

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Endangered Species

Coloring and Activity Book



Fine-lined pocketbook

Some people think this southeastern animal looks like a woman's handbag. It lives on the bottom of rivers, where it filters tiny food particles from the water.



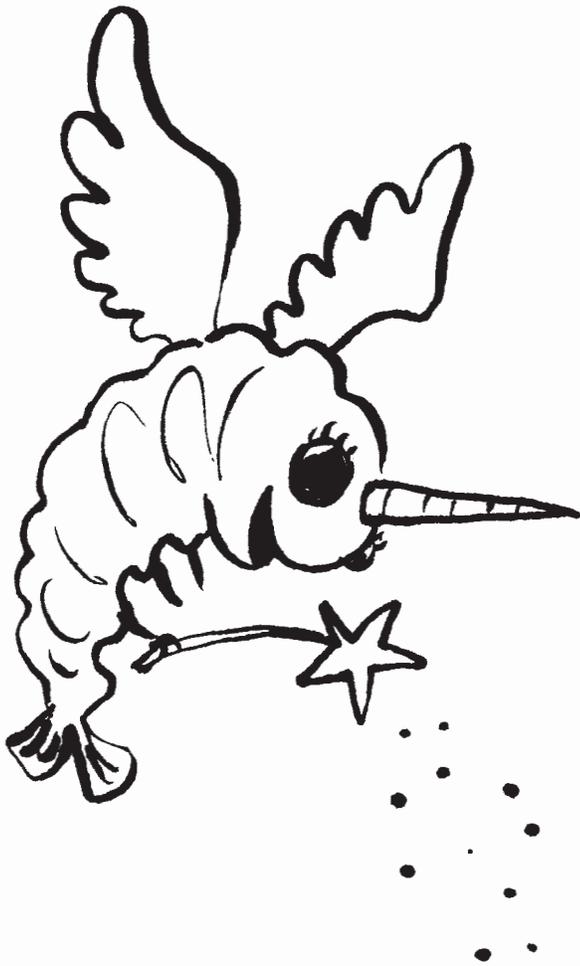
American burying beetle

This colorful beetle grows to about an inch and a half long and was once found throughout America. It helps to clean up dead animals by burying them as food for its young. Have you ever seen one in your neighborhood?



Longhorn fairy shrimp

When winter rains fill seasonal wetlands in California, these tiny animals hatch from eggs laid the last time the pools were full. They grow quickly to adulthood and lay eggs for the next rainy season before the wetlands dry out in the summer.



Black Warrior waterdog

This aquatic salamander gets its name from the northern Alabama river where it lives. It depends on clean, free-flowing streams. Do you think that it barks?



Parachute penstemon

No, this wildflower doesn't jump out of airplanes. Its name comes from Parachute, Colorado, close to where it grows. Some people call it the beardtongue penstemon.



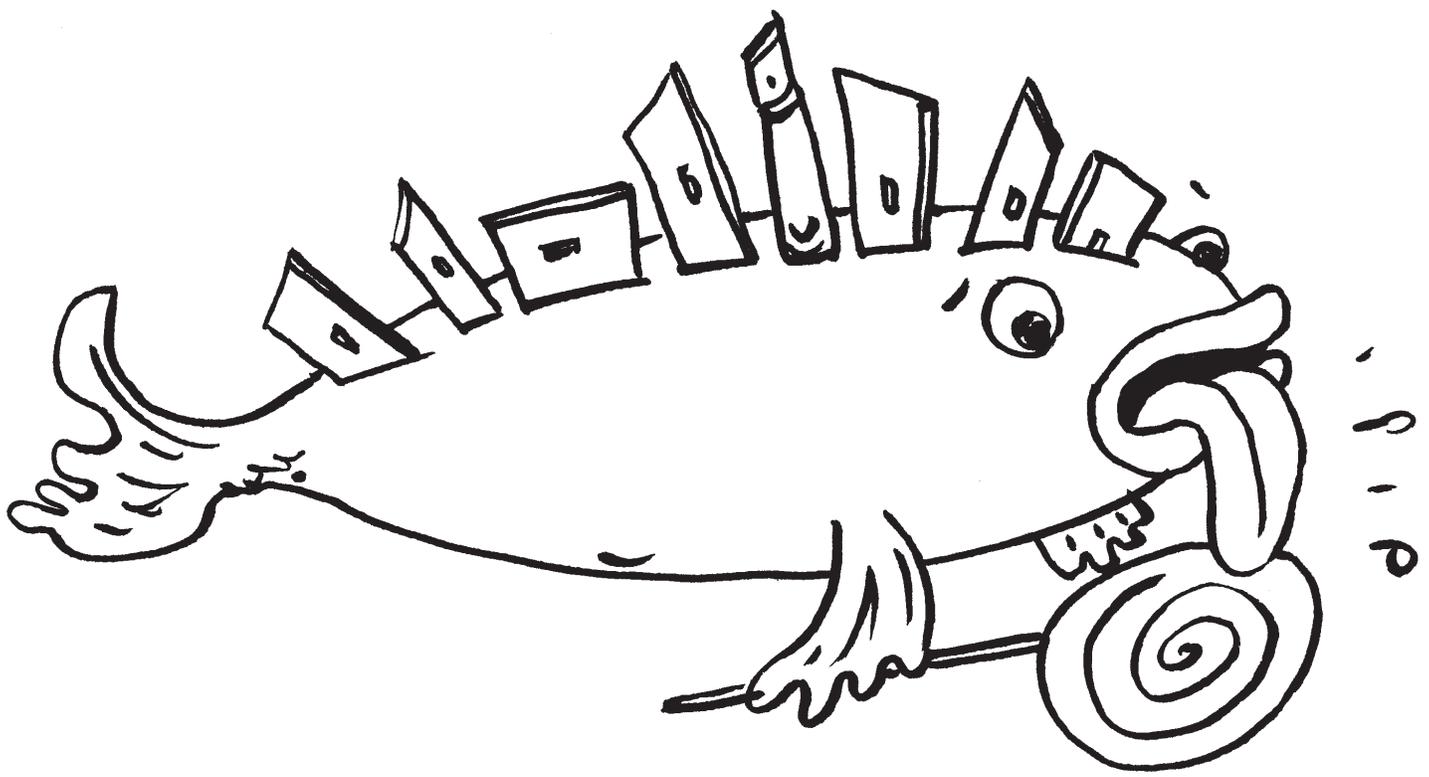
Unarmored three-spine stickleback

The spines on the back of this small fish and its lack of scales give this species its unusual name. It is found only in freshwater streams of southern California.



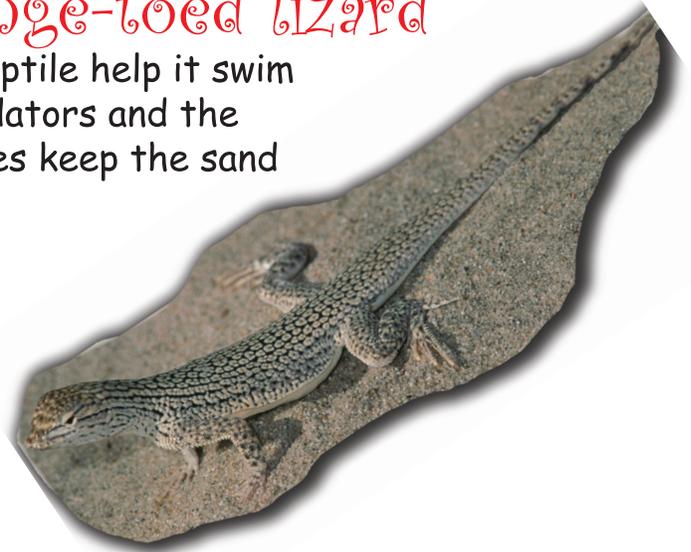
Razorback sucker

The sharp-edged hump on the back of this large fish helps steer it through the strong currents of the Colorado River. Dams have turned most of its habitat into a series of lakes, where it does not do as well. How do you think it eats its food?



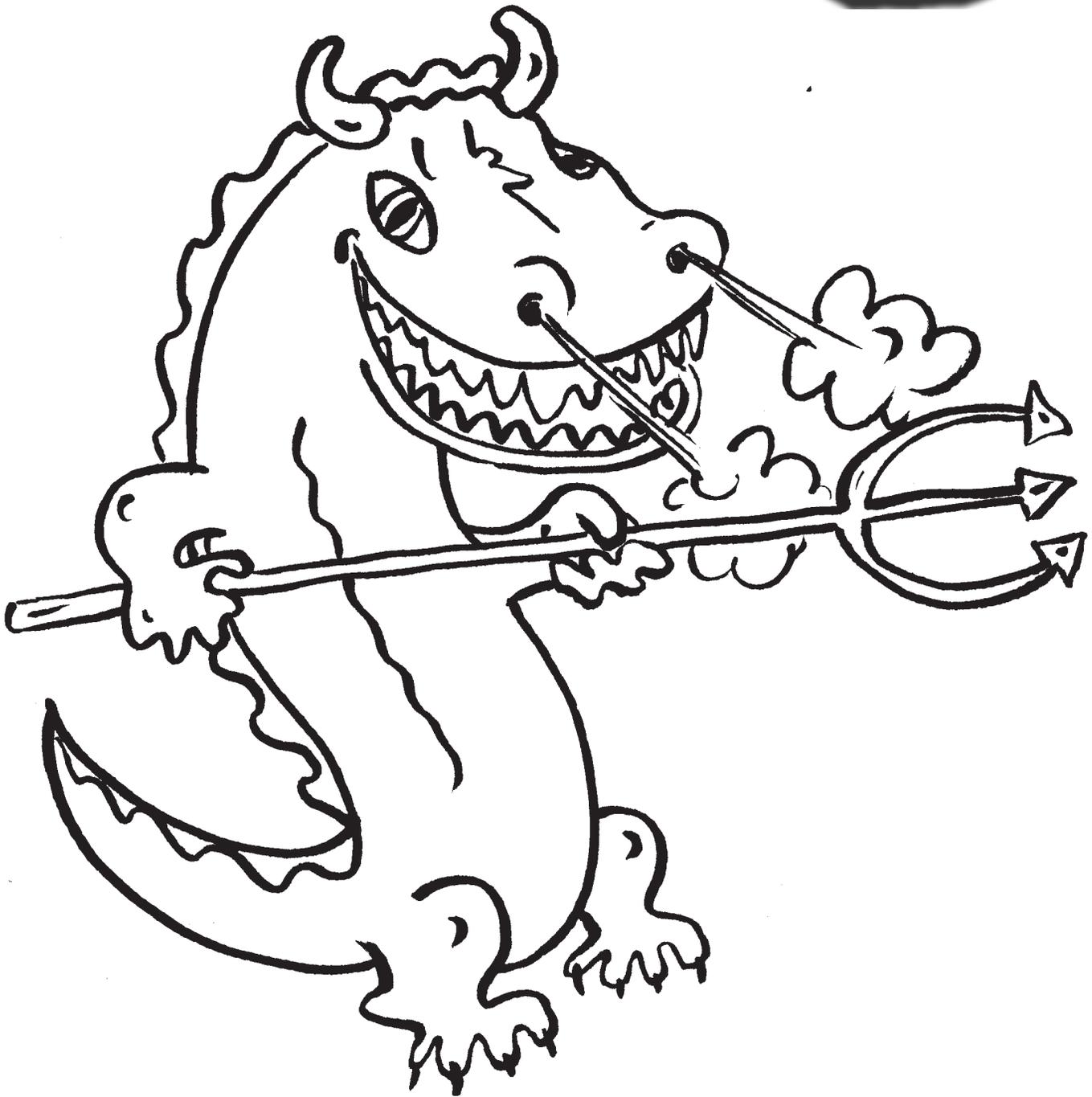
Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard

The fringes on the toes of this reptile help it swim through loose sand to escape predators and the intense desert heat. Special scales keep the sand out of its ears and nose.



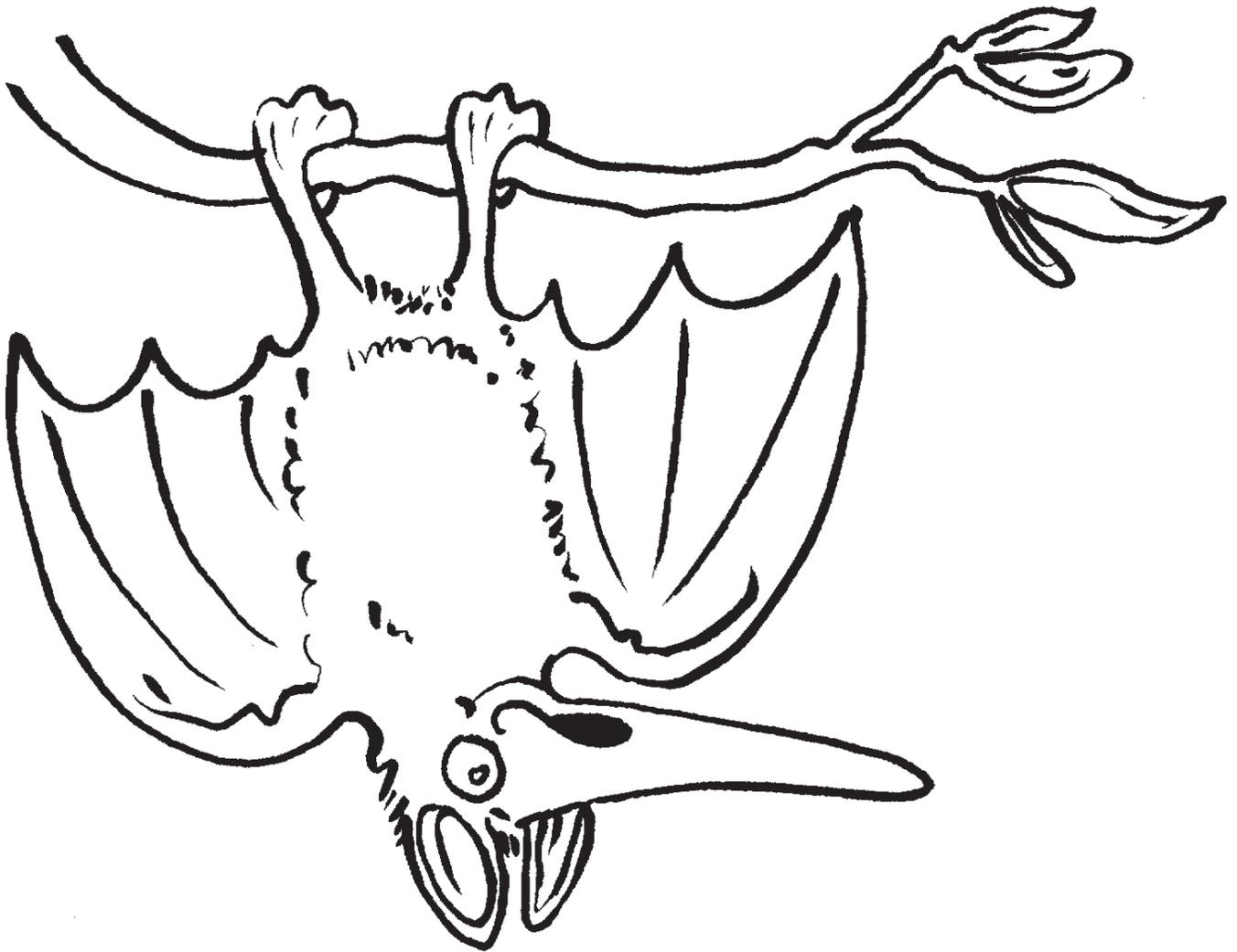
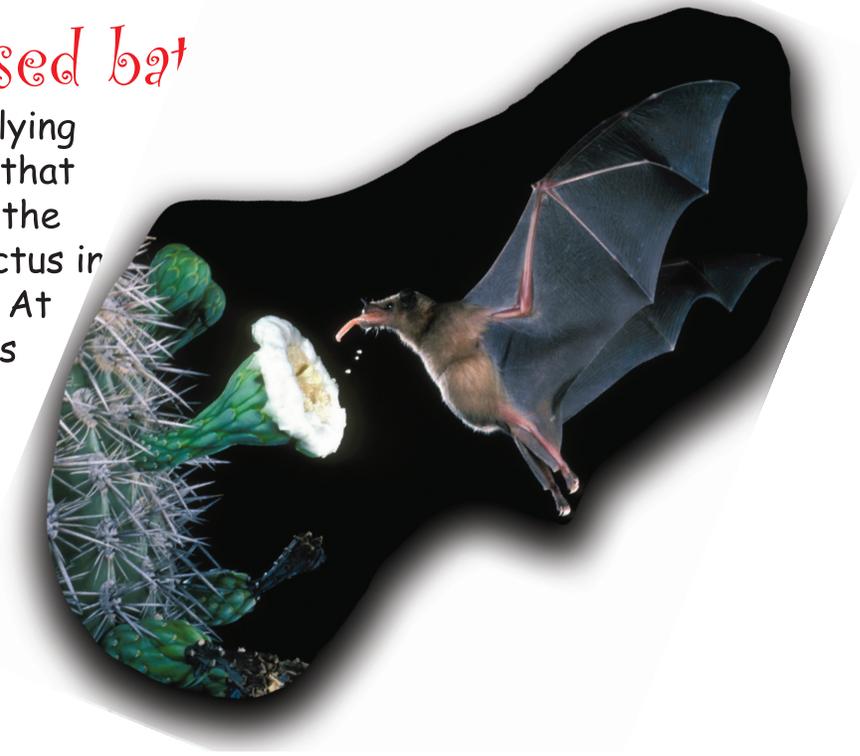
Ozark hellbender

Did you know that this harmless aquatic creature, one of the world's largest salamanders, can grow up to about two feet long? It gets its name from the region where it lives and from its strange appearance.



Lesser long-nosed bat

Besides a long nose, this flying mammal has a long tongue that it uses to sip nectar from the flowers of the saguaro cactus in the American Southwest. At the same time, it pollinates the flowers.



Orangefoot pimpleback

One way to identify this animal is by its pimply shell. It filters its food from river water and is harmed by water pollution.



Spectacled eider

The feathered "patches" around the eyes of this large sea duck look to some people like eyeglasses or spectacles. It lives only in cold arctic habitats.



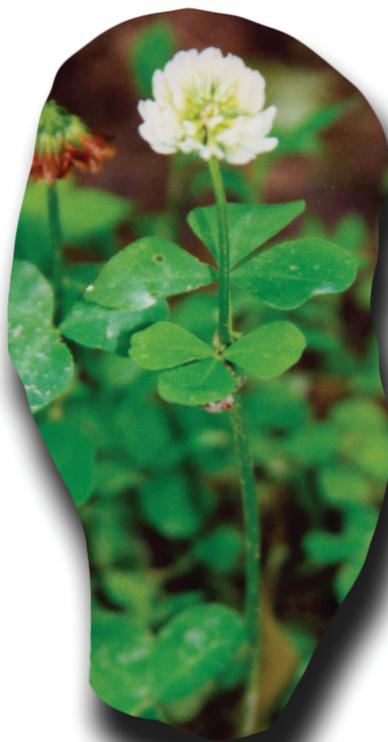
Green pitcher plant

Ever eat a bug? This plant has a tube or pitcher-shaped stem that contains a liquid that attracts insects. Once the insects are inside, they become trapped. The plant then slowly digests them.



Running buffalo clover

Many years ago, buffalo or bison grazed on these small plants and helped to spread their seeds across a wide area of the eastern United States. The plants also spread by growing "runners" along the ground.





American burying beetle

This colorful beetle grows to about an inch and a half long and was once found throughout the eastern half of North America. It helps to keep our environment clean by burying dead animals, which it uses as food for its young.



Black Warrior waterdog

This aquatic salamander gets its name from the northern Alabama river where it lives. It depends on clean, free-flowing stream. Do you think it barks?



Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard

The fringes on the toes of this reptile help it swim through loose sand to escape predators and the intense desert heat. Special scales keep the sand out of its ears and nose.



Fine-lined pocketbook

Some people think this southeastern animal looks like a woman's handbag. It lives on the bottom of rivers, where it filters tiny food particles from the water.



Green pitcher plant

Ever eat a bug? This plant has a tube or pitcher-shaped leaf that contains a liquid that attracts insects. Once the insects are inside, they become trapped. The plant then slowly digests them.



Lesser long-nosed bat

Besides a long nose, this flying mammal has a long tongue that it uses to sip nectar from the flowers of the saguaro cactus in the American Southwest. At the same time, it pollinates the flowers.



Longhorn fairy shrimp

When winter rains fill seasonal wetlands in California, these tiny animals hatch from eggs laid the last time the pools were full. They grow quickly to adulthood and lay eggs for the next rainy season before the wetlands dry out in the summer.



Orangefoot pimpleback

One way to identify this animal is by its pimply shell. It filters its food from river water and is harmed by water pollution. What kind of habitat do you think it needs?



Ozark hellbender

Did you know that this harmless aquatic creature, one of the world's largest salamanders, can grow up to about two feet long? It gets its name from the region where it lives and from its strange appearance.



Parachute penstemon

No, this wildflower doesn't jump out of airplanes. Its name comes from Parachute, Colorado, close to where it grows. Some people call it the Parachute beardtongue.



Razorback sucker

The sharp-edged hump on the back of this large fish helps steer it through the strong currents of the Colorado River. Dams have turned most of its habitat into a series of lakes, where it does not do as well. How do you think it eats its food?



Running buffalo clover

Many years ago, buffalo or bison grazed on these small plants and helped to spread their seeds across a wide area of the Eastern United States. The plants also spread by growing "runners" along the ground.



Spectacled eider

The feathered "patches" around the eyes of this large sea duck look to some people like eyeglasses or spectacles. It lives only in cold arctic habitats.



Unarmored three-spine stickleback

The spines on the back of this small fish and its lack of scales give this species its unusual name. It's found only in freshwater streams of southern California.



Try to name the **Weird and Wonderful Wildlife**. Write the number of the species next to the name in the space provided. Good luck!

_____ Longhorn fairy shrimp

_____ American burying beetle

_____ Razorback sucker

_____ Unarmored three-spine stickleback

_____ Running buffalo clover

_____ Lesser long-nosed bat

_____ Green pitcher plant

_____ Ozark hellbender

_____ Parachute penstemon

_____ Black warrior waterdog

_____ Fine-lined pocketbook

_____ Orange-foot pimpleback

_____ Coahella Valley fringe-toed lizard

_____ Spectacled eider

Try your hand at drawing this weirdly-named species: **Painted snake coiled forest snail**

Glossary

Aquatic: living in water or found in water. The Black Warrior waterdog is a salamander that lives in a river—Alabama’s Black Warrior River— so it is an *aquatic* species.

Attracts: gets attention. Flowers that smell and have bright colors *attract* insects.

USFWS photo



Candidate species:

a plant or animal that the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service may list in the near future as endangered or threatened. The black warrior waterdog is a *candidate* species.

Digests: changes food into energy. The green pitcher plant *digests* insects, food that gives it energy to grow

American Burying Beetle photo by Doug Backlund©



Endangered: in danger of extinction. Scientists think that the American burying beetle is *endangered* because people have built houses, stores, and offices on the land where the beetle used to live and because chemicals that are used to kill bugs have killed the beetle.

Extinction: the complete disappearance of a species from the earth. Dinosaurs became extinct millions of years ago. The purpose of the Endangered Species Act is to prevent plants and animals from becoming *extinct*.



A dinosaur skeleton in the National Museum of Natural History. Smithsonian Institution photo

Environment: everything that surrounds us including soil, climate, and other living things. A healthy *environment* helps all living things

Filters: holds onto little things but allows water to pass through. In *filtering* water, a mussel inhales water and then acts as a strainer, holding onto to little creatures as food before releasing water.

Free-flowing stream: water that flows smoothly, without being controlled. Clean, *free-flowing streams* are important to many species of fish and wildlife.



A free-flowing stream. U.SFWS photo

Grazed: fed on growing grass or other plants. Cattle and bison *graze* on plants.



Bison grazing. USFWS photo

Habitat: a place where plants or animals live. Good *habitat* provides food and shelter.

Particles: very small pieces. Mussels feed on *particles* of plants and animals that they filter from water.



The Flathead National Forest in Montana provides habitat for fish and wildlife such as cutthroat trout and grizzly bears. U.S. Forest Service photo

Pollinates: moves pollen, the fine powdery substance made by plants, from one flower to another. Plants produce seeds after *pollination*.



Hummingbird pollinating a plant. Grant Lau, U.S. Forest Service photo

Predators: animals that hunt for other animals as food. Hawks and owls are *predators*, hunting for small animals such as mice.

Reptiles: cold-blooded, air-breathing animals such as snakes, lizards, turtles, and alligators. Many *reptiles* lay eggs and have skin covered with scales



Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard photo by Gary Nafis•

Scales: stiff, flat plates that form the skin of some animals.

The Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard has *scales* that protect its ears and nose from sand.

Threatened: likely to become endangered in the near future. Not yet in danger of extinction, the spectacled eider is a *threatened* species.

Water pollution: chemicals or other substances that make water unhealthy. *Water pollution* is a threat to plants and animals that depend on clean water.

Wetlands: areas such as marshes or swamps that tend to be wet or flooded. In California, the eggs of tiny longhorn fairy shrimp depend on winter rains to create the *wetlands* they need to hatch.



California wetlands. Environmental Protection Agency photo



U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Endangered Species Program
4401 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22203
www.fws.gov/endangered/

April 2011

Item: FW 3010

