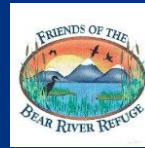


Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge



Junior Ranger Activity Book



Name:

Welcome to Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge



In 1928, the Refuge was established as a National Wildlife Refuge in order to protect important bird species and wetland habitat. Today, the Refuge still works to conserve and protect valuable water and the wildlife that uses it.

The Refuge serves as an important resting, feeding, and nesting area for many different types of migratory and resident bird species. In fact, more than 250 species of birds use the Refuge each year with nearly 70 species using the wetlands as nesting habitat.

How to earn a Junior Ranger Badge:

Ages 5 to 8: Do 5 activities
Ages 9 and Older: Do 8 activities

When you are finished, bring this book back to the Park Ranger at the front desk to take the Junior Ranger pledge and receive your badge!



First Impressions



Find a quiet spot to sit and observe your surroundings.
Write or draw some of the things you notice.

***Hint:** Try this activity outside or near a window.

Make some observations about the habitats around you:

What kinds of plants and animals do you notice?

Are you near water?

What does the habitat smell like?

Bird Match

With over 250 species of birds using the Refuge each year, there are a lot of different types to keep track of. Can you match the bird with its common name?
Draw a line from the bird to its common name.

***Hint:** Take a look at the Exhibit Hall's Bird I.D. Quiz for help.



California Gull

Clark's Grebe

Ring-necked Pheasant

Yellow-headed Blackbird

Mallard Duck

Great Blue Heron

American White Pelican

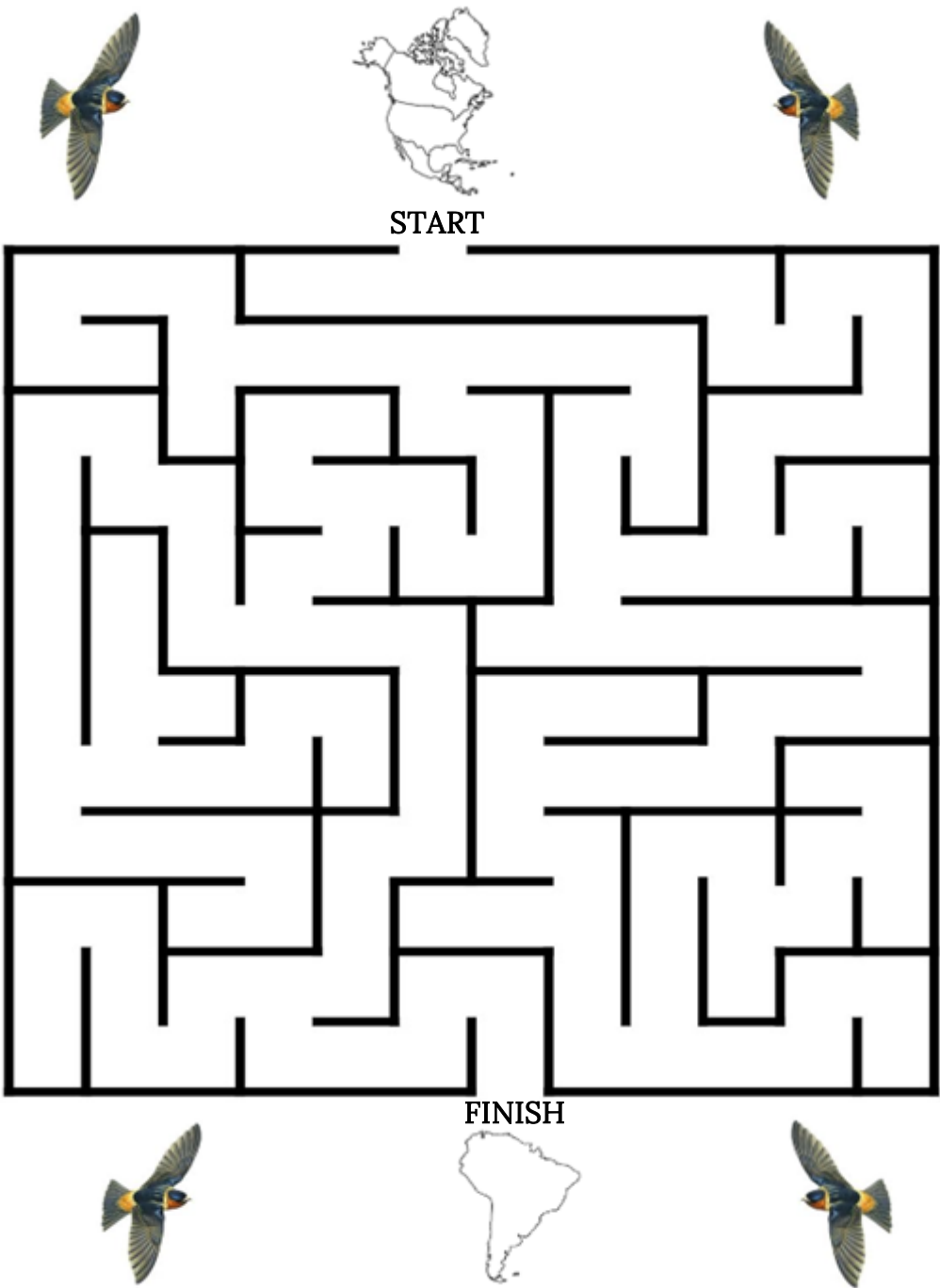
American Avocet

Burrowing Owl



Migration Maze

Help the cliff swallow migrate from its breeding grounds in North America to its winter grounds in South America.



Scavenger Hunt

Can you find these colors:

- ___ Red
- ___ Yellow
- ___ Blue
- ___ Orange
- ___ Green
- ___ Purple

Can you find these shapes:

- ___ Circle
- ___ Triangle
- ___ Rectangle
- ___ Square
- ___ Crescent
- ___ Hexagon

Can you see:

- ___ Birds flying
- ___ A spider web
- ___ Clouds floating by
- ___ An animal eating
- ___ Reflections in the water
- ___ Fish splashing
- ___ A round pebble
- ___ Animal tracks

Can you hear:

- ___ Birds singing
- ___ Buzzing of a bee
- ___ Plants moving in the wind
- ___ Water running in a stream

Can you smell:

- ___ Flowers blooming
- ___ Wet mud
- ___ Fresh air
- ___ Water

What’s Living at the Refuge

There are many different types of plants and animals that live at the Refuge. Depending on the time of year, or season, you may see different things. Take a short walk or look outside and determine what types of creatures live at the Refuge this time of year.

What season of the year is it? _____

How many different types of plants do you see growing? _____

How many different types of animals do you see? _____

Do you think the numbers of plants and animals change depending on the season?
Why do you think that is?

Draw a plant or animal living at the Refuge during this time of year:

Our Feathered Friends

Take a walk or look outside and observe a bird found at the Refuge!

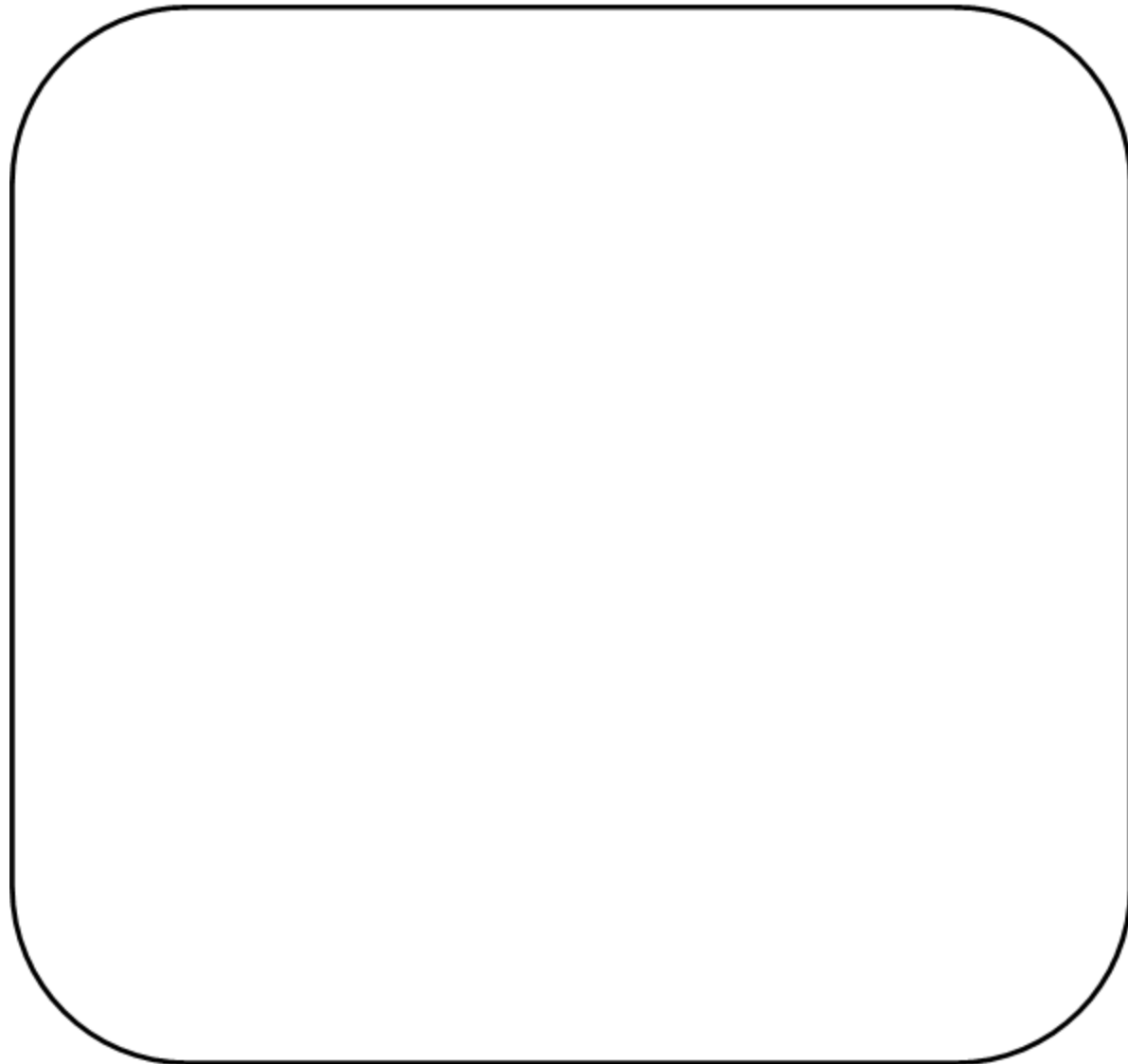


<p>Where did you see the bird? (In a tree, in the water, on the ground...)</p>
<p>What does the bird look like? (What is the shape of the beak, what color is the bird, what do the bird’s feet look like...)</p>
<p>What is the bird doing? (Feeding, nesting, flying, swimming, singing...)</p>
<p>What kind of bird do you think it is?</p>

Draw your Favorite Bird

Did you know that there are over 11,000 species of birds found on Earth! While there are so many types of birds to choose from, think of a special type of bird that means something to you. What do you like about that bird? Draw and describe below.

Hint: If you cannot think of a bird, take a look at the pictures in the Exhibit Hall.



Wonderful Water

Did you know that Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge is one of the largest sources of freshwater in the Great Salt Lake Ecosystem! About 60% of the fresh water found near the lake is at the Refuge demonstrating why so many birds and other animals depend on the Refuge.

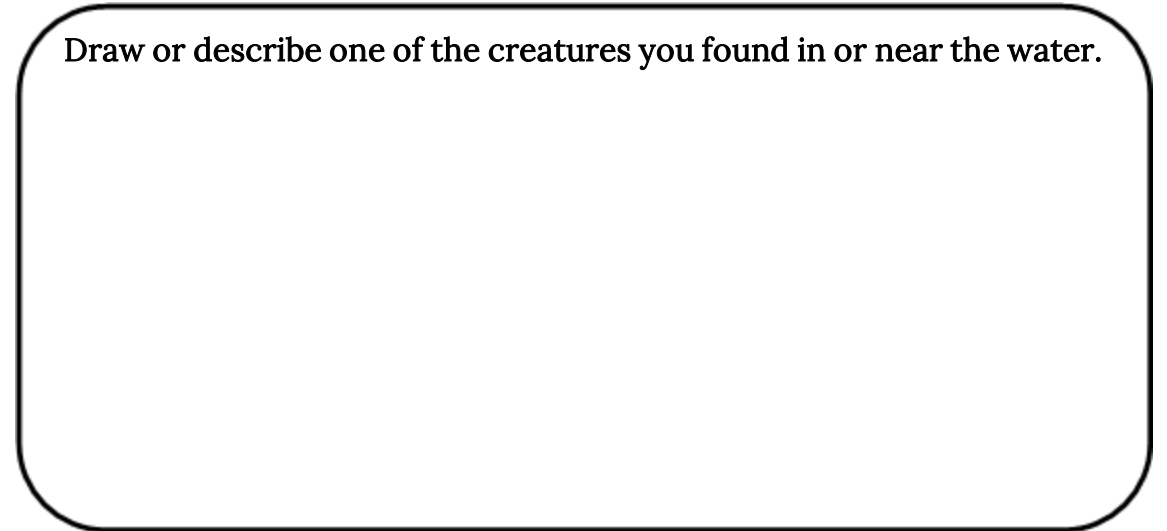


Hint: Water can be seen almost everywhere at the Refuge.



Explore a body of water at the Refuge. Draw or write about what the habitat looks like.

Draw or describe one of the creatures you found in or near the water.



Incredible Insects

Did you know that 96% of the birds found on land eat insects! Insects are small creatures, sometimes called bugs, that have six legs, antennae, and three part bodies that include a head, thorax, and abdomen. There are many different types of insects found here at the Refuge. Discover your own insect and make observations about what you notice!

Hint: Insects are often found near flowers. Try looking for a bug with six legs outside in the Nature Explore Classroom flower beds.



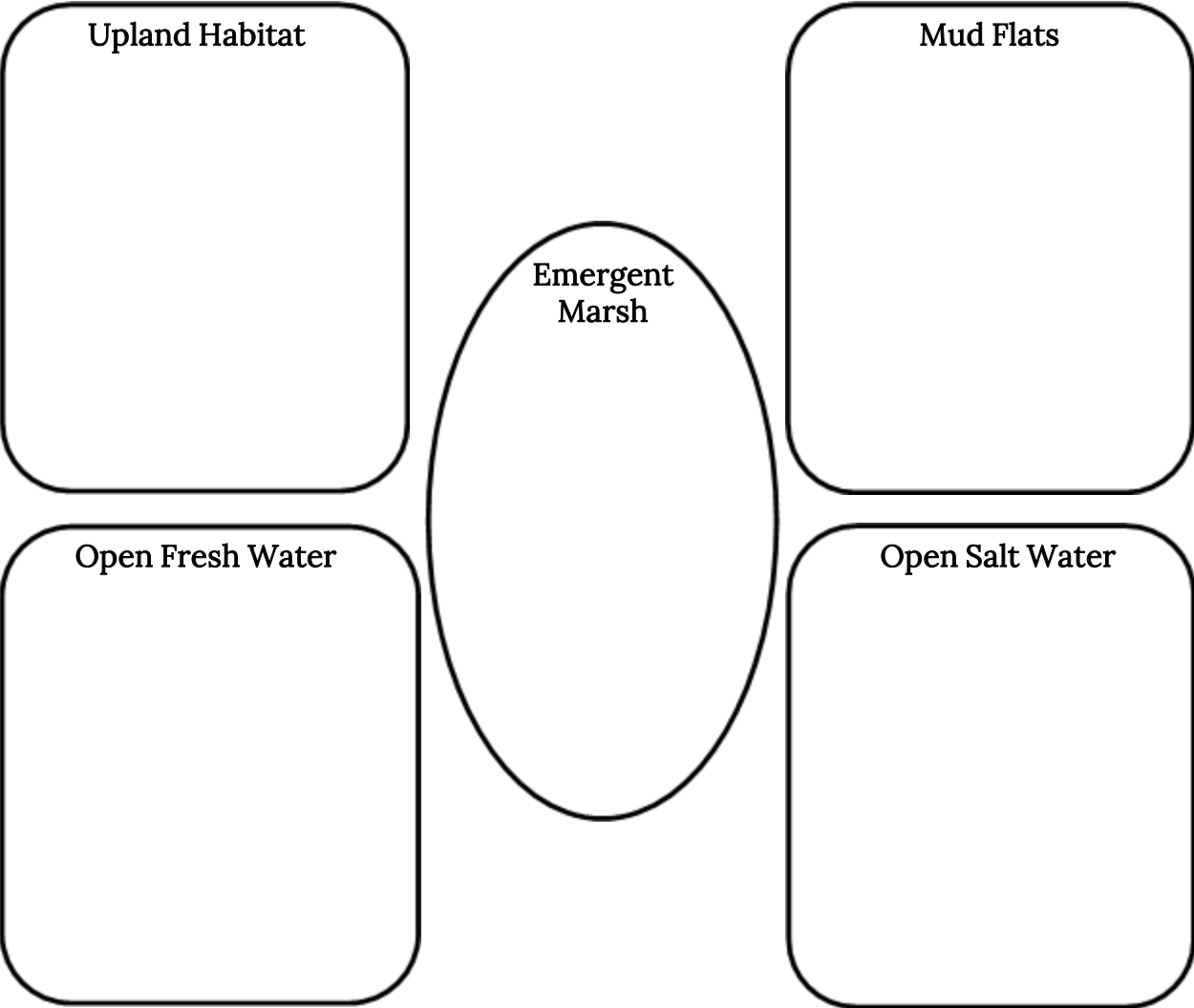
Draw your insect and describe what you notice!

Five Refuge Habitats

Where the fresh waters of the Bear River flow into or near the Great Salt Lake, five distinctive types of habitats can be found. Each of these five habitats support different types of plants and animals that depend on these habitats for food and life.

Draw or write a plant or animal that depends on each of the five habitats found at the Refuge.

*Hint: Look inside the Exhibit Hall for plants and animals that live in these habitats.



Bird Adaptations

Adaptations are the unique characteristics that help birds, and other animals, to survive in their chosen habitats. For example, the webbed feet of a duck is an adaptation that helps ducks to swim and search for their food in the water.

Using the clues below, determine the special adaptations that all birds have by discovering what each of these adaptations are used for.

***Hint: Look inside the Exhibit Hall to find the answers.**



What Adaptations do all Birds have?

- 1. Provide warmth, aid flight, and attract mates: _____
- 2. Holds a growing baby bird and provides it with protection: _____
- 3. Designed to help birds eat their preferred foods: _____
- 4. A way for birds to communicate with one another: _____
- 5. Most basic body feature for flight: _____
- 6. Hollow so that birds are more lightweight in order to fly: _____



Sit & Reflect



Try sitting without saying anything for 5 minutes. Think about the experiences you have had here. What did you see? What did you hear? What did you discover? Write or draw about your experience today and what makes Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge special.

***Hint: Try this activity inside or outside in a quiet place.**

Junior Ranger Certificate



This Certifies That

Has successfully completed the requirements for becoming a
Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge Junior Ranger.



Official Stamp



Congratulations!

You have completed your Junior Ranger Activity Book. Take your completed book to the Park Ranger to take the Junior Ranger pledge and receive your badge.

As a Junior Ranger, I promise to:

Protect all plants, animals, and habitats. Learn more about National Wildlife Refuges, and teach others what I have learned about nature and wildlife at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. I love birds!

Learn More with these Additional Resources:

Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge
www.fws.gov/refuge/bear-river-migratory-bird/visit-us/activities/education-programs

Junior Duck Stamp Program
www.fws.gov/program/junior-duck-stamp

National Wildlife Federation
<https://www.nwf.org/Educational-Resources/Education-Programs>

