


FUNGI, FERNS AND FROGS, OH MY!




COLORING GEORGIA'S
FRESHWATER WETLANDS



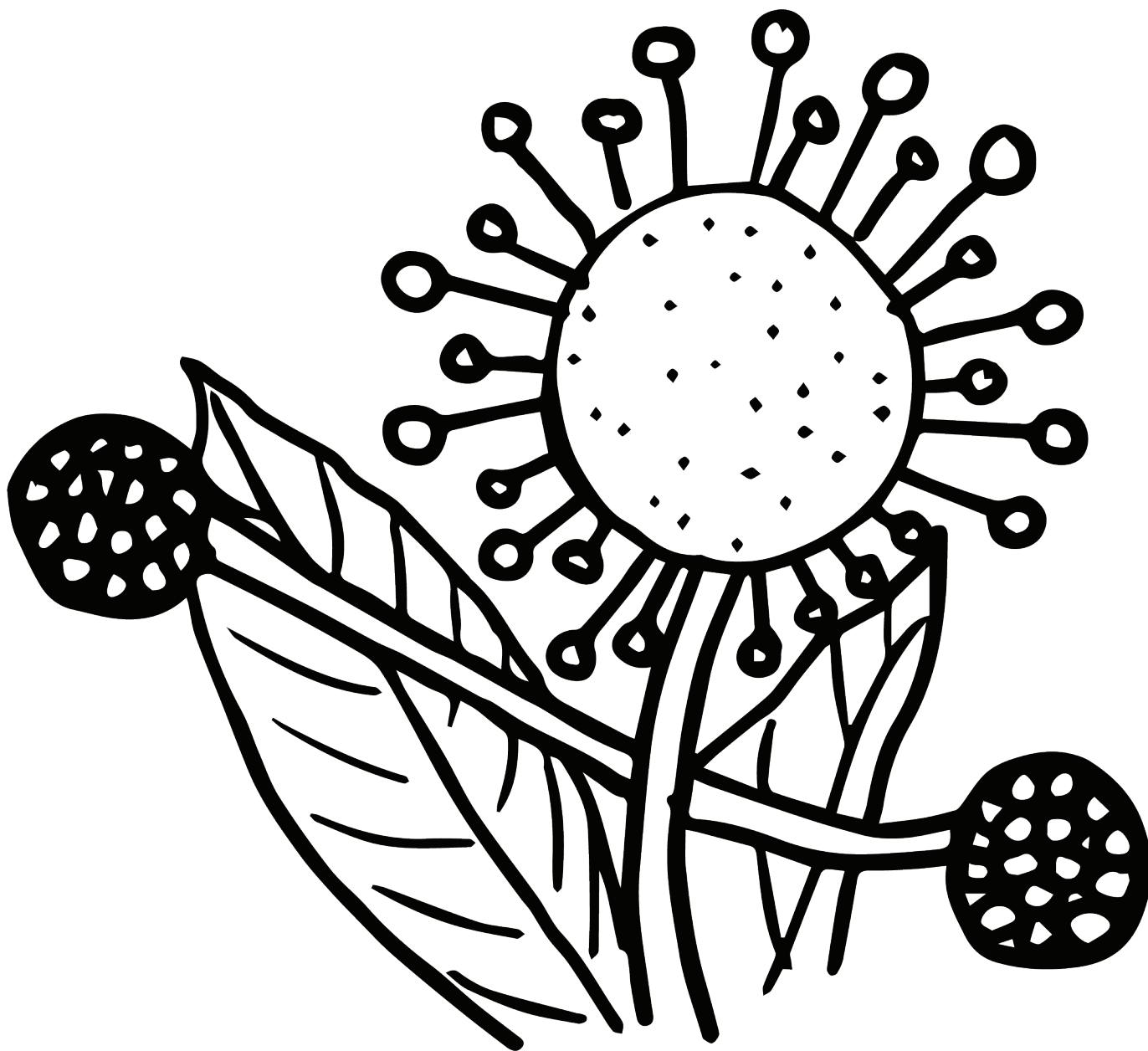


FRESHWATER WETLANDS are an important part of the landscape. They provide food and shelter for a wide variety of plants and animals, including insects, amphibians, birds, mammals and more!

As you color these pages, take a journey into the beauty found within freshwater wetlands.

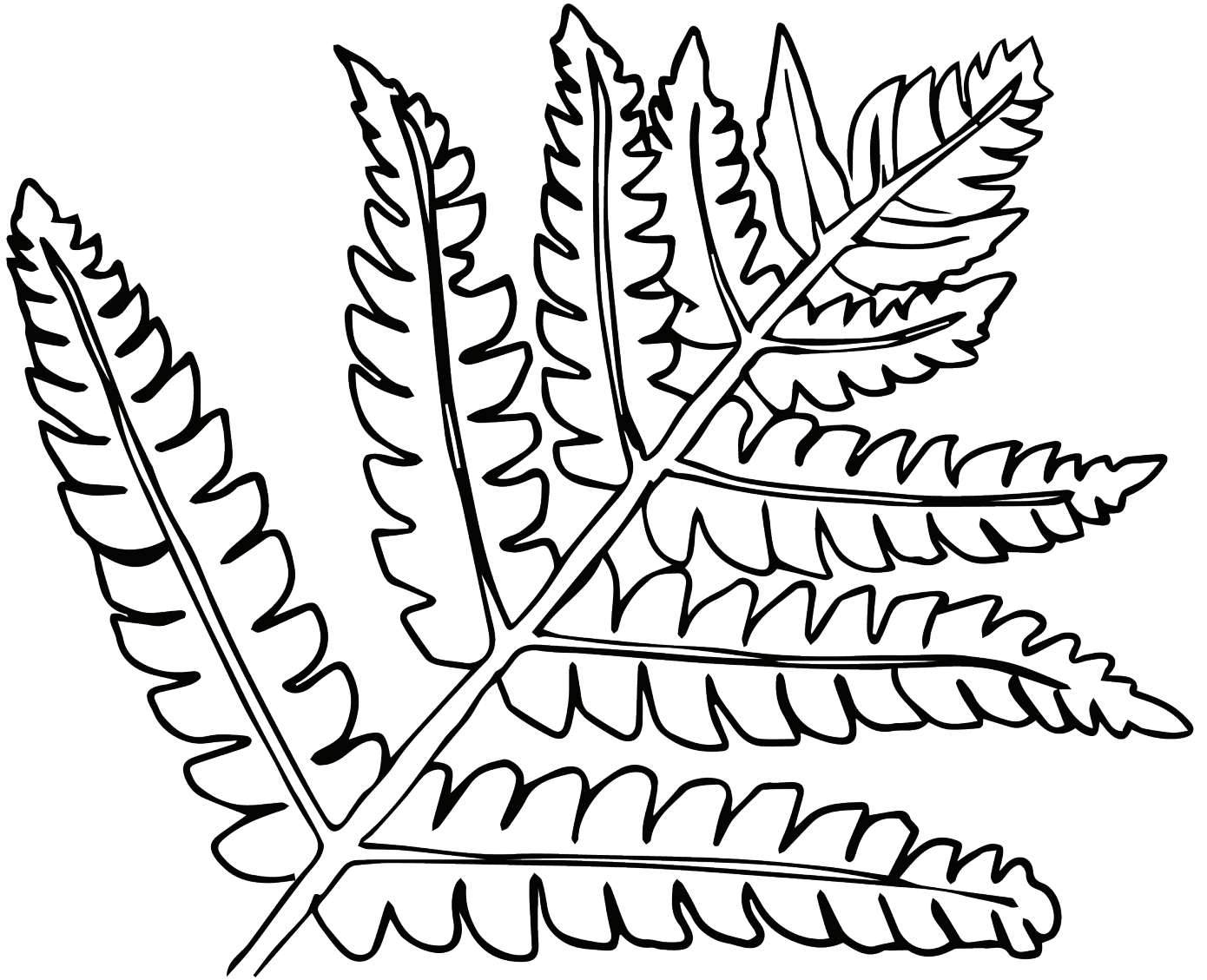


BUTTON BUSH



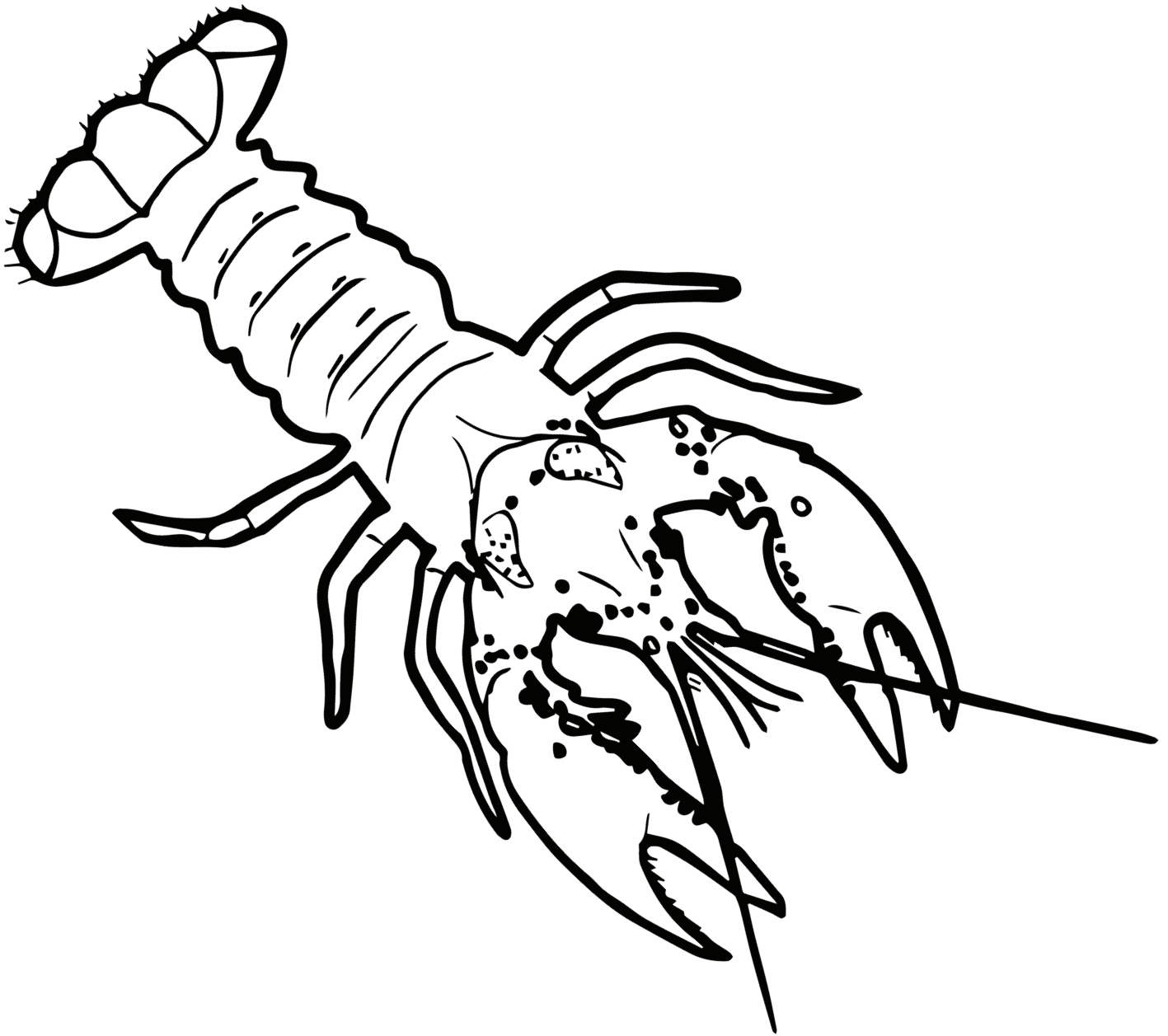
Did you know that Native Americans used the buttonbush for medicinal purposes? They chewed the bark to alleviate toothaches and used the roots to cure inflammation.

CINNAMON FERN



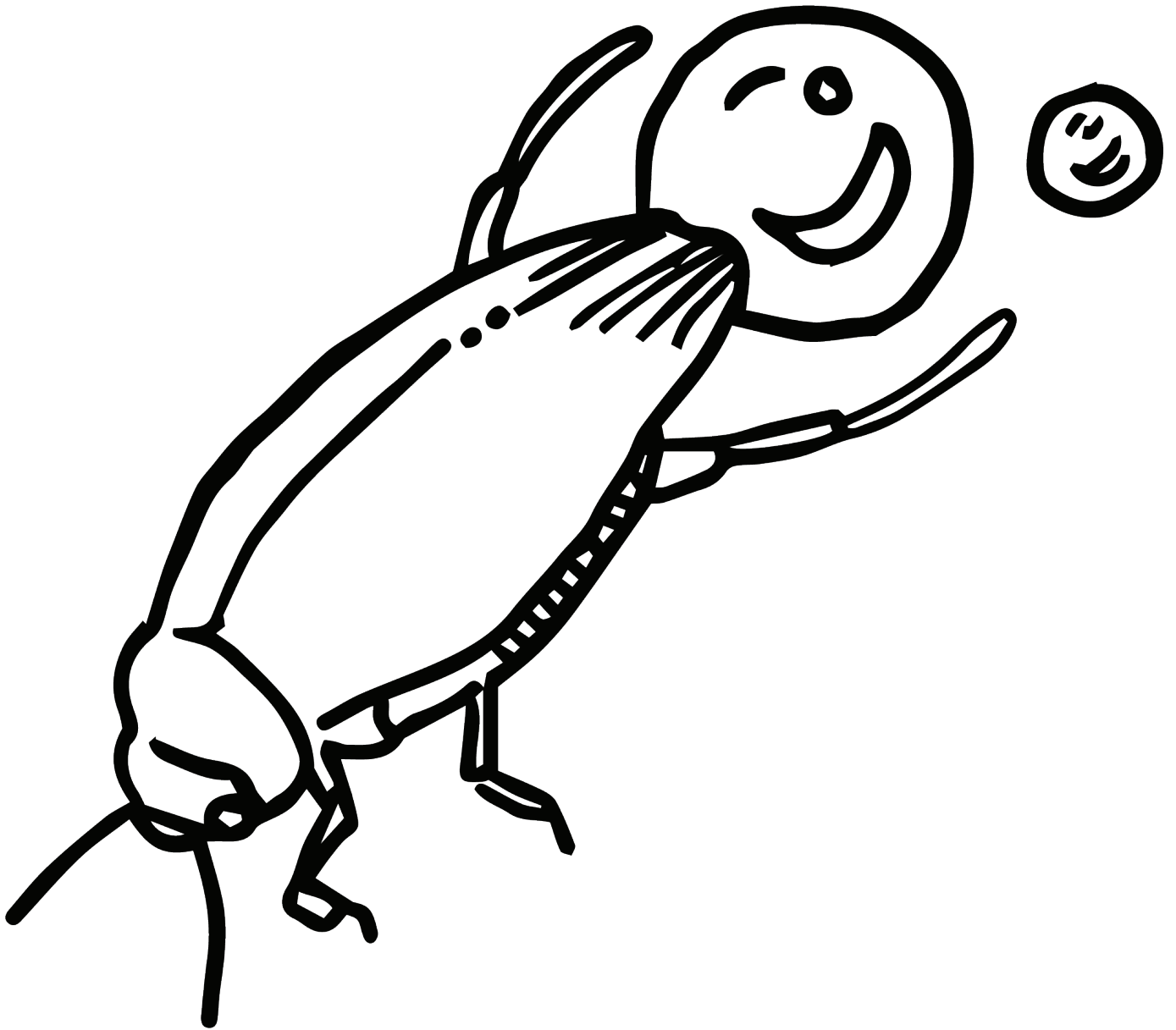
These ferns love fine-grained, wet, acidic soils, making them the perfect fit for a freshwater wetland!

CRAYFISH



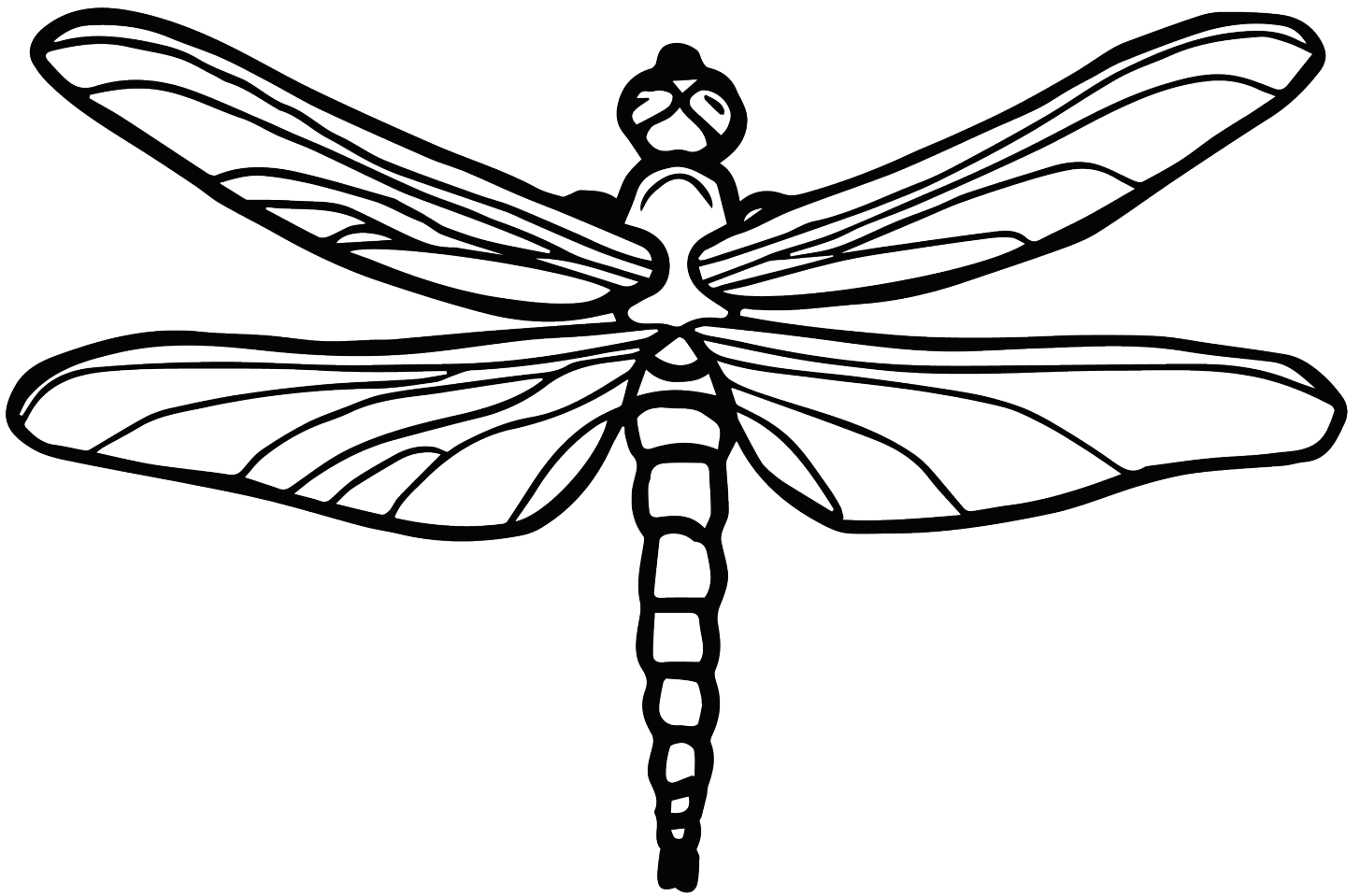
Did you notice this crayfish is missing a leg? Crayfish often lose limbs or claws, but luckily, they can grow them back! This is called regeneration.

DIVING BEETLE



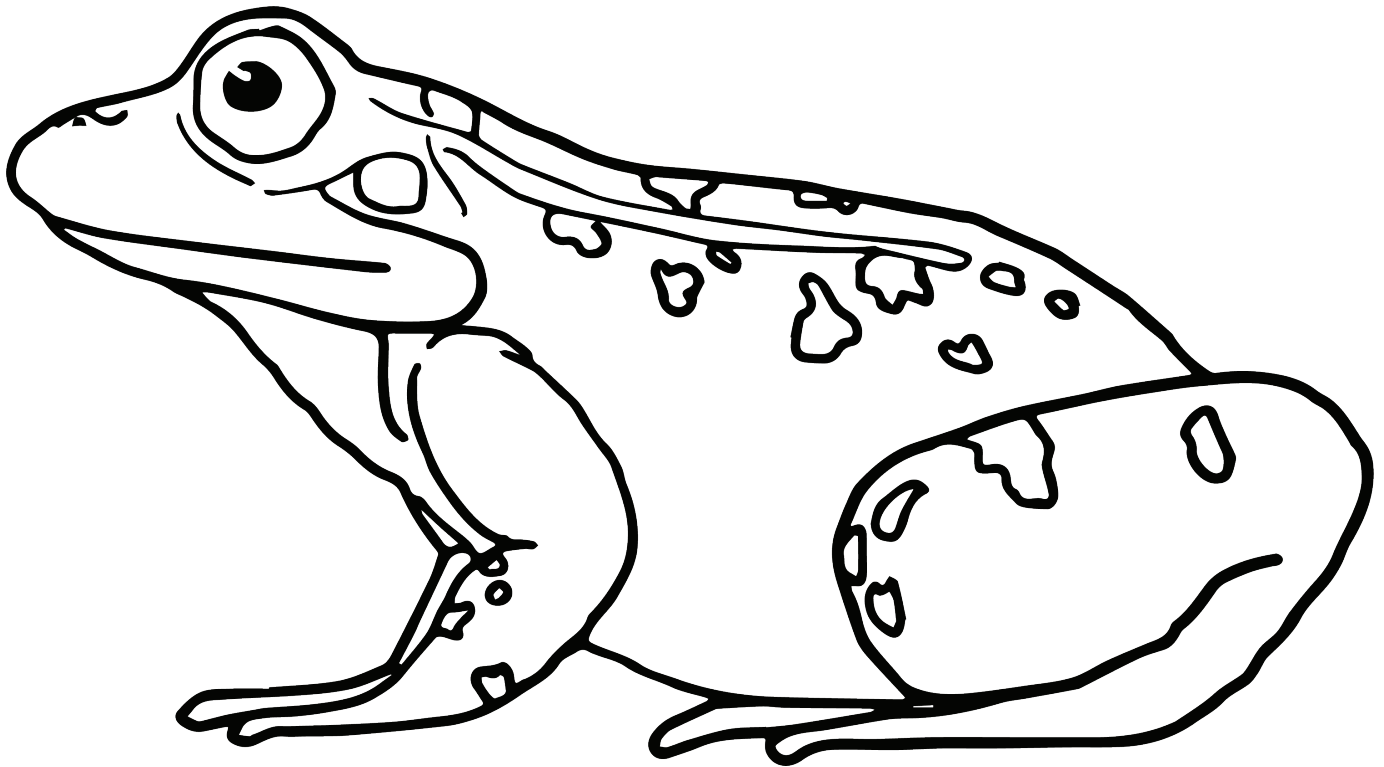
A Diving Beetle stores its own air so it can breathe while under water searching for food.

DRAGONFLY



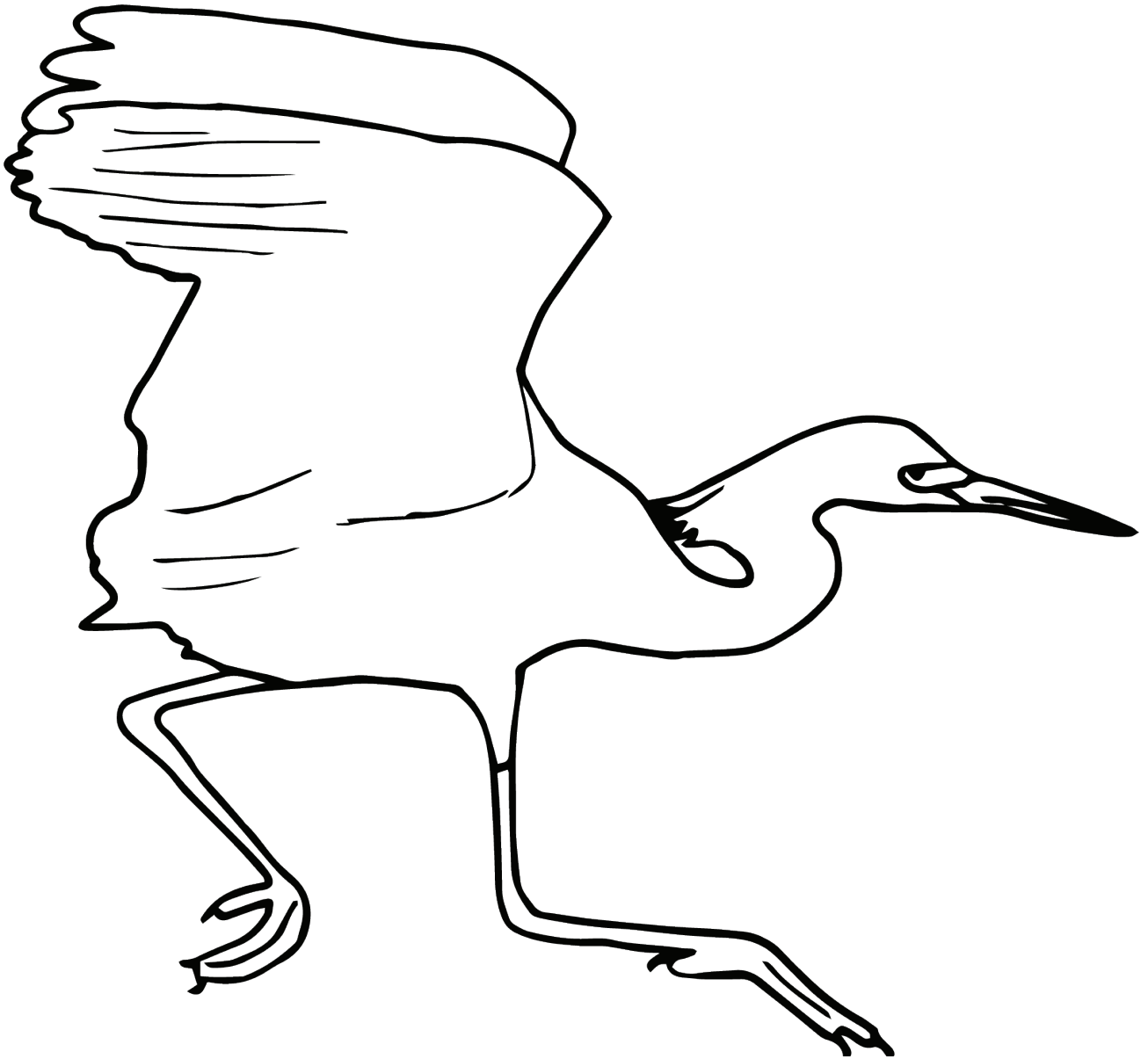
Some experts think that during the Paleozoic Era, dragonflies were much larger than they are today because of the amount of oxygen in the atmosphere. Some dragonflies had a wingspan of up to two feet!

FROG



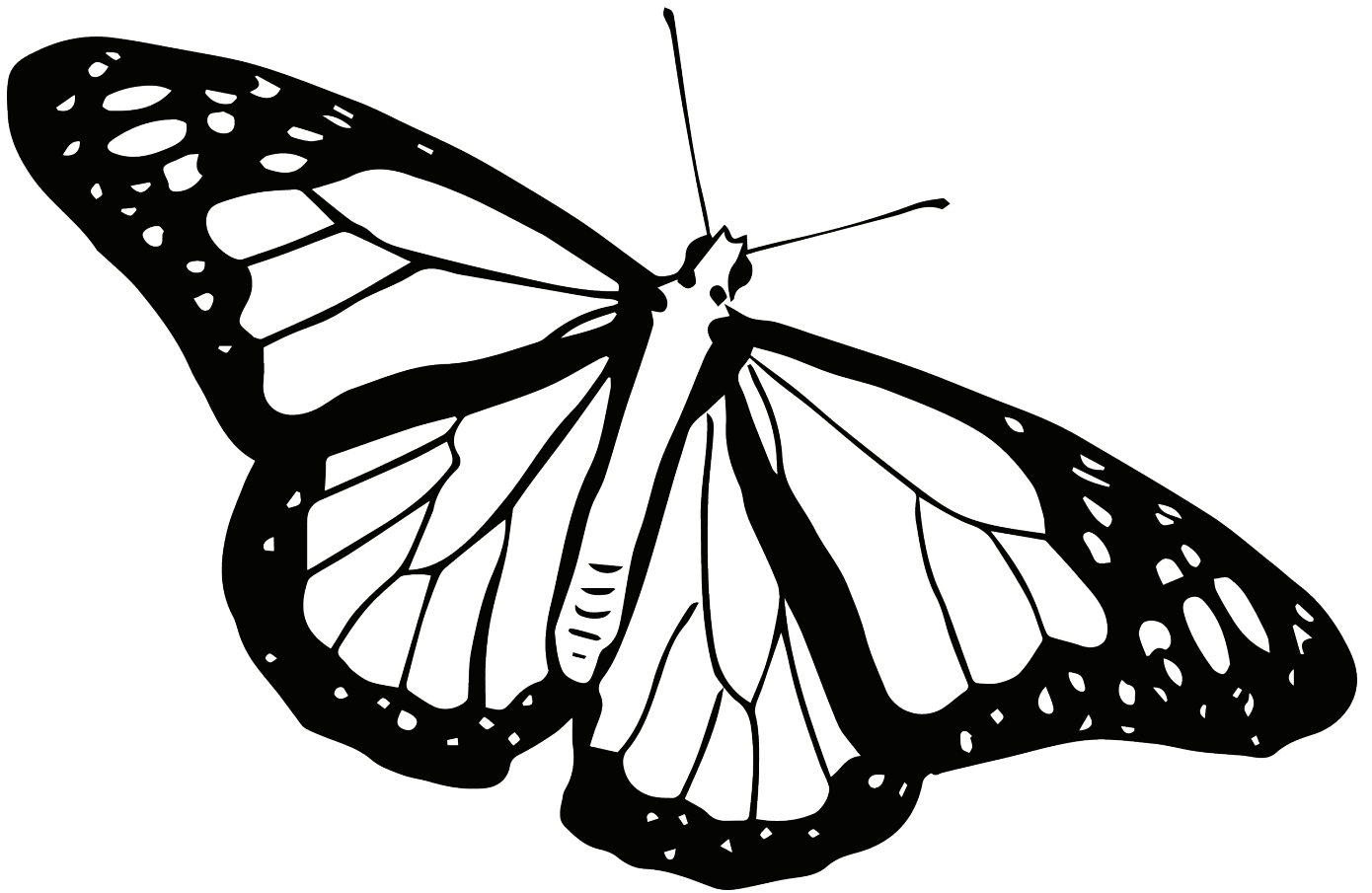
Did you know frogs were some of the first land animals with vocal cords? Frogs make some of the loudest noises in a wetland, and they have been croaking away for more than 200 million years!

GREAT EGRET



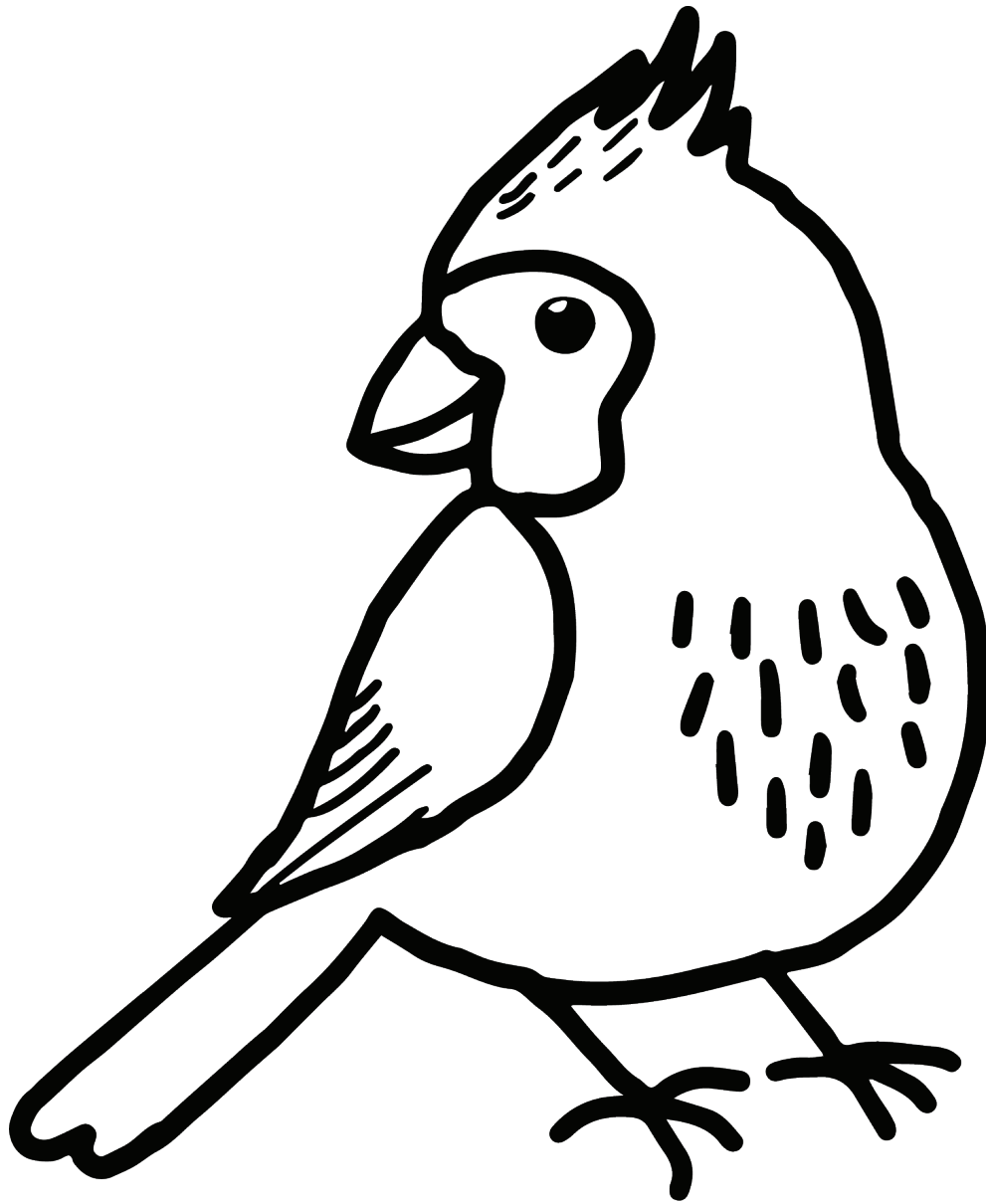
The long, wispy plumes that great egrets grow during mating season help males attract a mate!

MONARCH BUTTERFLY



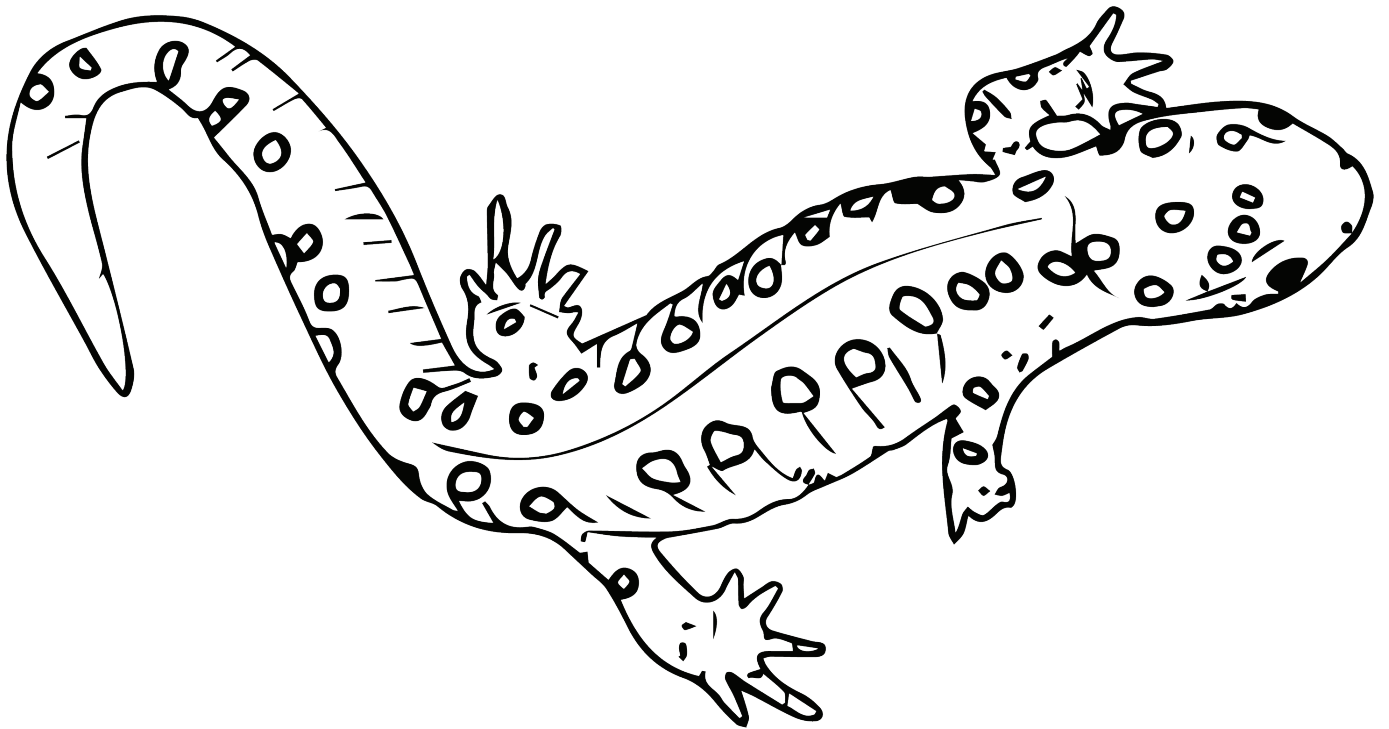
Monarch butterflies are some of the best navigators on the planet! Not only do they migrate using the sun as their compass, but if it is cloudy, they can use the Earth's magnetic field as their guide!

NORTHERN CARDINAL



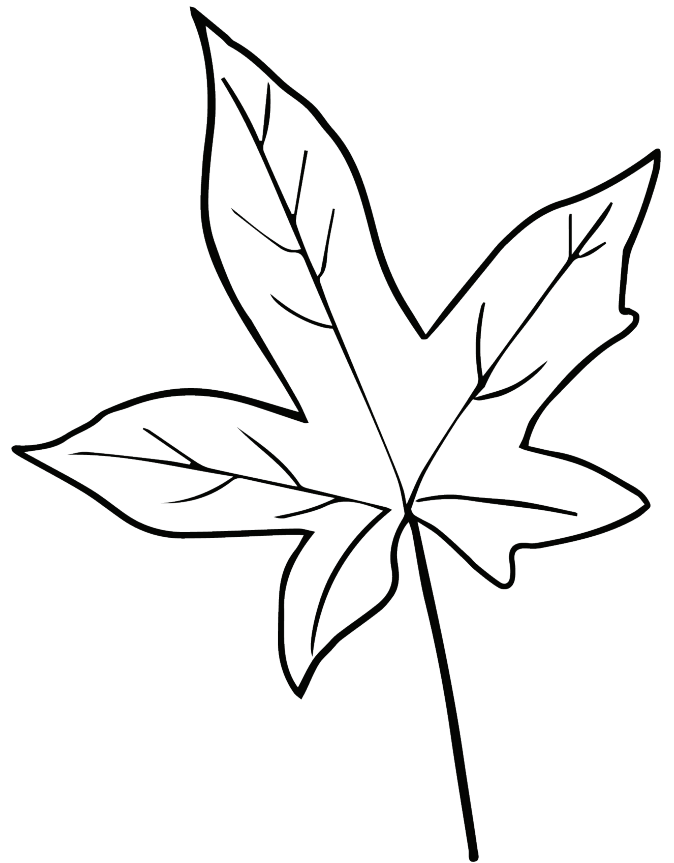
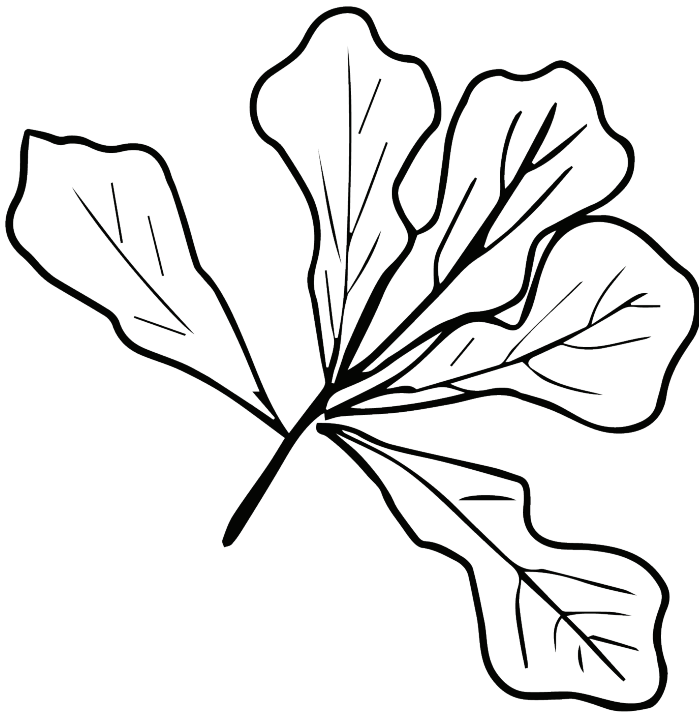
Did you know only male cardinals have the characteristic red color? Females are olive or brown colored, which helps them stay hidden while incubating their eggs.

SPOTTED SALAMANDER



The spotted salamander produces bad tasting toxins in the glands on its back and tail to dissuade predators.

WATER OAK & SWEET GUM



Trees like the water oak and sweet gum love water so much, they can be submerged in it all year long, making them perfect candidates to live in a wetland!

Illustrations by Samantha Lance, Water Quality Intern

Published 2020



**Marine Extension and
Georgia Sea Grant**
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION

This material was prepared by Katy Smith, Public Service Faculty for UGA Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant, and Samantha Lance, Water Quality Intern, under grant award # NA19NOS4190151 to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources from the Office for Coastal Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of DNR, OCM or NOAA.