

Spring

Kenkwite

ACTIVITY BOOK

April's Moon

APRIL 14-28TH

SUCKER MOON
Nmebin Giizis

Explore, Observe, Discover

SALAMANDERS, OWLS
AND SOLAR ECLIPSE

and more!

WYE
MARSH

I PLEDGE TO:

Explore Nature
Near and Far

Ask Questions
Big and Small

Respect and Replace
All That I Find

Put things back where you found them.
Watch wildlife from a distance.
Take only pictures and memories.

WETLANDS

Wetlands in Ojibwe:
Mashkiig

What is a Wetland?

Wetlands can be found all over the planet. Wetlands occur wherever water meets land. Some of these unique habitats are known as mangroves, peatlands, rivers, lakes, deltas, floodplains, flooded forests, and of course marshes.

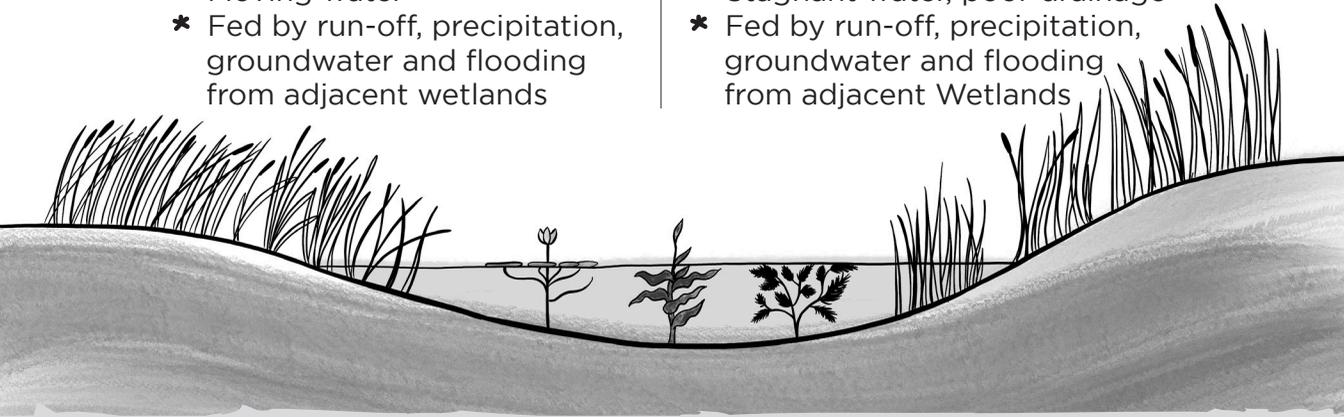
MARSH VS SWAMP

Marsh:

- * Permanent system
- * No/few trees
- * Mineral soil
- * Moving water
- * Fed by run-off, precipitation, groundwater and flooding from adjacent wetlands

Swamp:

- * Seasonal or permanent system
- * Treed or shrubby
- * Mineral soil
- * Stagnant water, poor drainage
- * Fed by run-off, precipitation, groundwater and flooding from adjacent Wetlands



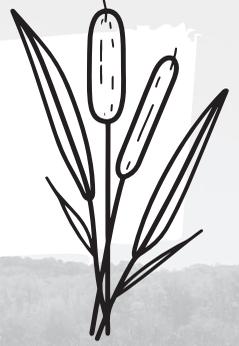
WETLAND SUPERPOWER: CARBON SINK

Wetland plants absorb carbon dioxide as they grow. When they die instead of decomposing and releasing that carbon back into the atmosphere, the plant sinks to the bottom of the Wetland where it can't fully decompose. Here the partially decomposed plant matter and it's carbon is stored for hundreds or even thousands of years!

EXPLORE THE BOARDWALK

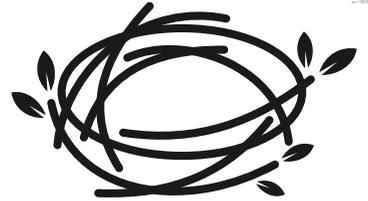


How tall are the cattail leaves and what colour are their flowers?

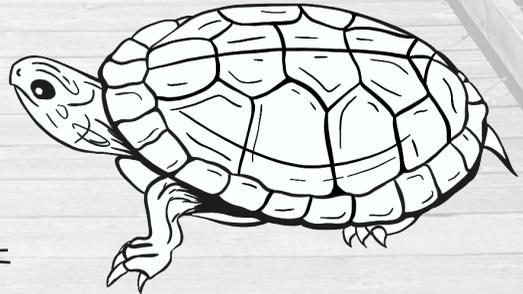


Can you find a water lily rhizome? what does it remind you of? what colour are the leaves growing beneath the water and why aren't they green?

The tall pole has an osprey nest on it.
What are they busy doing today?
How many can you see? Why would they chose to make a nest over the water?



Turtles nest in the spring. How many nests can you find? Why are turtles threatened? Have you learned how to help a snapping turtle cross the road?



SPRING SCAVENGER HUNT

A Sprout



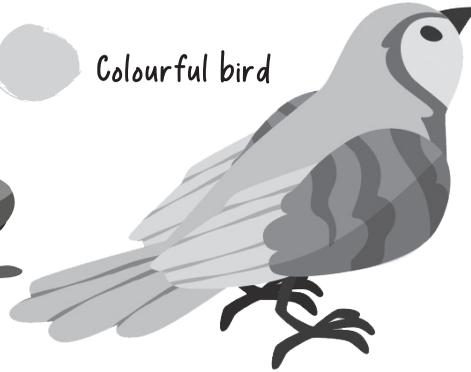
Breeze on face



A Frog



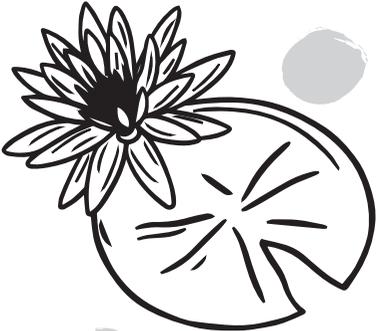
Colourful bird



Bark to smell



Lilly Pad



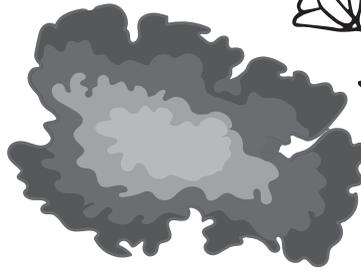
Dripping/trickling water



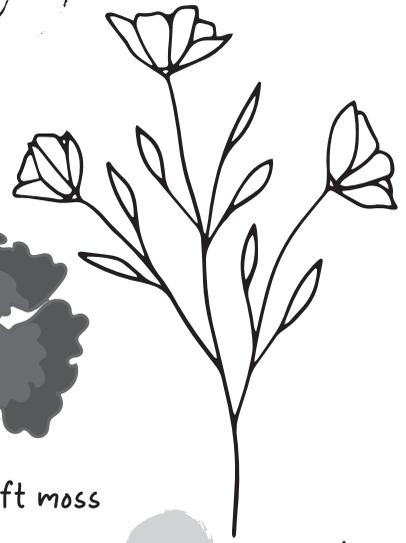
Mud to squish



Soft moss



Opening bud

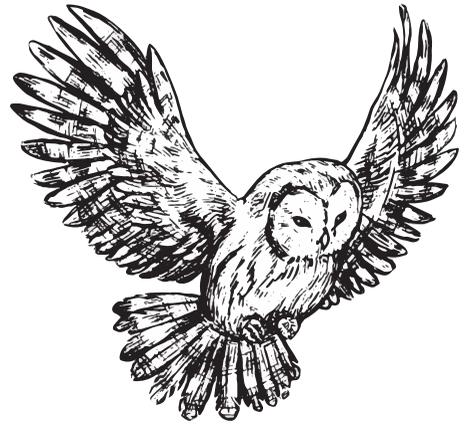


GET NOCTURNAL: OWLS

Barred Owl

Strix varia

- * Breast markings go abruptly from horizontal to vertical
- * Dark Brown eyes
- * Barred Owls are Black, Brown, White and Yellow
- * Found mostly in dense thick woods



Barred Owls hunt from a perch, where they sit and wait, scanning and listening for prey, and then silently swoop down when they pinpoint their meal

Hoot Pattern:
WHO COOKS FOR YOU
WHO COOKS FOR Y'ALL

Owl in Ojibwe:
Gookooko'oo



Great Horned Owl

Bubo virginianus

French - Grand duc d'Amérique

Michif - Ybou a korn

- * Horizontal bars on belly and 'ear' tufts
- * Yellow Eyes
- * Great Horned Owls are Brown, Gray, Red and Yellow
- * Found in practically all habitats in North America

Great Horned Owls Say:

WHO'S AWAKE?
ME TOO

Why is Becker living at
Wye Marsh?

When did Becker
hatch?



BECKER



PHASES OF THE MOON

What Are the Moon's Phases?

The different shapes of the Moon that we see at different times of the month are called the Moon's phases. The Moon's appearance changes throughout the month.



Waning
Crescent

Third
Quarter

Waning
Gibbous

Full

Waxing
Gibbous

First
Quarter

Waxing
Crescent

- * The moon doesn't shine on its own, it reflects the light from the sun
- * Half of the moon is always lit but we don't always see the same fraction of the moon because the position of the moon around the Earth changes
- * Some phases of the moon are visible during the day due to its changing position

TRY IT ZONE

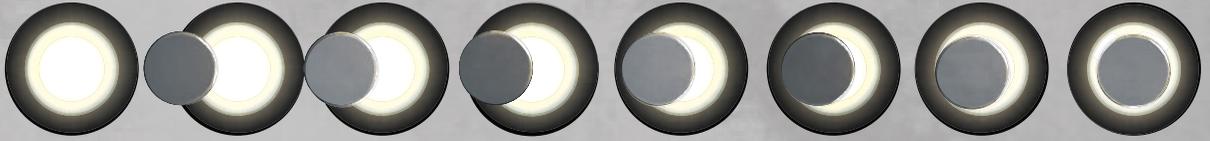
Once a week for the next 4 weeks (or more often) go to the same spot, at the same time, and draw the moon, the horizon (and any trees to reference the moon's location in the sky) and any other special objects, (for example a bright star near the moon).



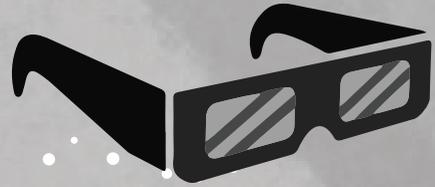
Adult tip: The moon rises about 50 min later every day so we suggest consulting a weather app to find the most convenient moon-rising schedule for your youth, shorten your observation interval if needed.

SOLAR ECLIPSE

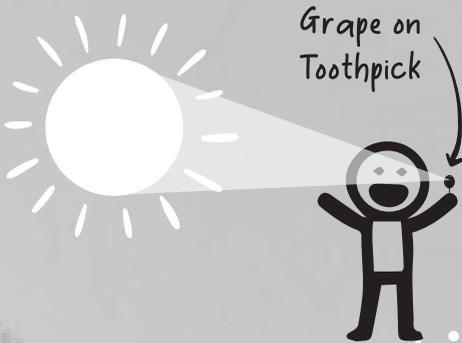
A solar eclipse happens when the Moon passes between the Earth and the Sun.
From Earth, you see the Moon is blocking out the light from the Sun.



View the Sun through eclipse glasses or a handheld solar viewer during the partial eclipse phases. Safety First!



- * You will need a grape to be the moon. An orange or balloon to represent Earth (Draw Canada on it and an 'X' for home).
- * Now go outside and using the sun to cast a shadow on the balloon with the grape, block out where you marked home on your Earth.



In the experiment, the grape represents the Moon, moving across the sun to create your own solar eclipse.

Books for
Inspiration



Many Moons by James Thurber

Moon! Earth's Best Friend by Stacy McAnulty



THOUGHTS FOR YOUR HIKE

GO FOR A 'LOOKING UP' WALK.

Walking slowly so you don't trip, look up for patterns and borders, letters, changes in colour or texture, homes, pathways and signs of growth and decay.

HIDING PLACES

While you hike try to find as many hiding places as you can. A place for you, or a bird or a toad or an otter!

SALAMANDERS

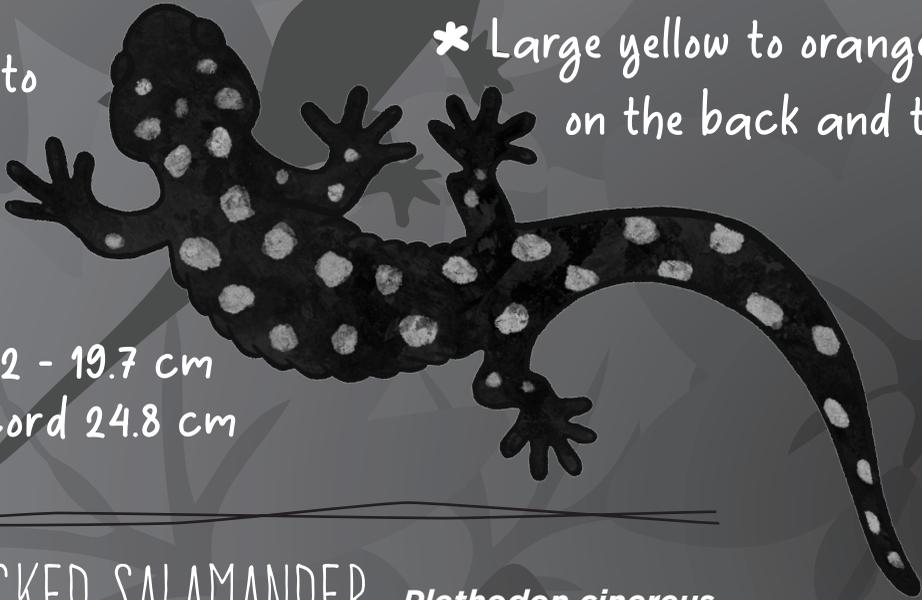
Salamander in Ojibwe
Dawagomek

SPOTTED SALAMANDER *Ambystoma Maculatum*

* Black to
blueish
Body

* Large yellow to orange spots
on the back and tail

* 11.2 - 19.7 cm
Record 24.8 cm



RED-BACKED SALAMANDER *Plethodon cinereus*

Redback Phase

* Distinct red to brown
stripe down back

* Sides dark
grey

* Belly mottled
with grey

* 5.7-10 cm;
Record 12.7 cm

* Small lungless
salamander



Leadback Phase

* Light grey to black
stripe down back and
is difficult to see

EPHEMERAL POOLS

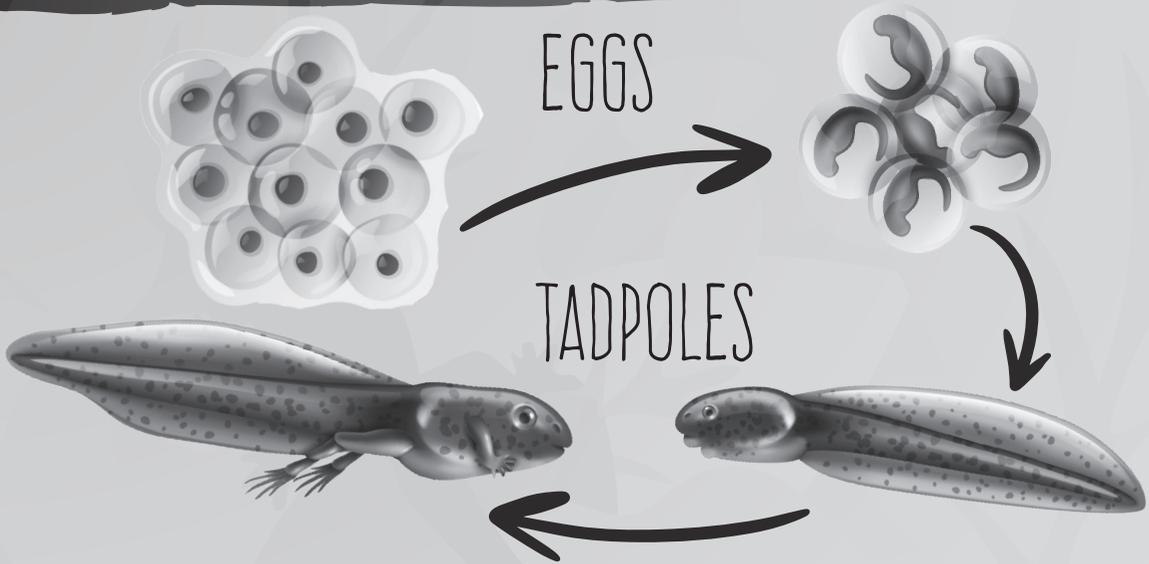
In Ojibwe

Toad(s) - Babiigomagkii

Green Frog - Ozhaawashko-magkii

A seasonal pool of water, also known as vernal pools, these are a type of spring wetland that are usually devoid of fish. This allows a safer developmental time for amphibian and insect species.

These pools dry up as summer approaches so the benefit of lower competition and fewer predators is balanced by the impending deadline that a tadpole or larva must be transformed by!



Thank you Nature Canada for your sponsorship on educating young minds.

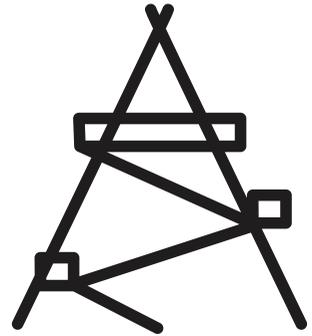


ART FROM A NEW PERSPECTIVE

Soar like a bird. Draw or map the view from the tower.

What do things look like from the top?

You can draw the entire view or pick a smaller spot for more detail.



How does this change in perspective change the shape of everyday objects?

What do the shadows look like?



TIME TO GET QUIET

FIND A TREE, CLIMB IT, HUG IT, SIT WITH IT.

Listen to
your tree.

Observe life
on your tree.

Feel it's
different
textures

How does
it smell?

Who is
hiding in the
bark?

Notice
the way the
leaves grow.

Who uses the
branches and
leaves?

HOW DOES BEING WITH YOUR TREE MAKE YOU FEEL?



WHOSE FEET ARE THESE?

DANDELION

By: Nicolette Lennert
Dandelion fluff
Floats on a breeze
Tickles my nose
And makes me sneeze
Some see a wish
Some see a weed
Some see a medicine
For those in need

The page features two large, stylized dandelion illustrations in a light grey color. One is on the left and one is on the right, both with long stems and circular heads. Numerous smaller dandelion seeds are scattered throughout the background, appearing to float in the air.