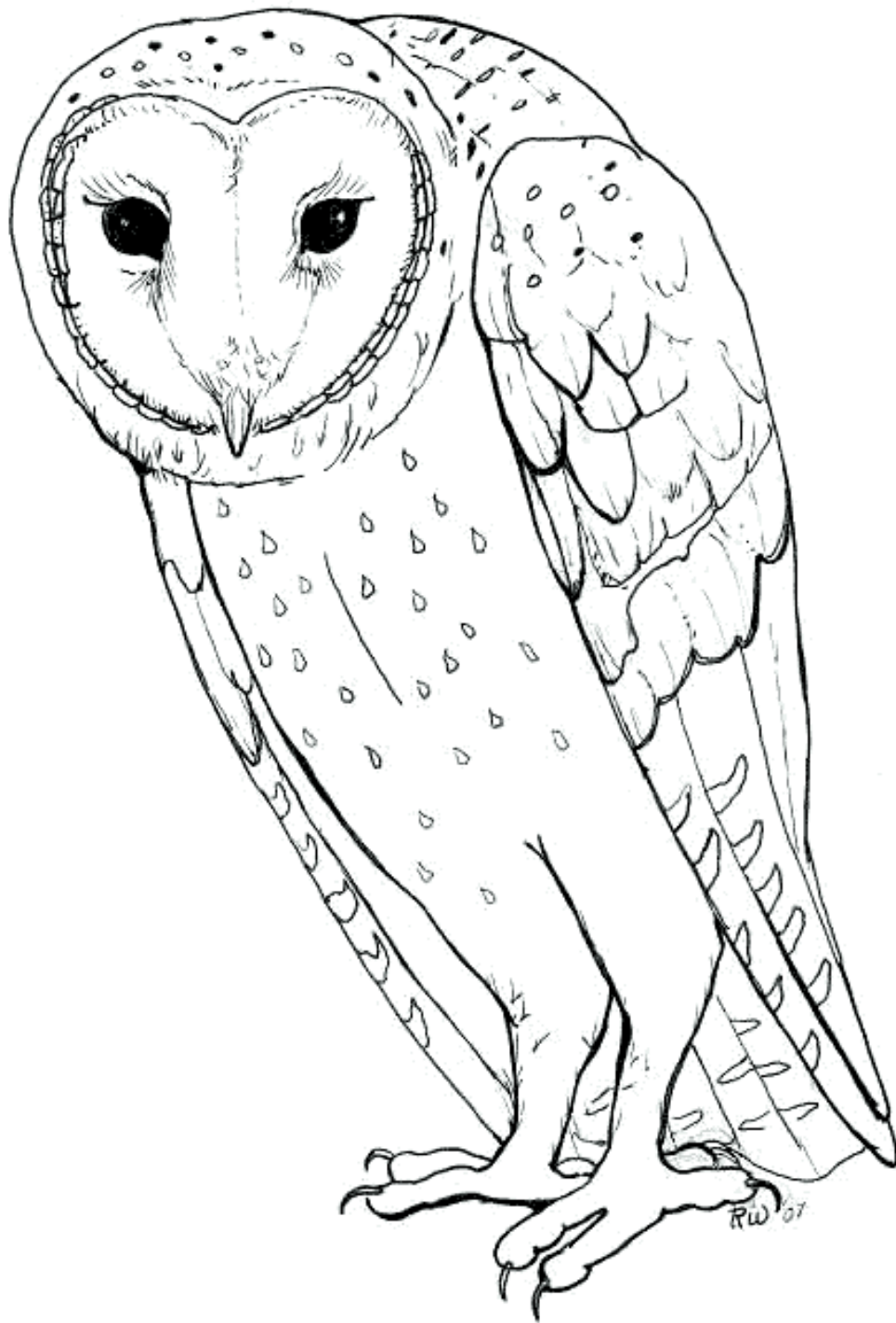


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Leopard Shark



Barn Owl

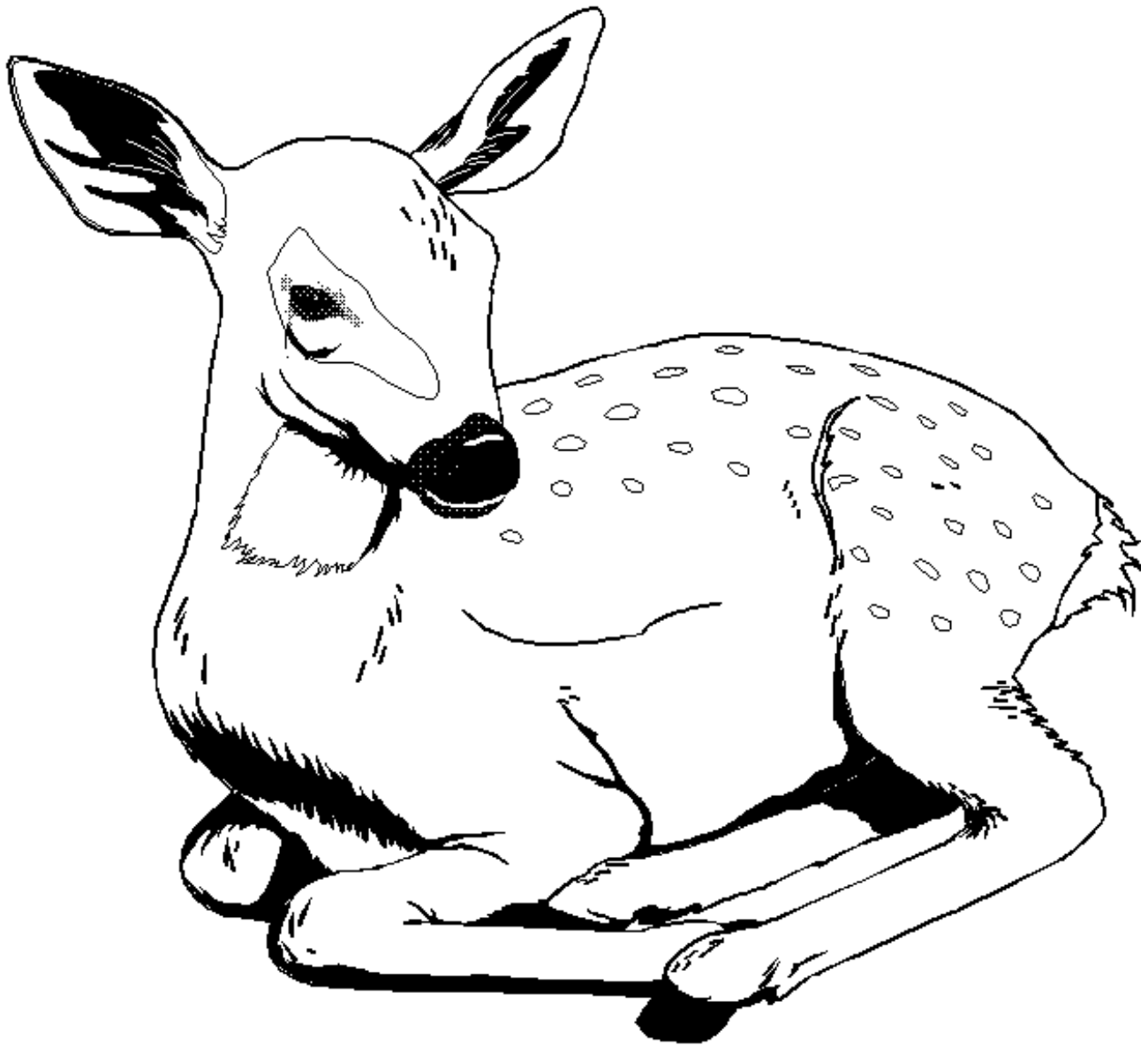


Barn Owls have heart-shaped faces that help sounds to get to their ears. When they sense prey, they will swoop silently down from the trees and grab their food in their sharp talons.



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Black-tailed Mule Deer



Black-tailed Mule Deer are brown with black on their tails.
Fawns, or baby deer, have white spots for hiding on the forest floor.