

**THE  
ST. JOHNS RIVER  
COLORING BOOK**

Dear students, parents and educators,

The mighty St. Johns River is the longest river in Florida, flowing 310 miles from Brevard and Indian River counties to the Atlantic Ocean at Mayport near Jacksonville. The St. Johns River is one of just a few worldwide that flows north.

The river has a rich history and plays an important role today in our economy, culture and for recreation. This coloring book was designed to give you a brief overview of the river, showing you the different plants, animals and people who depend on the river.

At its beginning (or headwaters) in east-central Florida, the river is a flat marsh that is created by rainfall. The headwaters of the river are known as the river's upper basin. As the river travels farther north, it is fed by smaller rivers and creeks (known as tributaries) and begins to widen, forming several lakes in an area known as the river's middle basin. In its final 100 miles through its lower basin, the St. Johns River spreads almost two miles wide in some locations. Along its entire journey, the river's level drops only 30 feet, or about one inch per mile, making it one of the laziest rivers in the world.

Though a mighty river, the St. Johns River's delicate balance has been upset by human activities. Even without meaning to, our behaviors at home, in our yards, in our neighborhoods and at our jobs have caused damage to the waterway. We must each do our part to protect the river and make it healthy again.

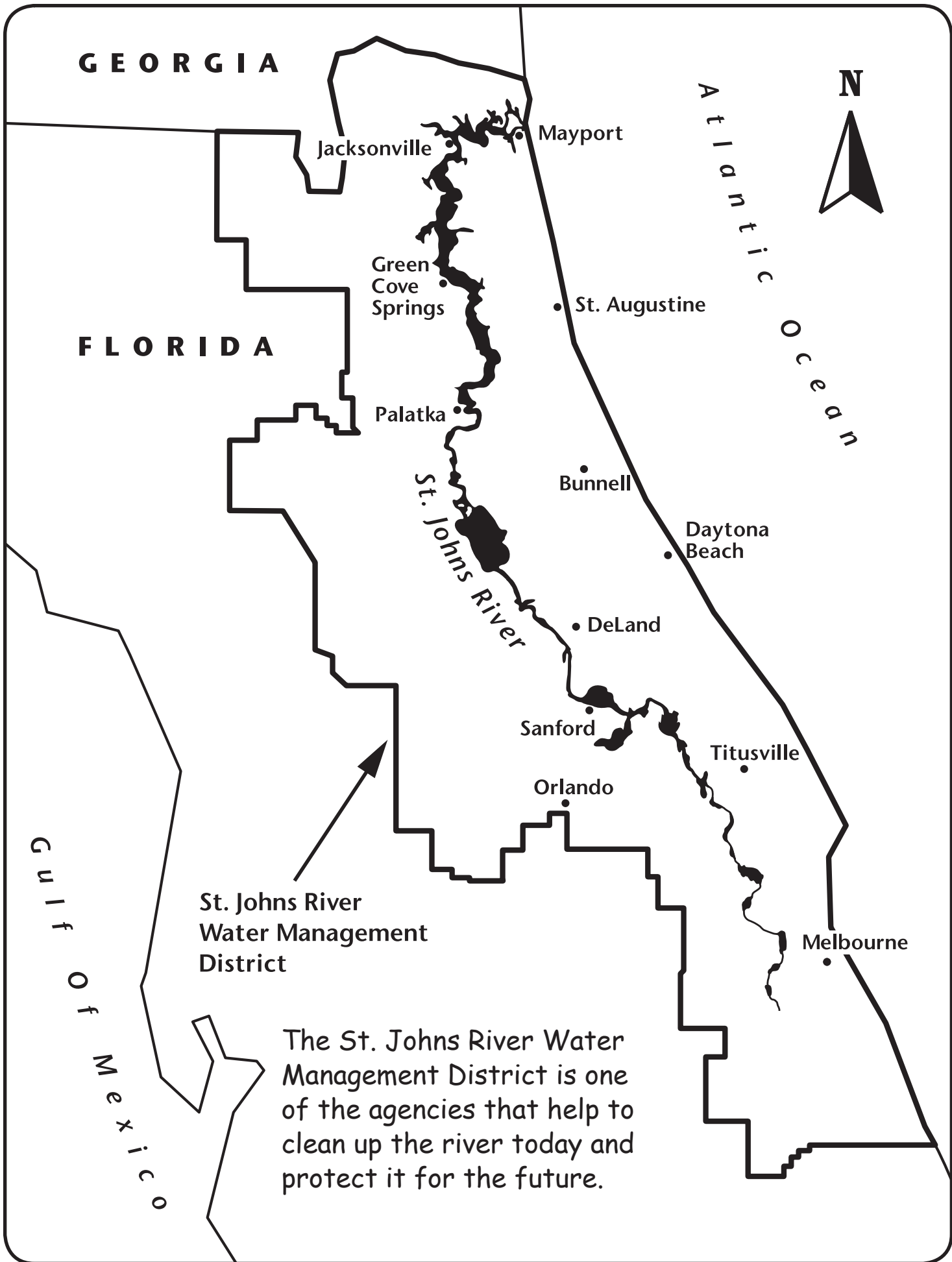
We encourage you to read through this coloring book and take a look at the river in a way that you may not have seen it before.

For additional information, we invite you to visit [www.sjrwmd.com](http://www.sjrwmd.com).

Sincerely,

Office of Communications  
St. Johns River Water Management District





**GEORGIA**

**FLORIDA**

**N**

Atlantic Ocean

Jacksonville

Mayport

Green Cove Springs

St. Augustine

Palatka

Bunnell

Daytona Beach

St. Johns River

DeLand

Sanford

Titusville

Orlando

Melbourne

Gulf of Mexico

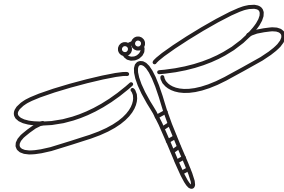
St. Johns River Water Management District

The St. Johns River Water Management District is one of the agencies that help to clean up the river today and protect it for the future.

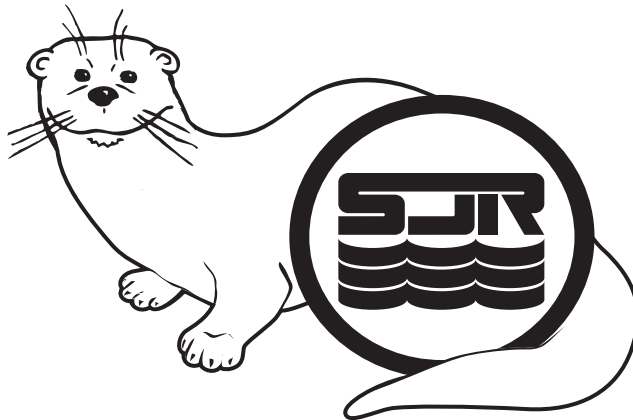


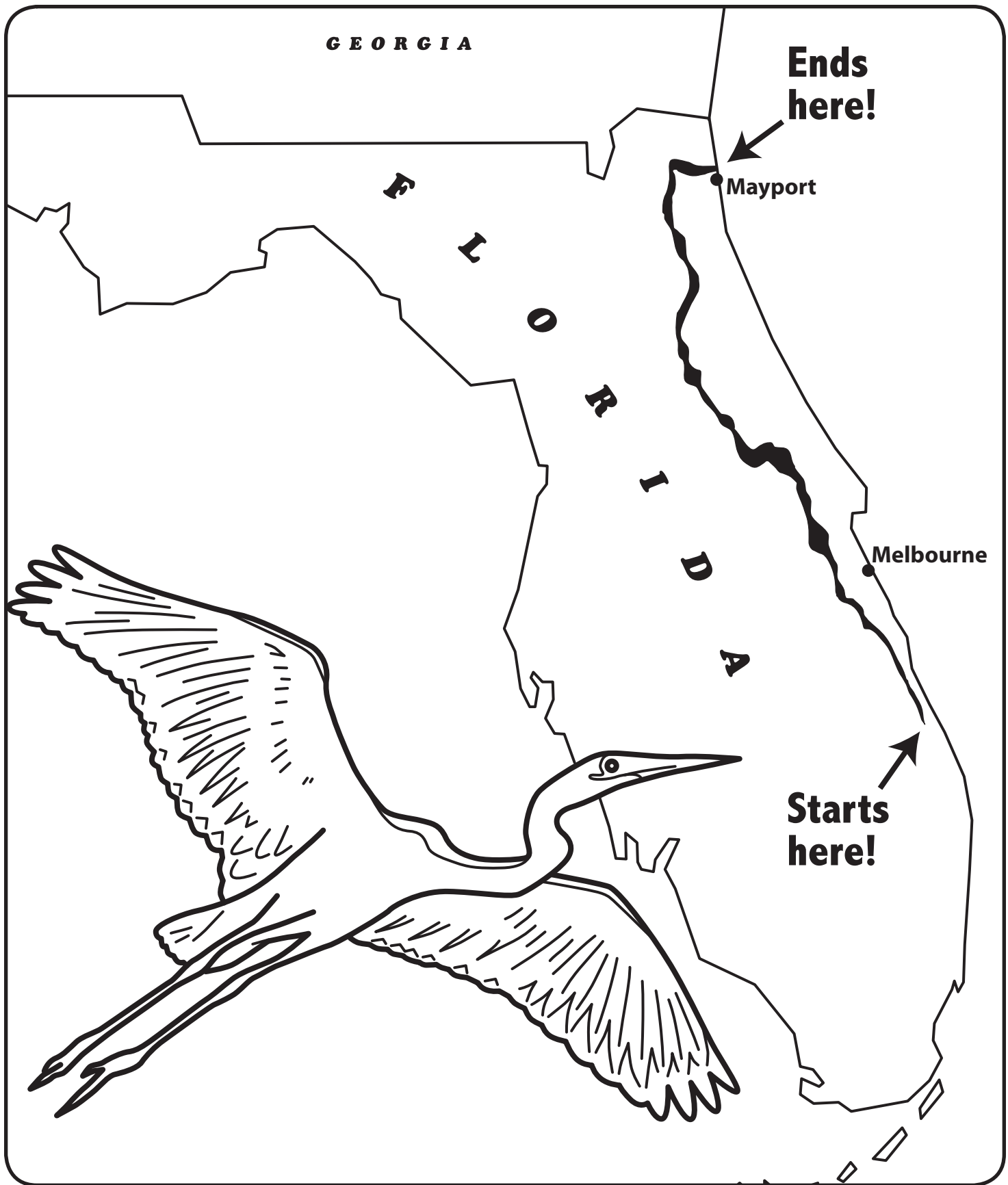
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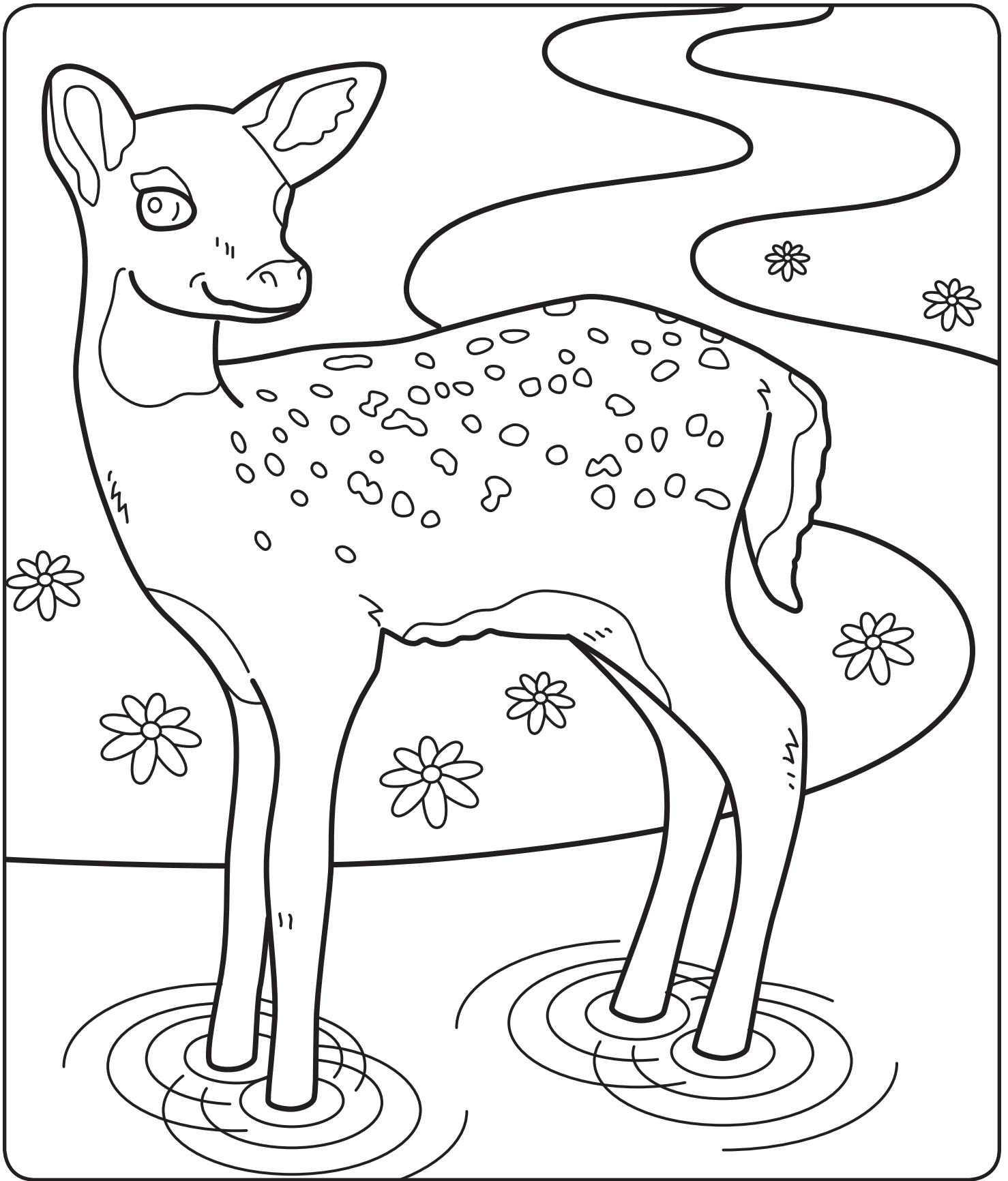


# THE ST. JOHNS RIVER COLORING BOOK





This is the story of the St. Johns River. It's the longest river in the state of Florida. Our river is a wonderful place and it's important that we take care of it.



A river is a natural stream of a lot of flowing water. The St. Johns River is different because it is one of the few rivers in North America that flow north. That is only one of the things that make our river special.



The beginning of a river is called its "source," or "headwaters." The St. Johns River begins near Melbourne. The river is formed by rain.

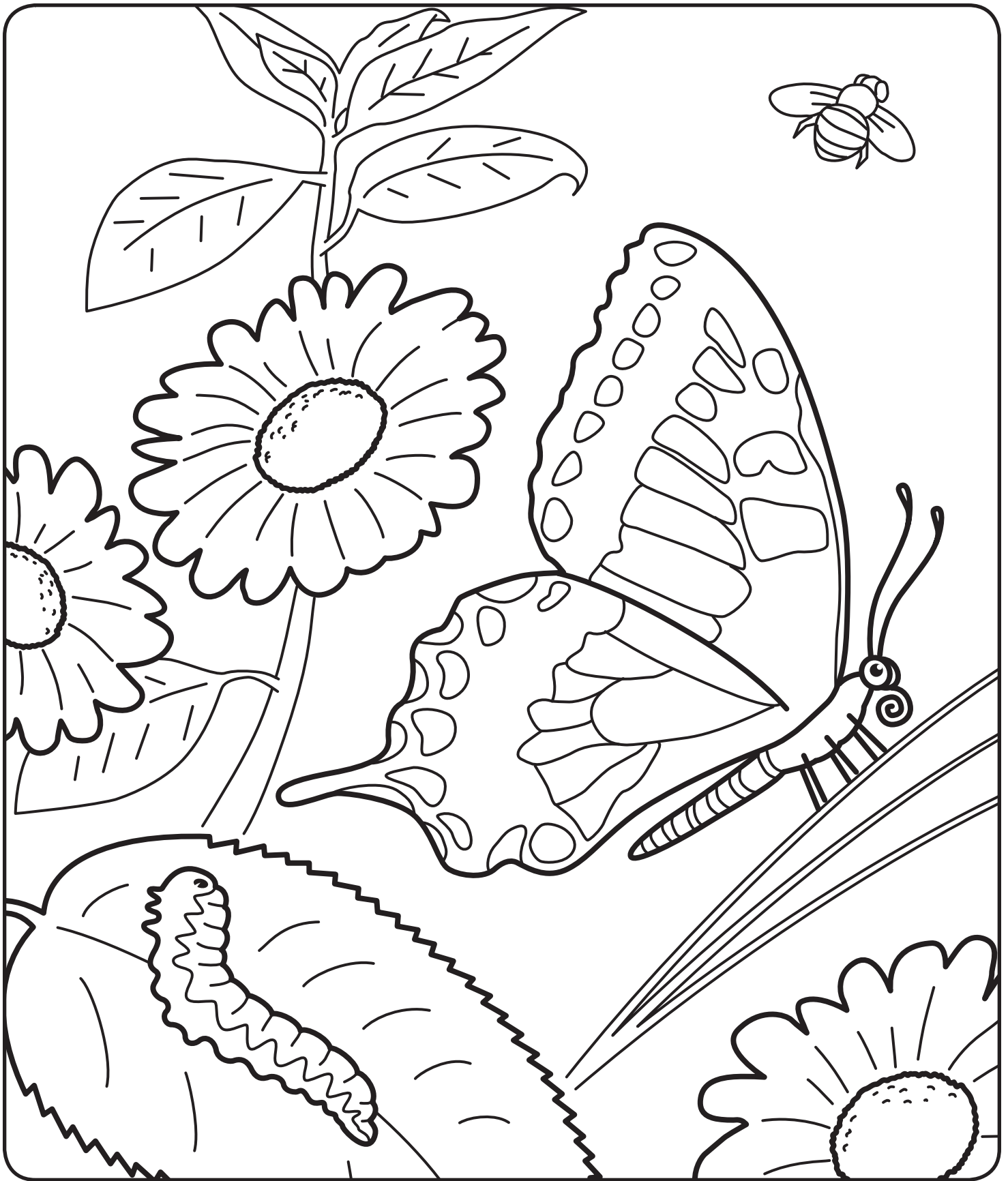


The river here is a large flat marsh and the water flows slowly. In the marsh, there is always time for new friends.

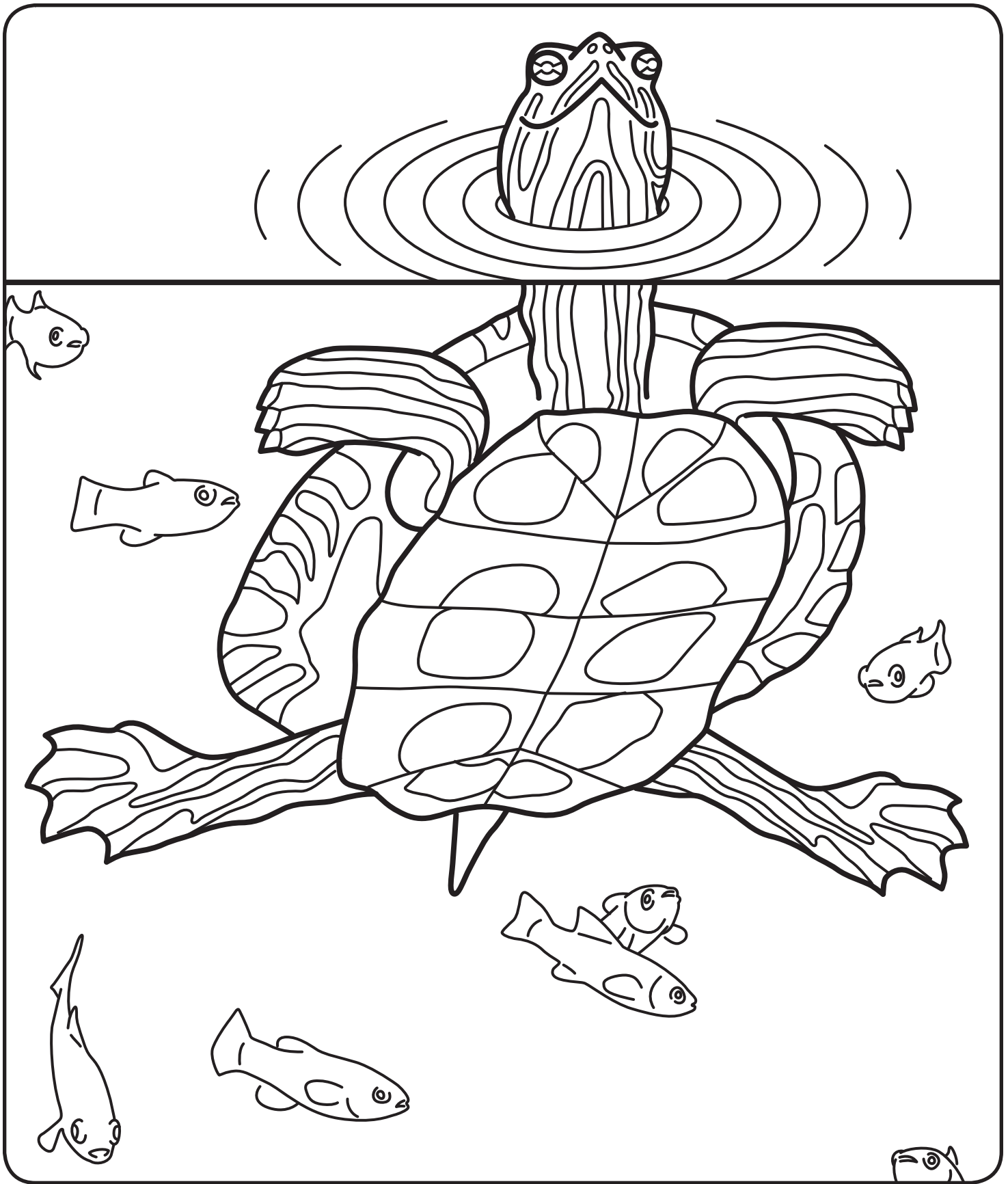




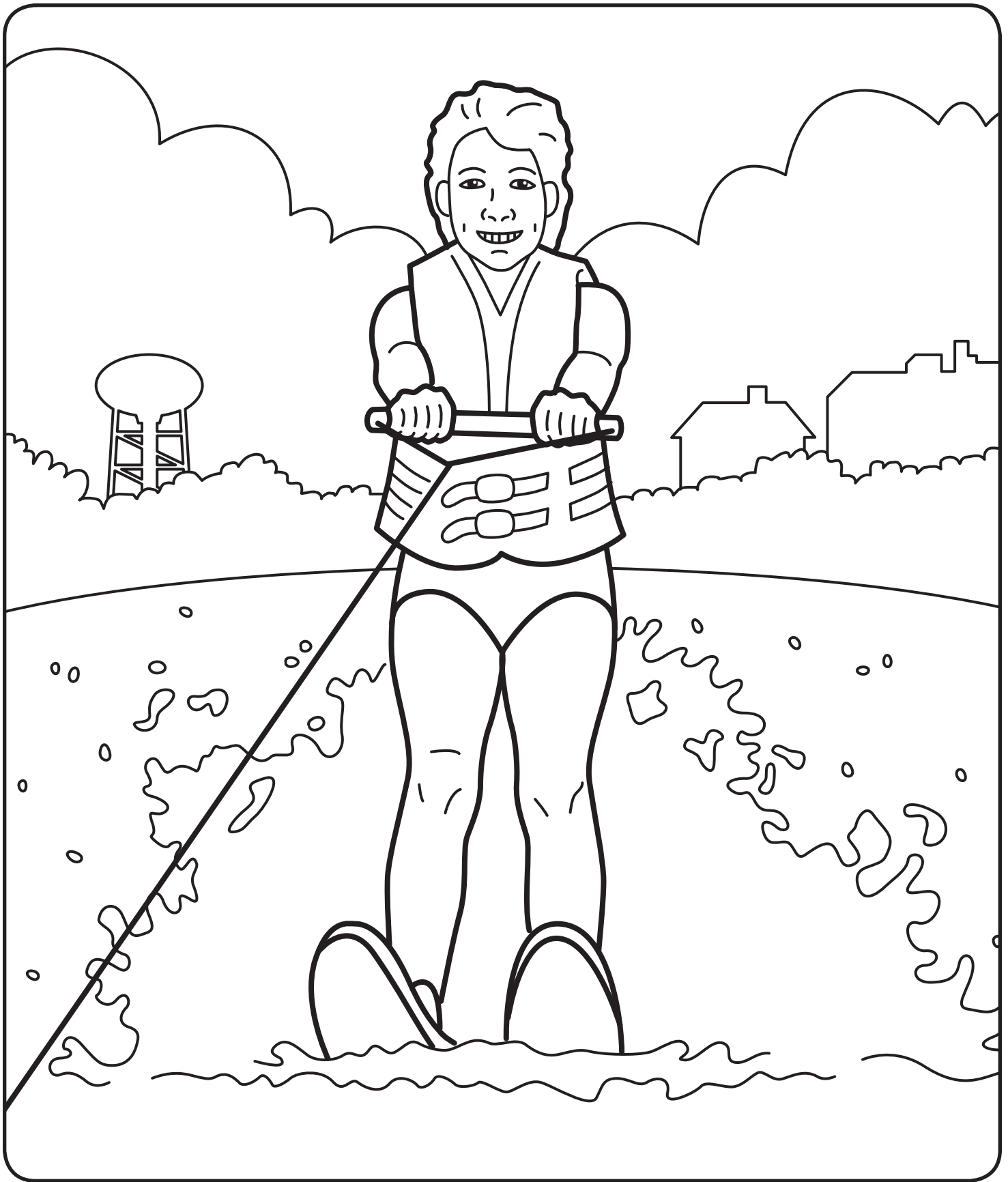
If you were in the marsh now, you might see a baby panther. Many different animals live in and around the St. Johns River.



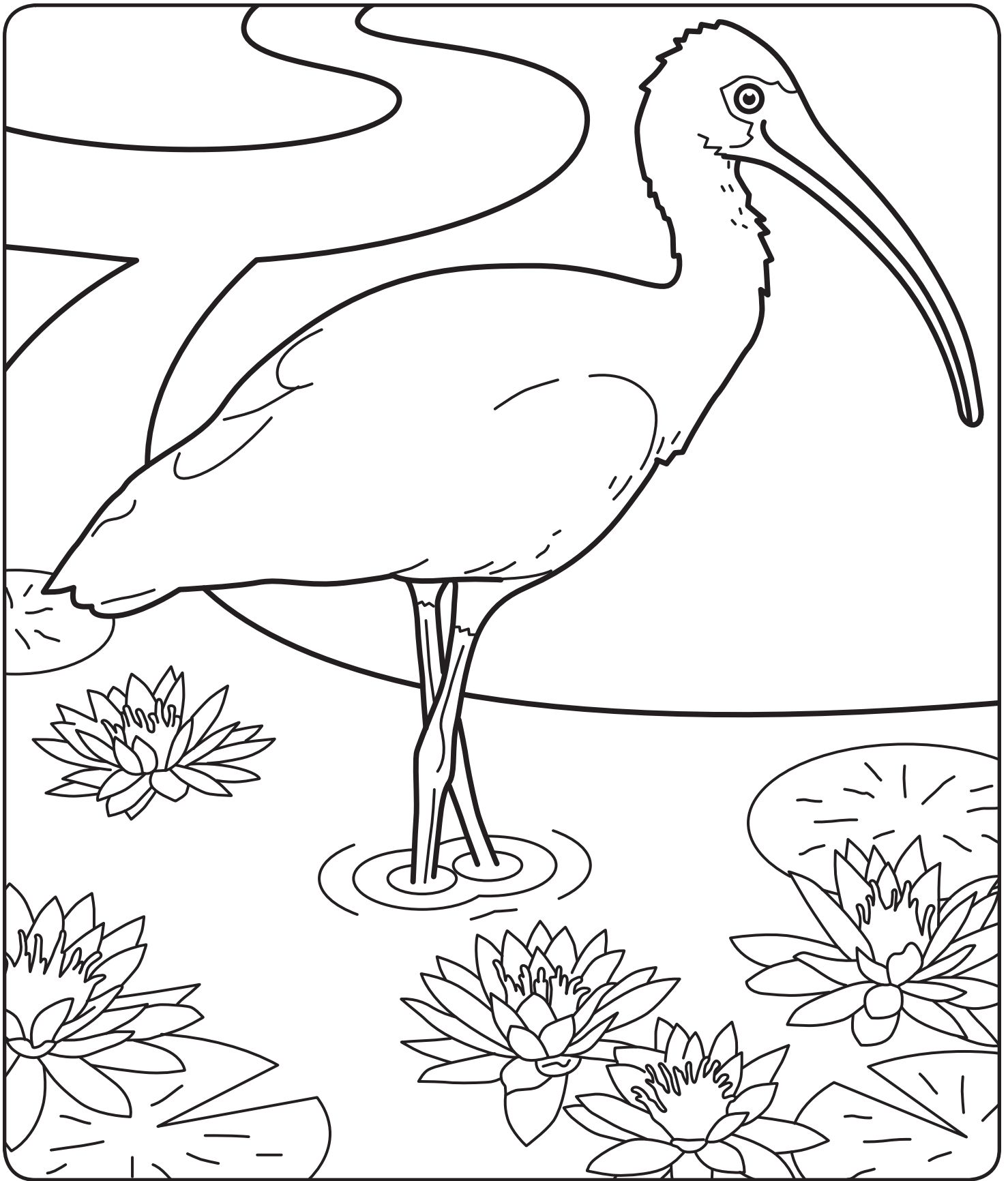
From dragonflies to butterflies, there are different insects that live in the river's marsh. All of these insects depend on many plants, and the plants need the river to live and grow.



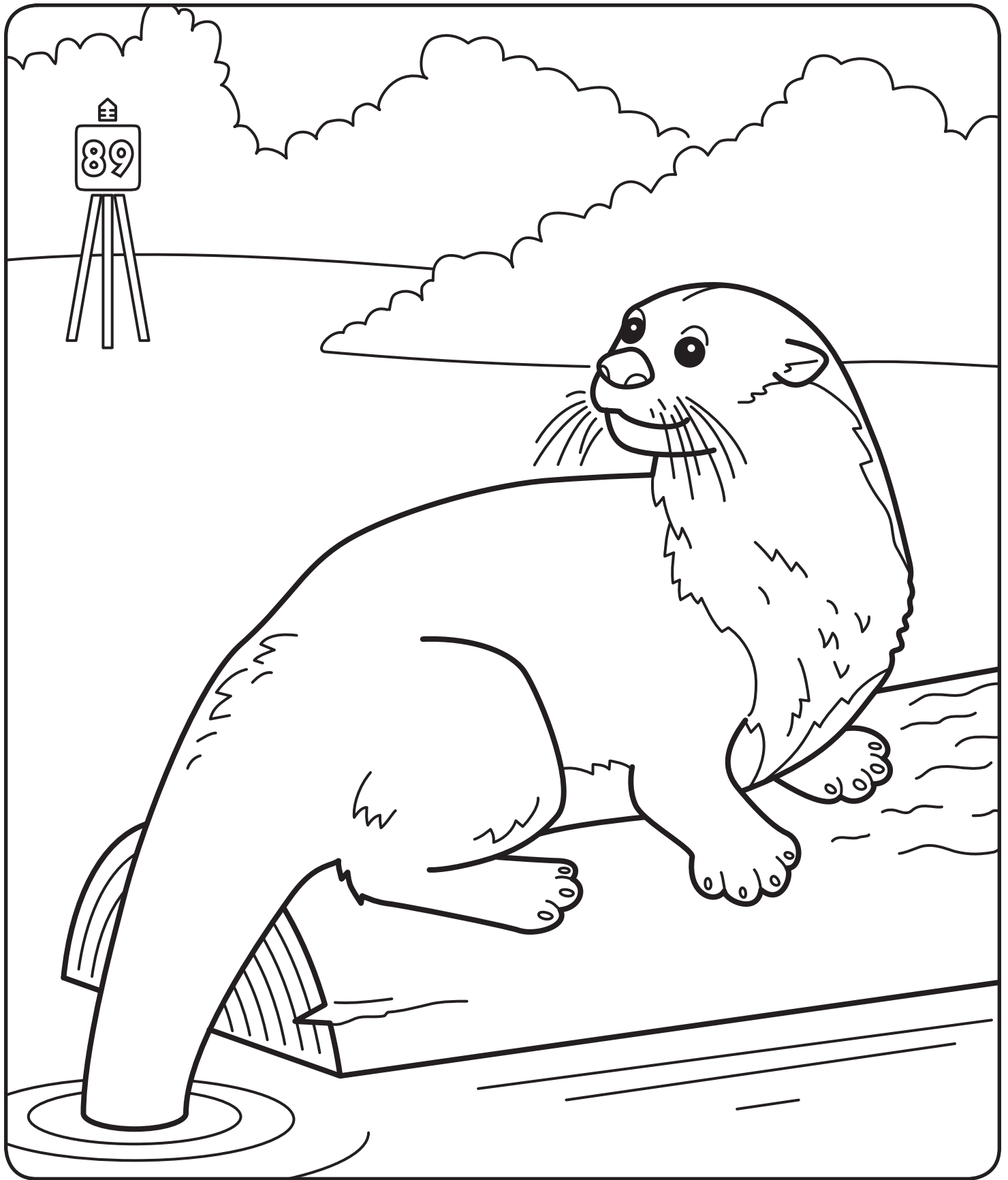
As the St. Johns River flows north, it becomes wider. Around here, you never know who might pop up!



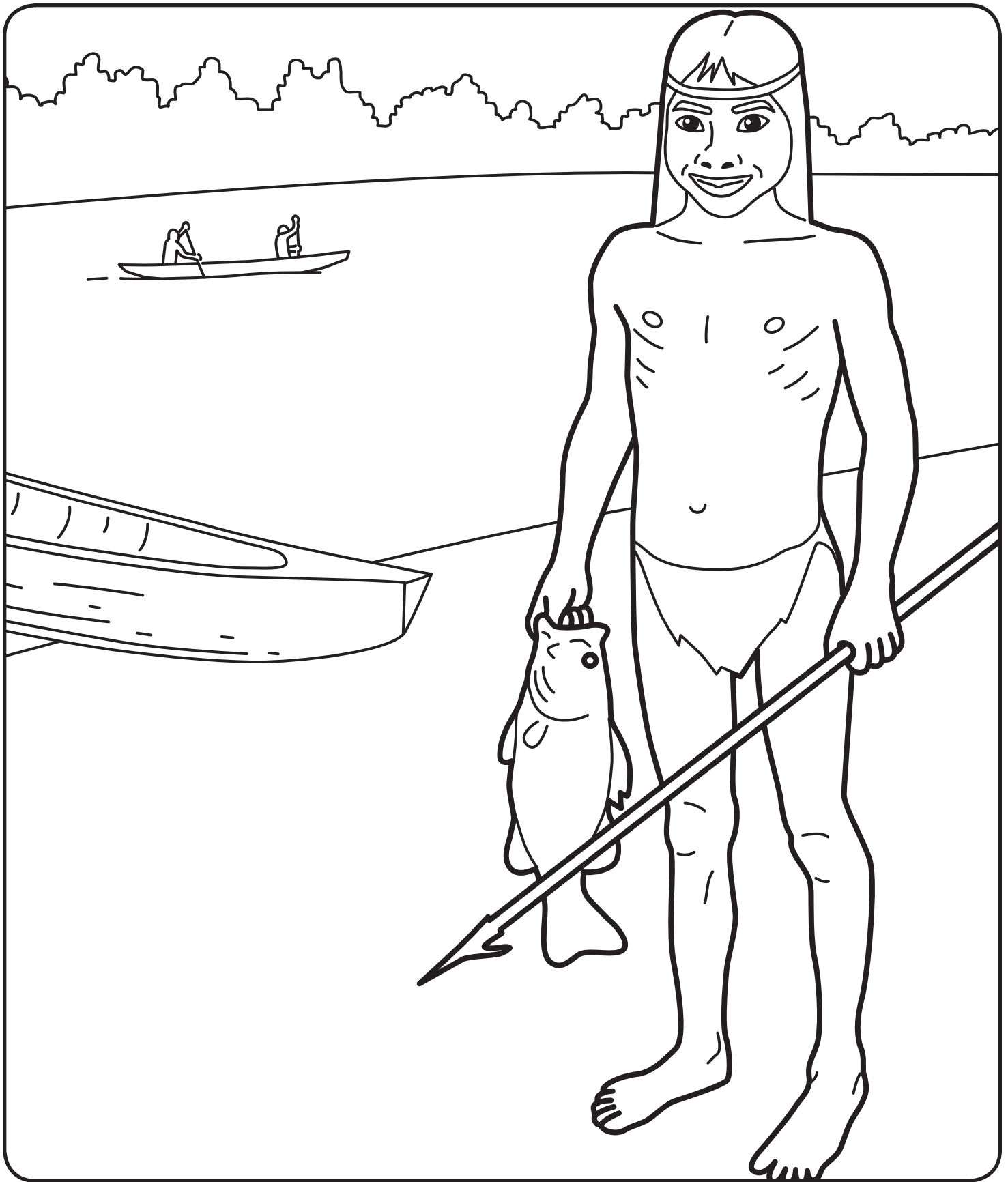
Water-skiing is a fun way to get some exercise on the St. Johns River. A good place to ski is near Sanford, where the river is very wide and looks like a lake.



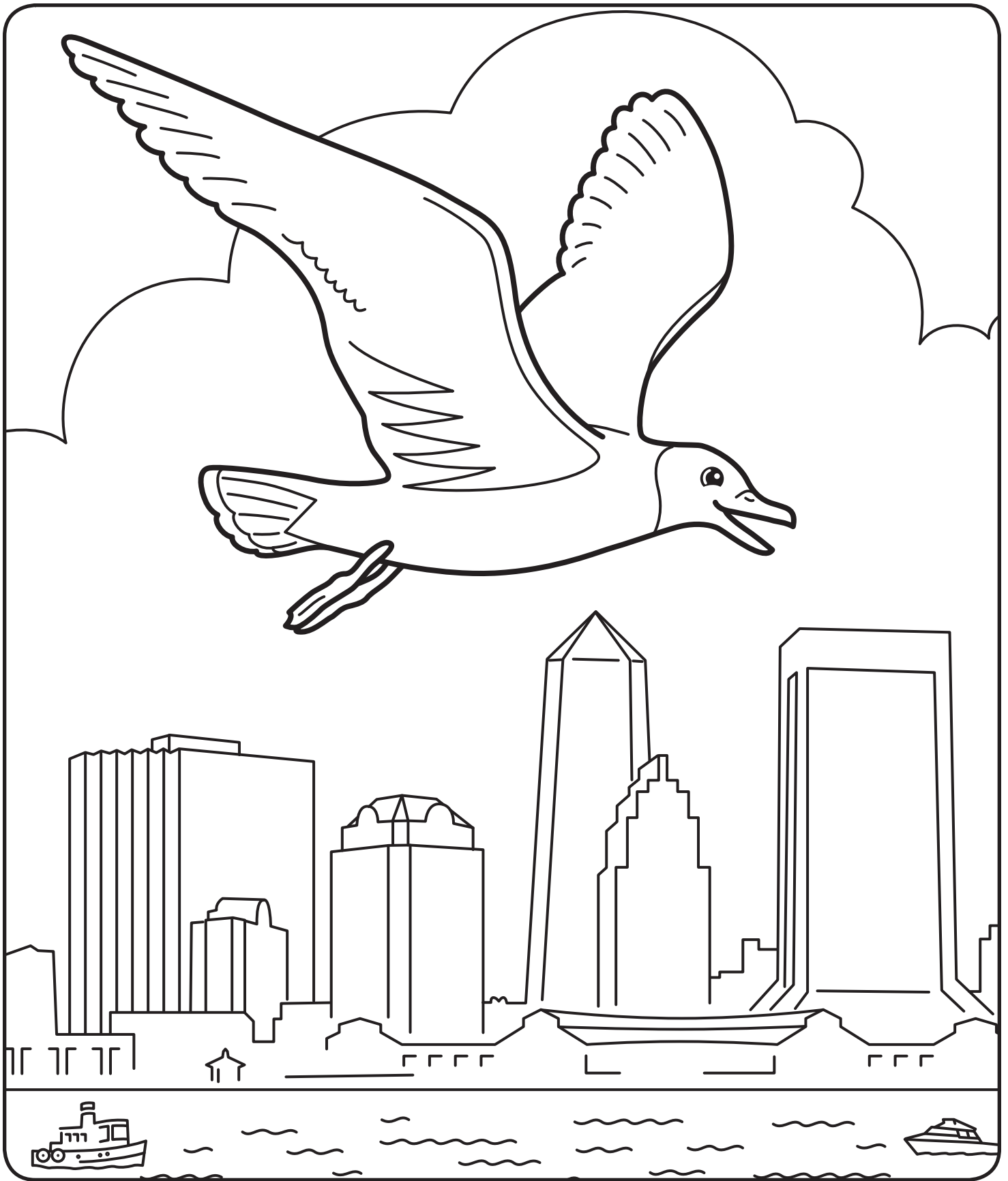
A white ibis wades in one of the many small creeks that flow into the St. Johns River.



The Ocklawaha River flows into the St. Johns River near Lake George. It's a great place to play. Just ask this North American river otter.

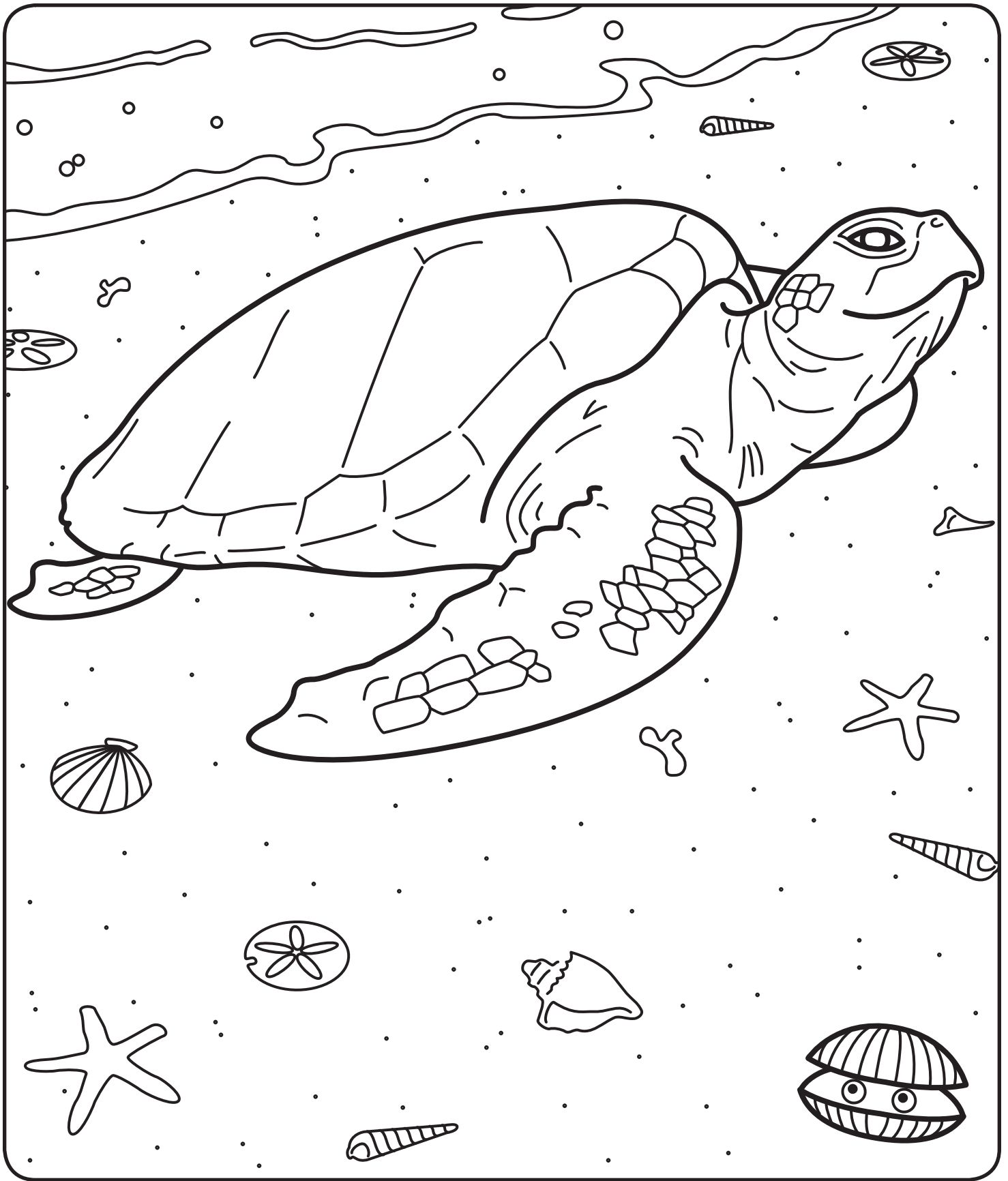


Many years ago, Indians fished in the St. Johns River and hunted along the banks. The river played an important role in their lives.

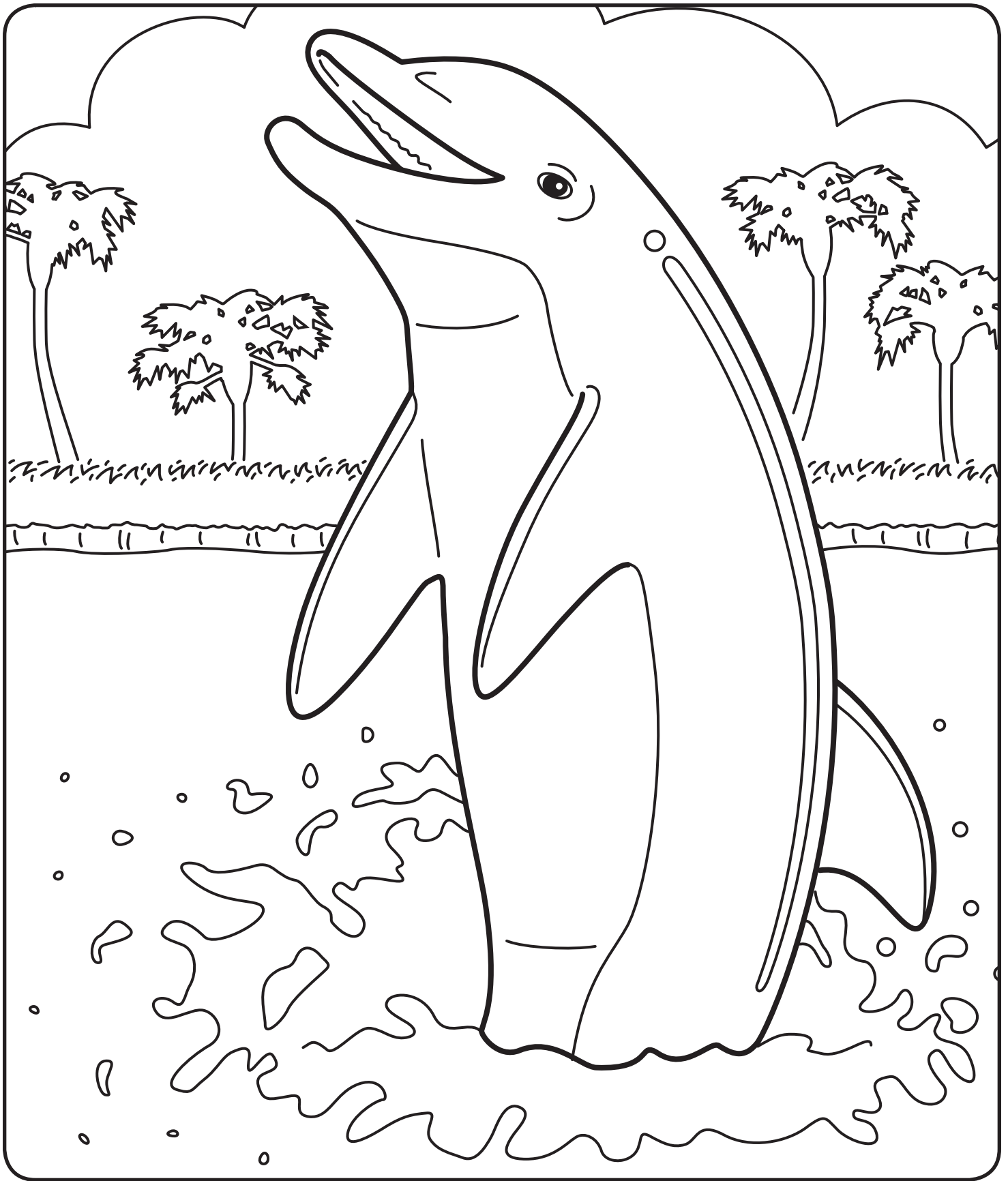


Today, the river flows by towns and cities. Palatka, Green Cove Springs and Jacksonville are on the St. Johns River.





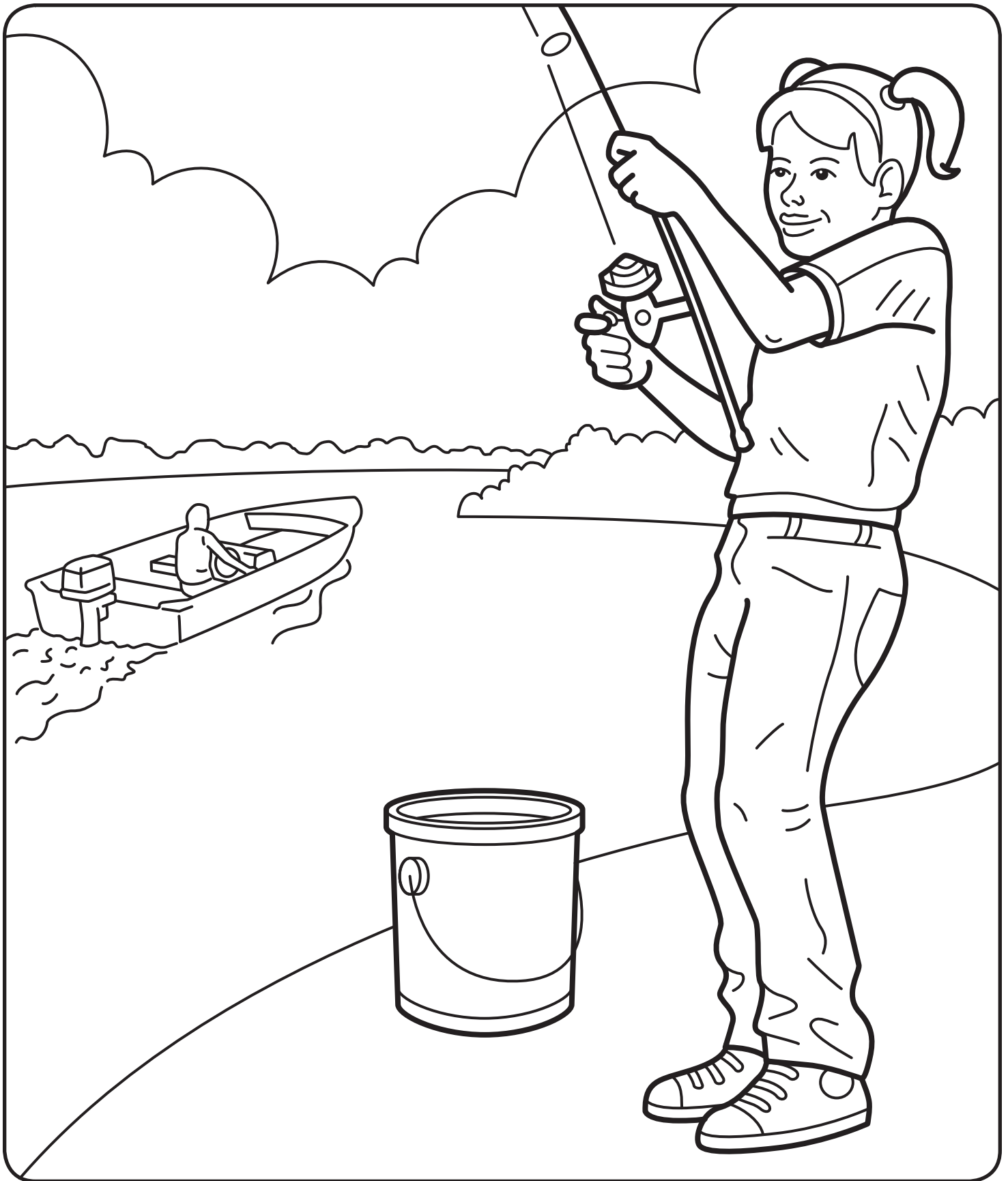
The St. Johns River empties into the Atlantic Ocean at Mayport. This area is called the "mouth" of the river. You would find both freshwater and saltwater animals here.



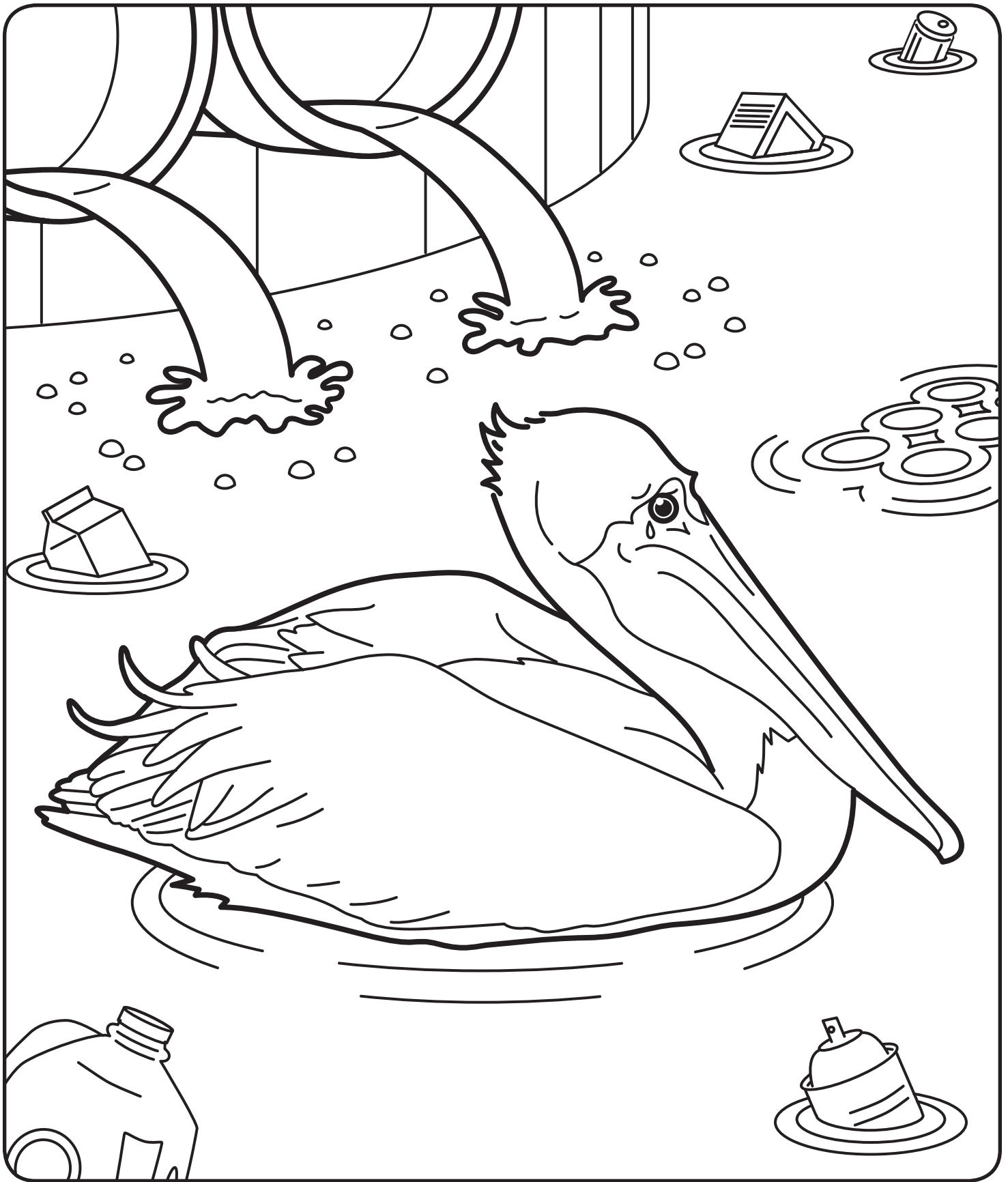
Water from the ocean flows into the St. Johns River. The place where the ocean tide meets the river is called an estuary. Dolphins like to come here to play and look for food.



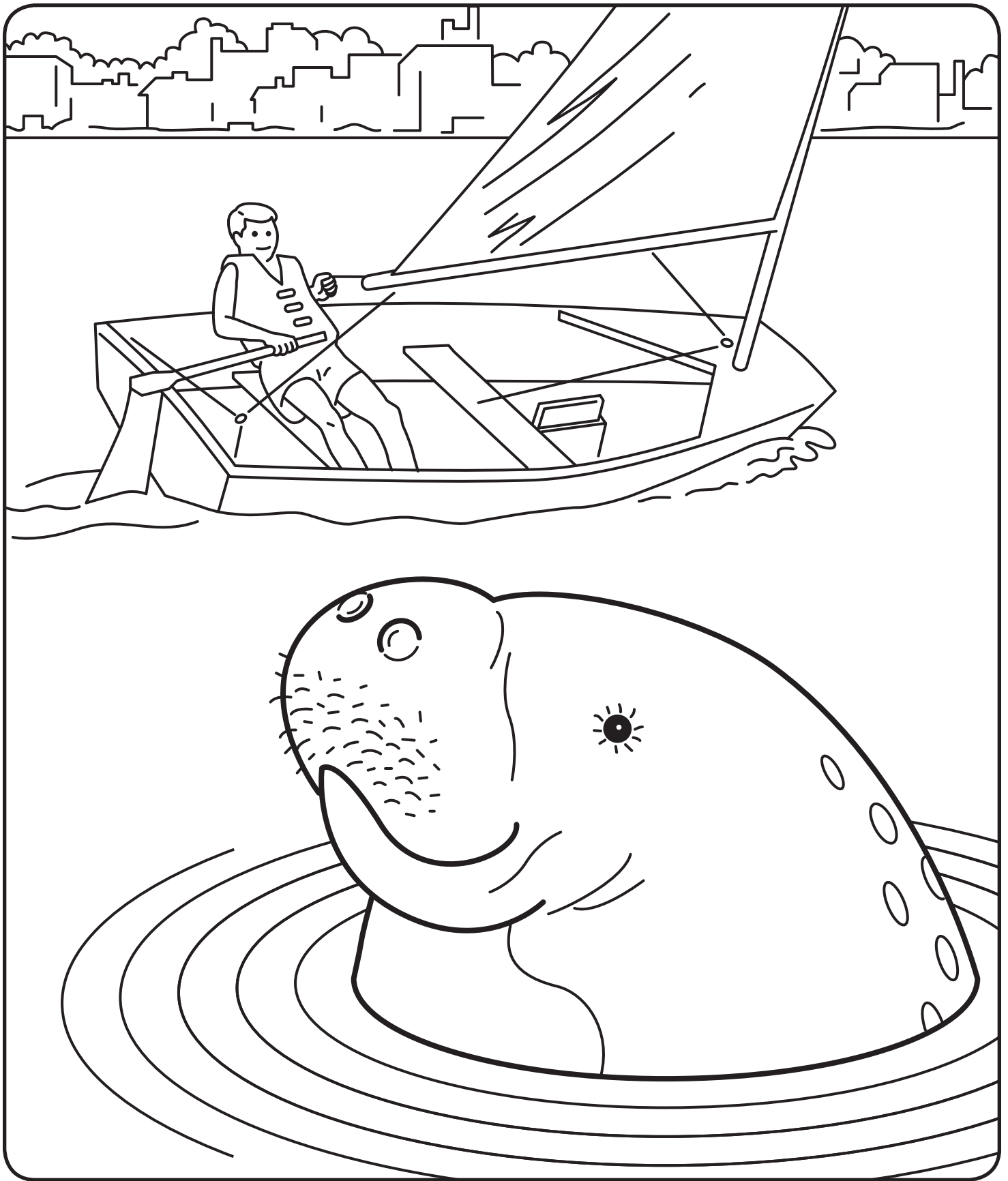
There are many ways to make a living on the St. Johns River. For some of us, like the great blue heron, catching fish is work.



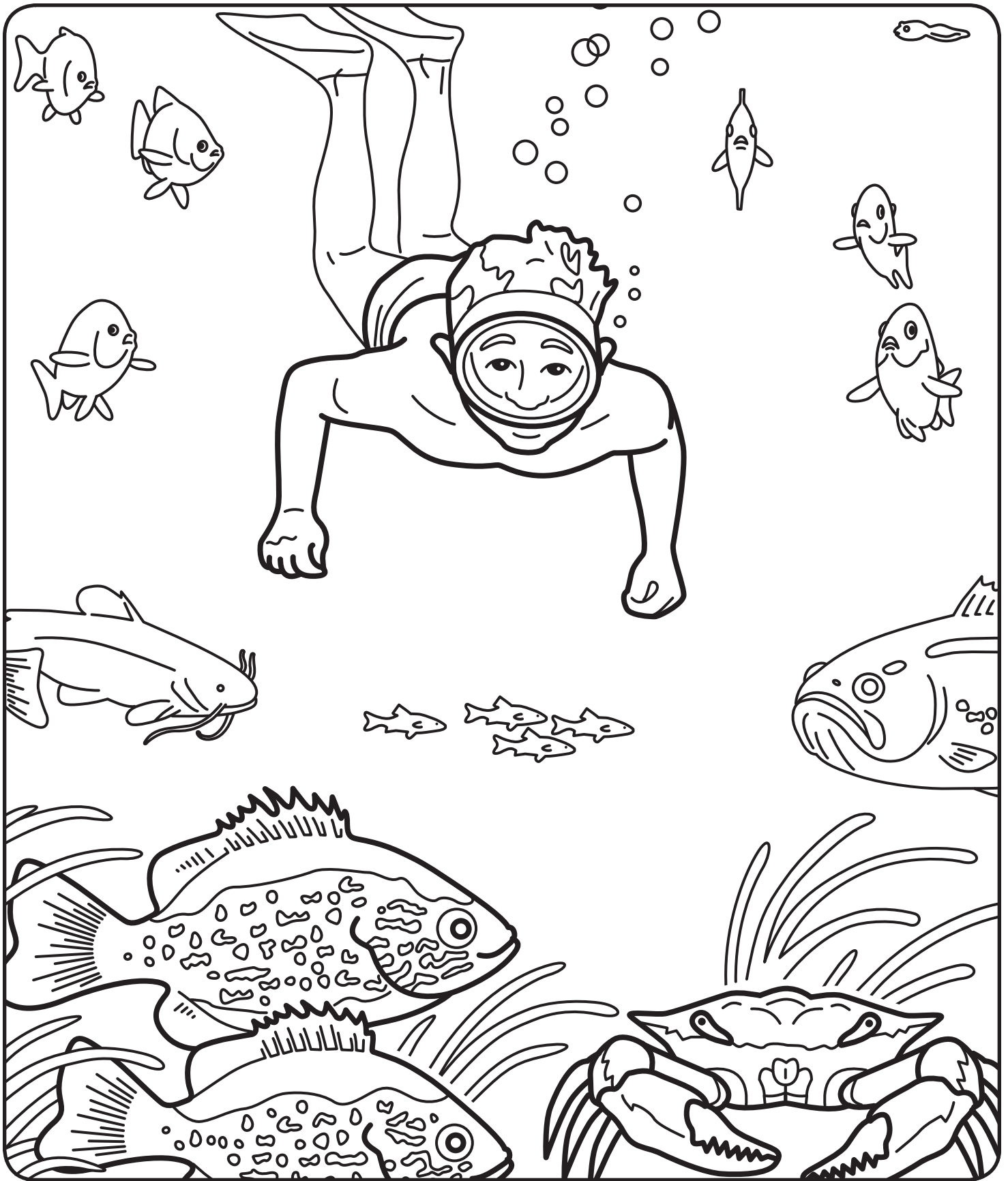
For others, catching fish is just for fun. There are all sorts of ways to enjoy the St. Johns River. What would be the best way for you to have fun on the river?



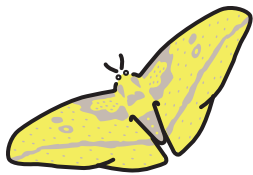
The river becomes dirty when we throw trash in it and pollute it with chemicals or fertilizers. This can cause plants and animals to get sick and die.



The river belongs to everyone. We must each take care of it for the future.  
You can help.



There are many exciting places on the St. Johns River to explore. By working together, we can keep it clean so that we will always be able to enjoy it.



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Visit us on the Internet at [www.sjrwmd.com](http://www.sjrwmd.com).

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