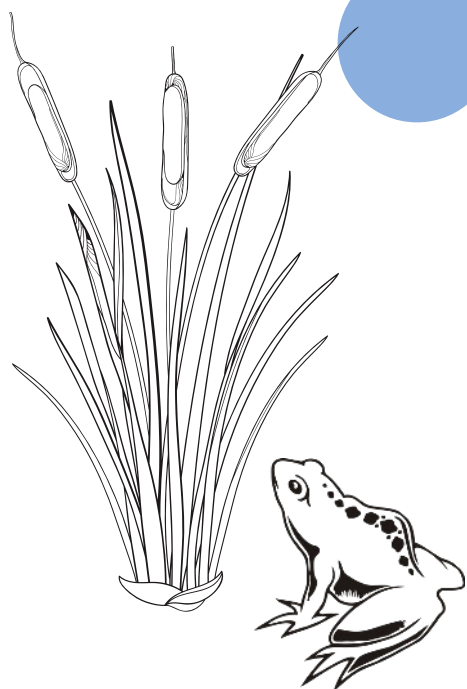




Discover wetland and waterway animals and plants

*Through several short exercises, discover the
animals and plants living in the wetlands
and water environments of the region.*

Discovering the fauna and flora

Duration :
less than
15 min

Audience :
4 to 6 years



Abrinord
OBV de la rivière du Nord



Objectives

Discover the fauna and flora of wetlands and waterways

- *Identify the habitats of several species*
- *Associate species with their footprint*

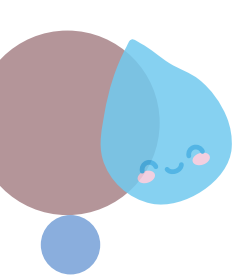
Required material :

- *Student workbook*
- *Color pencils*

Course of the activity

The student workbook includes several activities to learn where certain animals and plants live, their characteristics and more. In order to provide more information on the identified fauna or flora, you can complete the answers using the teacher's notebook and the glossary available on the Abrinord website.





Teacher workbook



1- Colour the animals and plants in the marsh

Common Snapping Turtle:

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

Status in Canada : worrying

The common snapping turtle is the largest freshwater turtle in Canada and lives up to 70 years, but can reach over 100 years. Its shell can measure up to 50 cm. Its name in French ("tortue serpentine", literally: serpentine turtle) comes from the fact that its neck is rather long, resembling that of a snake. Its distinctive tail is narrow and almost as long as its shell. It likes shallow water and prefers slow currents, soft muddy soil and dense vegetation.

Variegated pond-lily :

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

Status in Canada : common and widespread

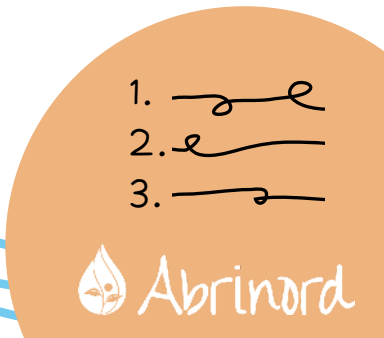
The variegated pond-lily grows in the calm, shallow waters of streams, lakes, ponds and bogs. It has large floating heart-shaped leaves, measuring from 10 to 30 cm. The flowers, which bloom from June to September, are yellow (4 to 8 cm) and grow a few centimeters up from the water. The variegated pond-lily is not very resistant to pollution, so its presence is a sign of a healthy water body. Muskrats, beavers and moose love to eat it.

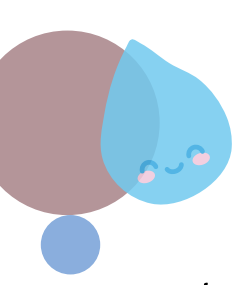
Mallard duck:

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

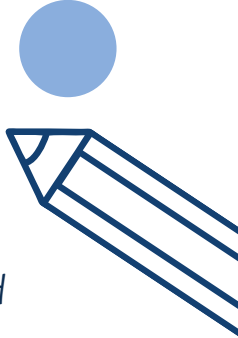
Status in Canada : common and widespread

The mallard is the most famous wild duck in the world. The adult male is easy to recognize with its summer plumage, its green head and white-collared neck. It has a brown chest and a grey and brown body. The female is very different from the male with a russet brown and light brown plumage. Both have a square of blue feathers on the wings and have orange legs. The mallard can be observed almost anywhere there is a body of water since it is very adaptable.

- 
1. 
 2. 
 3. 



Teacher workbook



1- Colour the animals and plants in the marsh

Green frog :

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

Status in Canada : common and widespread

The green frog is a species found in streams and water bodies in Quebec. Its colouration goes from green to mottled brown and it can measure up to nearly 10 cm. It feeds on a wide variety of insects and invertebrates. Frogs have a particular life cycle; they lay their eggs in water. Once hatched, the tadpoles spend the winter in the water and transform into adult form the following summer. During this transformation, the tadpoles develop legs and lose their tail.

Spotted salamander :

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

Status in Canada : common and widespread

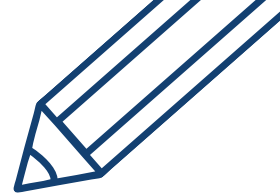
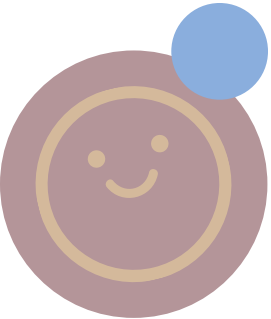
This salamander is easy to identify with its dark colour and large yellow spots. It is stocky with a large head and can reach 20 cm. During its larval stage, it lives in water like frog tadpoles, but it has external gills on the side of its head that allow it to breathe underwater. Once it has reached adulthood, it leaves the water and makes its home in the forest. It can usually be found in the soil, under rocks and logs and in moist areas of forests and woodlands.

Narrow leaf Cattail:

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

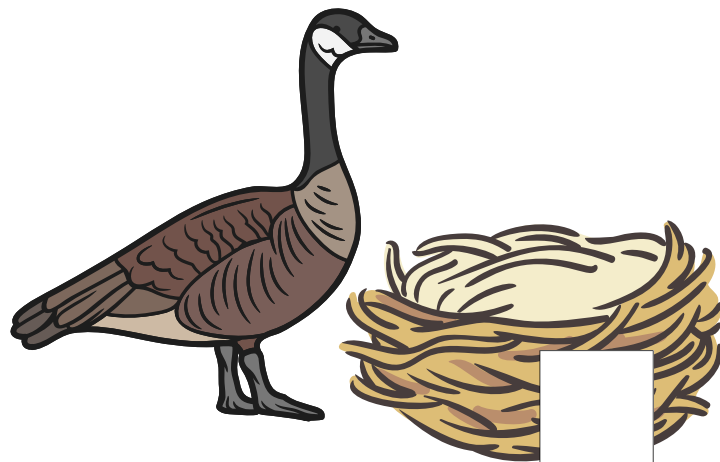
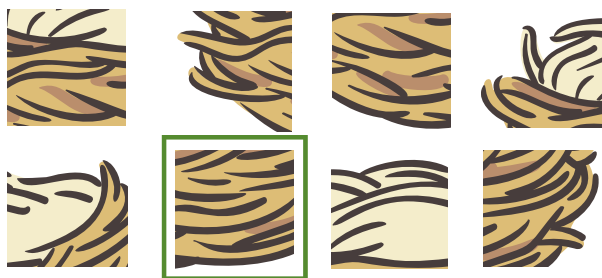
Status in Canada : common and widespread

Cattail is a typical wetland and riparian plant. It is distinguished by a cylindrical brown spike and long narrow leaves of 1 to 3 m. Several parts of the plant are edible, such as the white base of the stem or the young flower when it's still green. It is also part of the diet of muskrats and beavers.



Teacher workbook

2- Help the Canada goose build its nest. Circle the missing piece



Canada Goose:

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

Status in Canada : common and widespread

In French, the word "bernache" (goose) and "outarde" (bustard) are sometimes used interchangeably but both terms refer to two different species. There are no bustards in North America. Geese find a mate for life and nest early in the season (March-April) so that the goslings have time to learn to fly to migrate south before the cold.

3- Highlight the correct path to help the spiny softshell turtle return to the stream

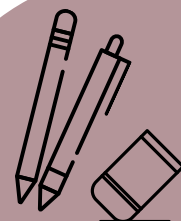
Answer : route number 2

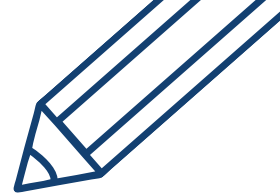
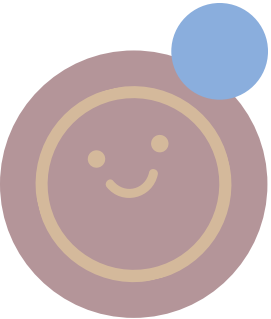
Spiny Softshell Turtle:

Status in Quebec : threatened

Status in Canada : endangered

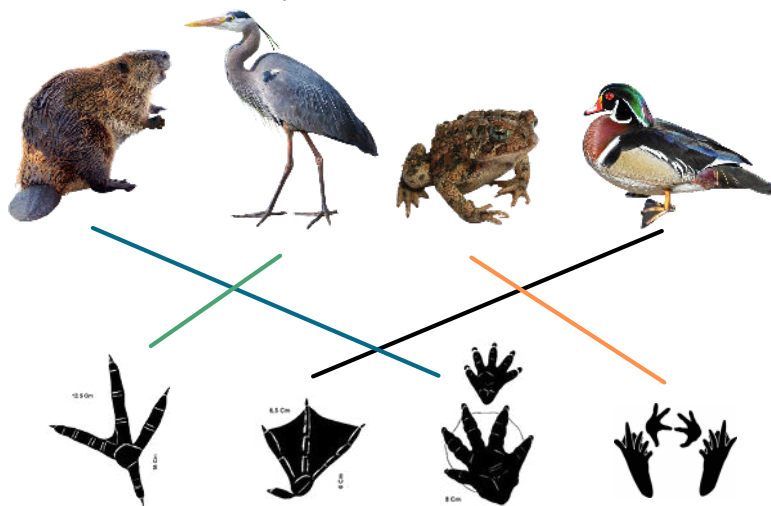
The spiny softshell turtle is a soft-shelled species, meaning that it is covered with a leather-like skin, rather than scales. Its shell, rather flattened, is olive green to light brown with black spots in circle-shape. This species is endangered in Quebec, since there are only three places where it can be found, although it was once present in the Ottawa River and in the Laurentians.





Teacher workbook

4- Connect the animal to its footprint with a line



Beaver :

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

Status in Canada : common and widespread

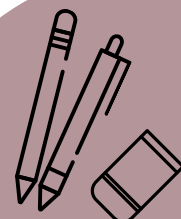
The beaver is the largest rodent in Canada and the second largest in the world. It is the emblem of Canada. With the exception of humans, beavers are one of the only mammals that shape their environment through the dams, canals and lodges they build. Its paws are composed of five digits and the back ones are broad and webbed for swimming. On land, the beaver's tail drags behind, which can leave a wide, snaking trail.

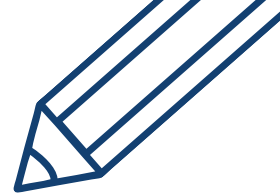
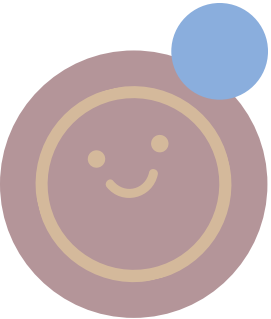
Great Blue Heron :

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

Status in Canada : common and widespread

The great blue heron is the largest heron in Canada and is over one metre in length. It nests in the tops of trees and can live a long time, sometimes up to 17 years. The great blue heron is a type of bird called a wader. It is distinguished by its blue-gray plumage, its long neck and its long, stilt-like legs. So when it walks, it takes long strides. Its feet are composed of three long front toes and a shorter rear one.





Teacher workbook

4- Connect the animal to its footprint with a line

American Toad:

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

Status in Canada : common and widespread

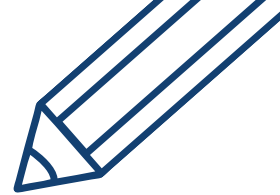
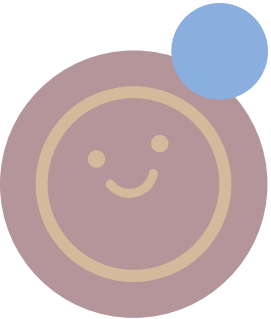
The American toad is the only toad in Quebec. It has a beige, brown or reddish colouration and dry and warty skin (full of warts). It can be observed in many terrestrial habitats and in ponds during the breeding season and as tadpoles. Its legs are short, which makes it move in small jumps. Its front paws are oriented towards the center and are only slightly webbed.

Wood Duck :

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

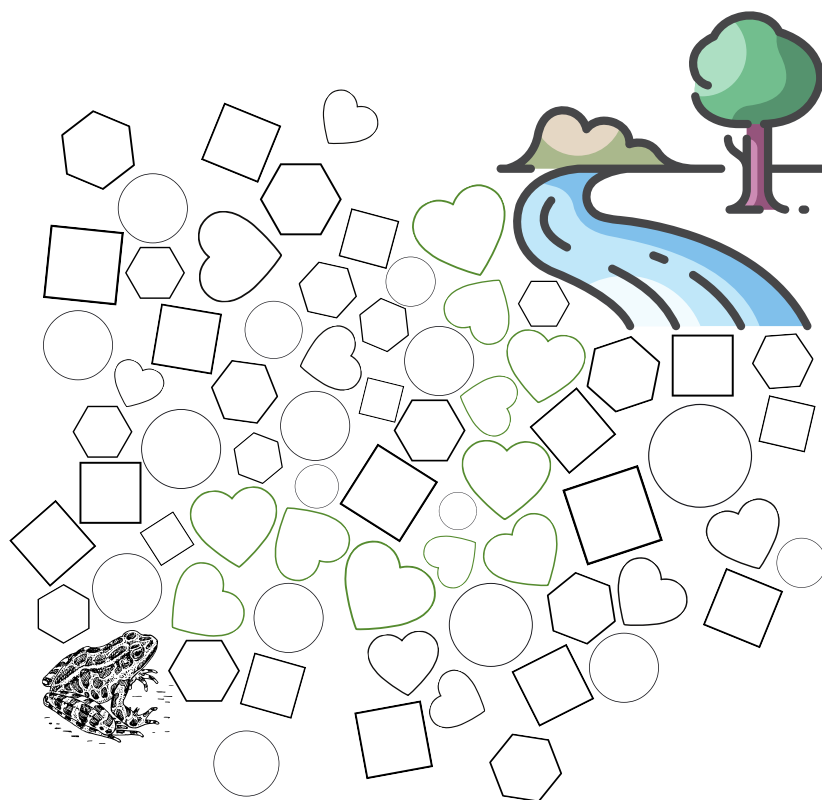
Status in Canada : common and widespread

Considered by some to be the most beautiful duck in North America, it had become rare by 1900, but with the ban on hunting between 1918 and 1941, the species was able to recover and is now considered stable. It usually nests in trees or cavities to protect itself from predators and is considered a perching duck. Its feet are composed of three webbed fingers and a very short back finger.



Teacher workbook

5- Help the frog cross the river by colouring its path. It can only pass on the water lily leaves which are heart-shaped

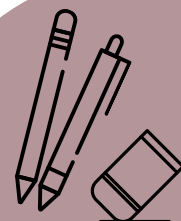


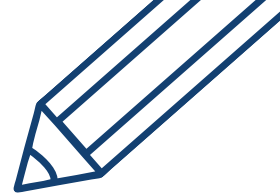
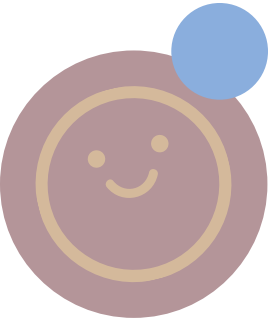
Leopard frog :

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

Status in Canada : common and widespread

The leopard frog measures 7 to 12 centimeters and its colour can vary from green to brown with round black spots, like a leopard. Frogs sometimes use the leaves of water lilies to rest and warm themselves in the sun.





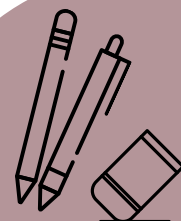
Teacher workbook

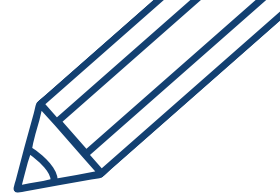
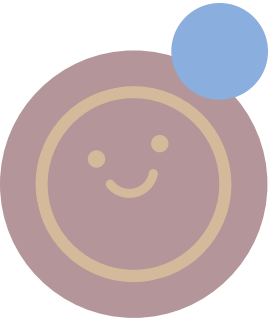
6- Circle the six (6) images that can be found in a Quebec lake and draw an X on the five (5) that should not be there

Answers :

- ✓ **Kayak:** Kayaking is a great water activity, but be sure to clean the boat thoroughly so as not to carry unwanted species from one lake to another.
- ✓ **Mussel:** As they feed, mussels filter the water and reduce the contaminants present.
- ✓ **Moose:** It can sometimes be seen feeding in lakes at dawn, where it feeds on aquatic plants.
- ✓ **Fisherman:** It is possible to fish from the shore, from a bridge, standing in shallow streams or on a boat.
- ✓ **Life Jacket:** Life jackets should be worn on all boats and when swimming in high risk areas.
- ✓ **Duckweed:** Duckweed is a very common species and is part of the diet of many animals such as waterfowl, fish, tadpole, beaver, raccoon or muskrat.

- ✗ **Porcupine:** Porcupines are not typically found near waterways, except for drinking.
- ✗ **Crocodile:** Although crocodiles are aquatic animals, there are none in Quebec.
- ✗ **Band-aid:** Band-aids can be eaten by fish and harm their digestive system.
- ✗ **Goldfish:** The goldfish is not a species that should be found in Quebec. It is a pet, but when it is in the wild, it can compete with other fish. Therefore, pet fish should not be released into the wild.
- ✗ **Plastic bag:** Plastic bags can harm wildlife. One should pick them up when they are found.





Teacher workbook

7- Draw the turtle on the same model

In Quebec, there are eight species of native (that originally come from here) freshwater turtles, five of which are species at risk. In the North River Watershed, four may be observed (*)

- Snapping Turtle*: common and widespread
- Painted Turtle*: common and widespread
- Musk Turtle: endangered
- Blanding's Turtle: endangered
- Spiny Softshell Turtle: endangered
- Northern Map Turtle*: vulnerable
- Wood Turtle*: vulnerable
- Spotted Turtle: likely to be considered endangered or vulnerable

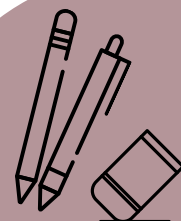
8- Colour the image of a scented water lily below

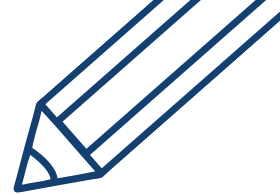
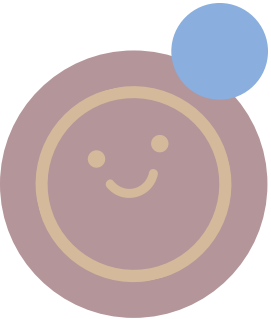
American White Waterlily :

Status in Quebec : common and widespread

Status in Canada : common and widespread

The American white waterlily, also known as the fragrant water-lily, normally has white petals with a pale pink underside, but can sometimes be pink or even red. Its center is yellow and its leaves are green. Its name comes from the fact that it gives off a sweet fragrance.





Teacher workbook

9- Cut out the cards below and paste the aquatic animals on the table

Aquatic animals:

Aquatic animals live in the water or on the shoreline for much or all of their lives.

Terrestrial animals :

Terrestrial animals may drink or feed in aquatic environments, but they do not spend the majority of their time in them.

Answers :

Digger crayfish : Its typical habitat is a clear-water, rocky-bottom stream with cold water and a moderate to fast current.

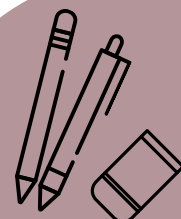
Kingfisher : It is found in many types of aquatic environments both freshwater and saltwater. It prefers clear and shallow waters, overhung with branches to be able to hunt fish.

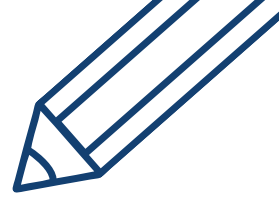
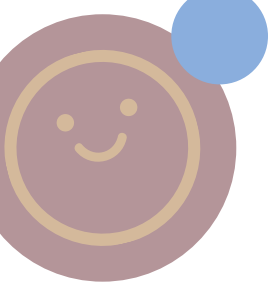
Bullfrog : It is the largest anuran (toad, frog and bullfrog) in North America. Its preferred habitats are lakes, ponds and bays. It rarely ventures on land.

Northern pike : It can be found in shallow, warm, densely vegetated waters or in deeper, cooler waters during the heat of summer.

Beaver : It builds its lodge to live in and dams to increase its aquatic territory, since it is more comfortable in water than on land.

River otter : It lives in a burrow on the shores of lakes, rivers, wetlands where it makes one entrance underwater and the other on land to escape predators.





Student workbook

1- Colour the animals and plants in the marsh



Spotted salamander



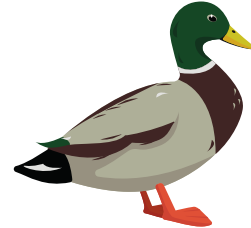
Variegated pond-lily



Snapping turtle



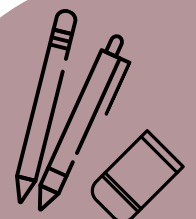
Green frog

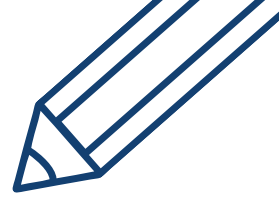
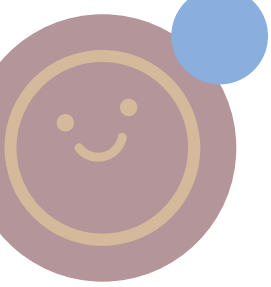


Mallard duck



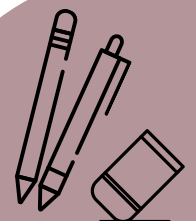
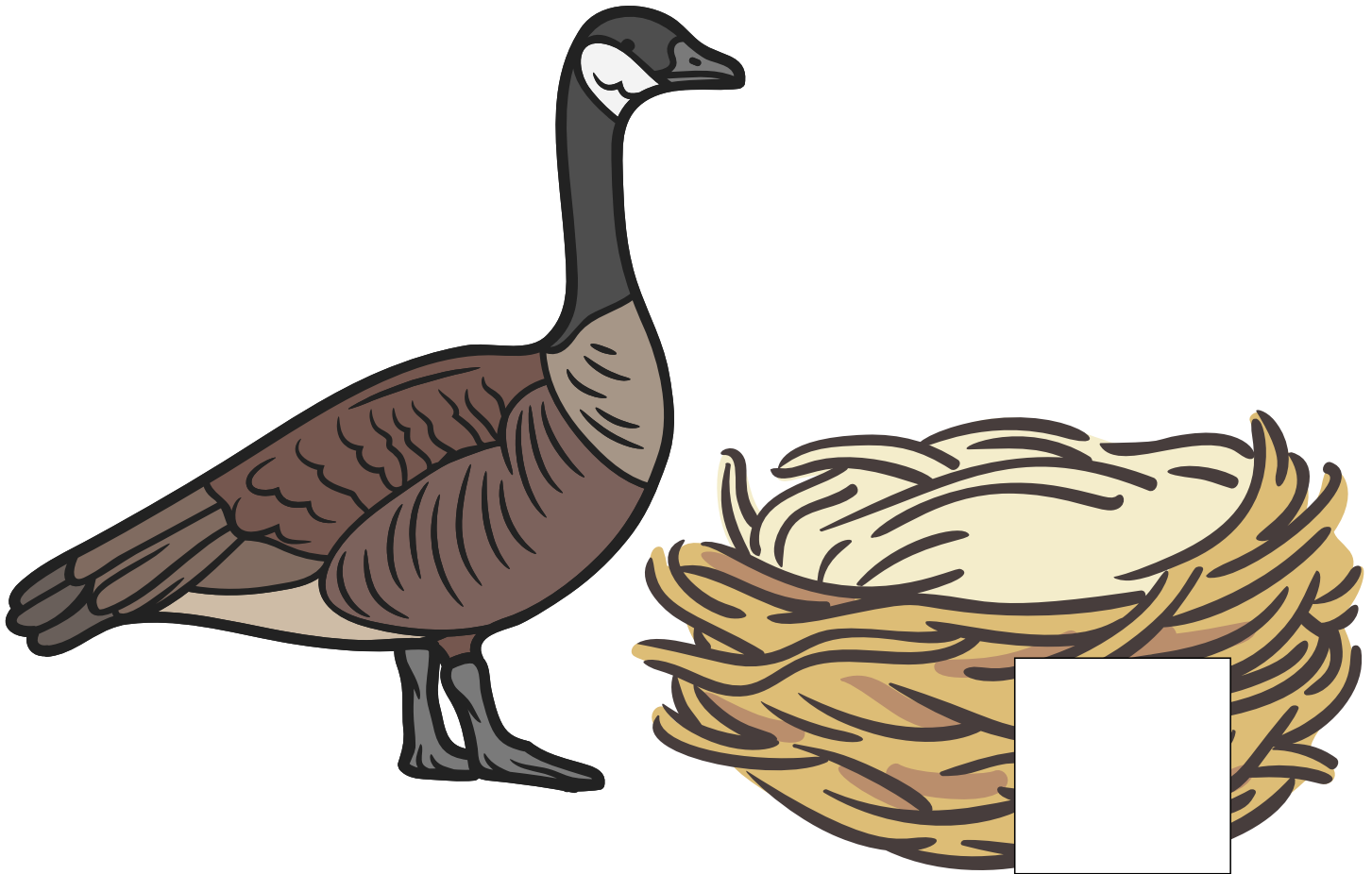
Narrow leaf
Cattail

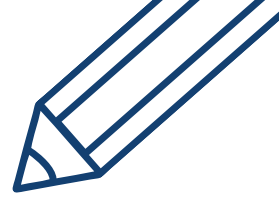
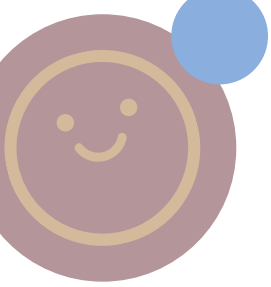




Student workbook

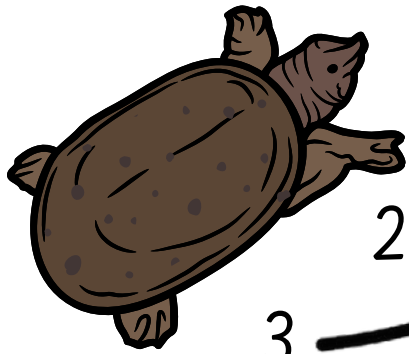
2- Help the Canada goose build its nest. Circle the missing piece



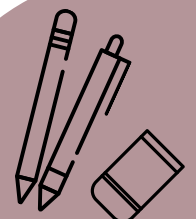
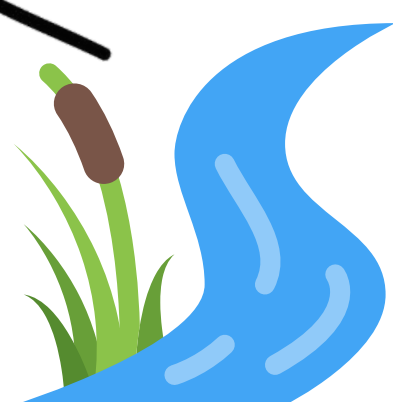
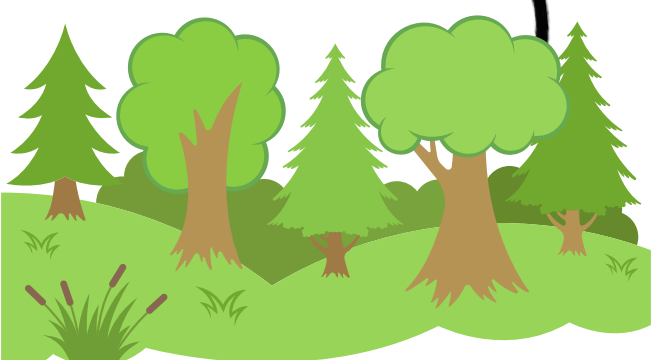
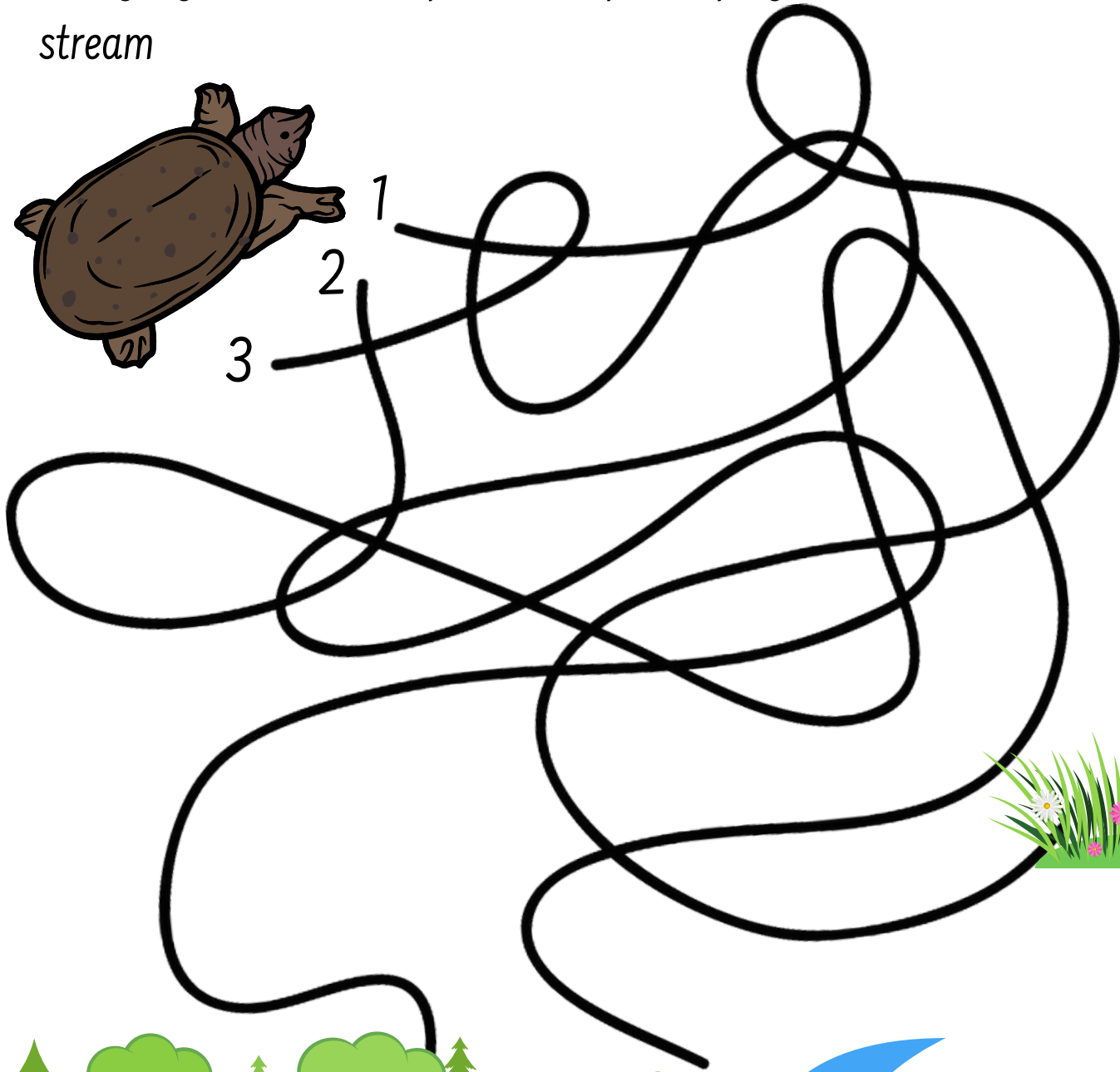


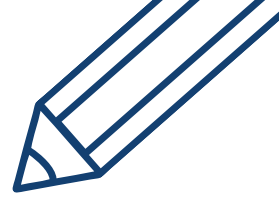
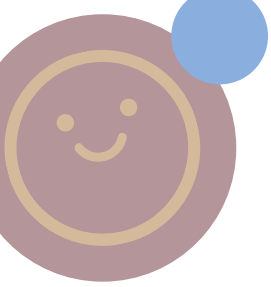
Student workbook

3- Highlight the correct path to help the spiny softshell turtle return to the stream



1
2
3





Student workbook

4- Connect the animal to its footprint with a line



Beaver



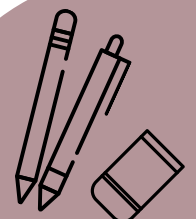
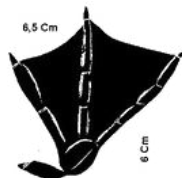
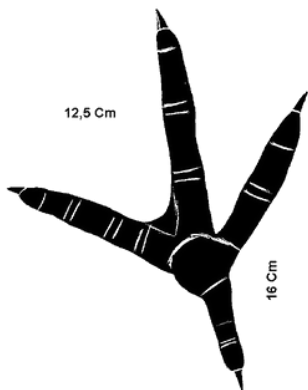
Great Blue Heron

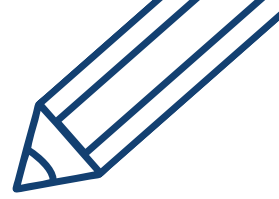
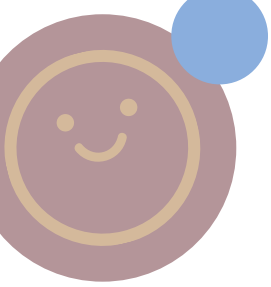


American Toad



Wood Duck

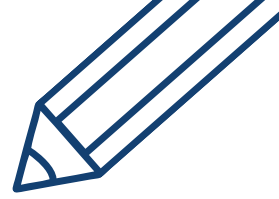
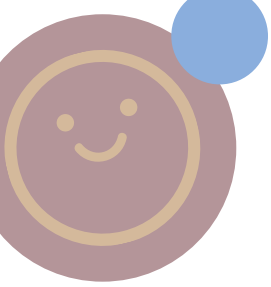




Student workbook

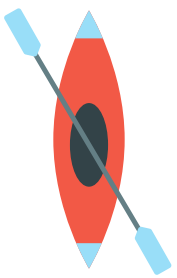
5- Help the frog cross the river by colouring its path. It can only pass on the water lily leaves which are heart-shaped



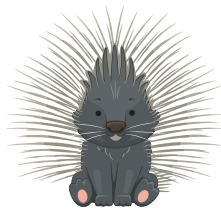


Student workbook

6- Circle the six (6) images that can be found in a Quebec lake and draw an X on the five (5) that should not be there



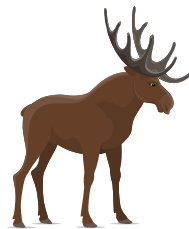
Kayak



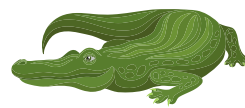
Porcupine



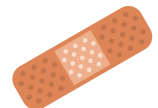
Mussell



Moose



Crocodile



Band-aid



Goldfish



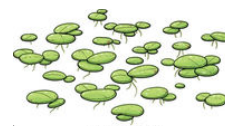
Fisherman



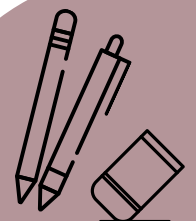
Plastic bag

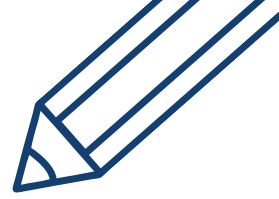
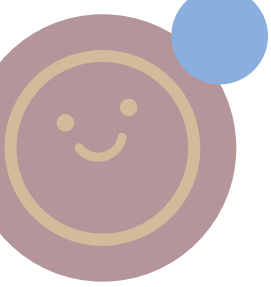


Life Jacket



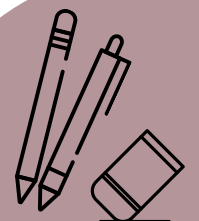
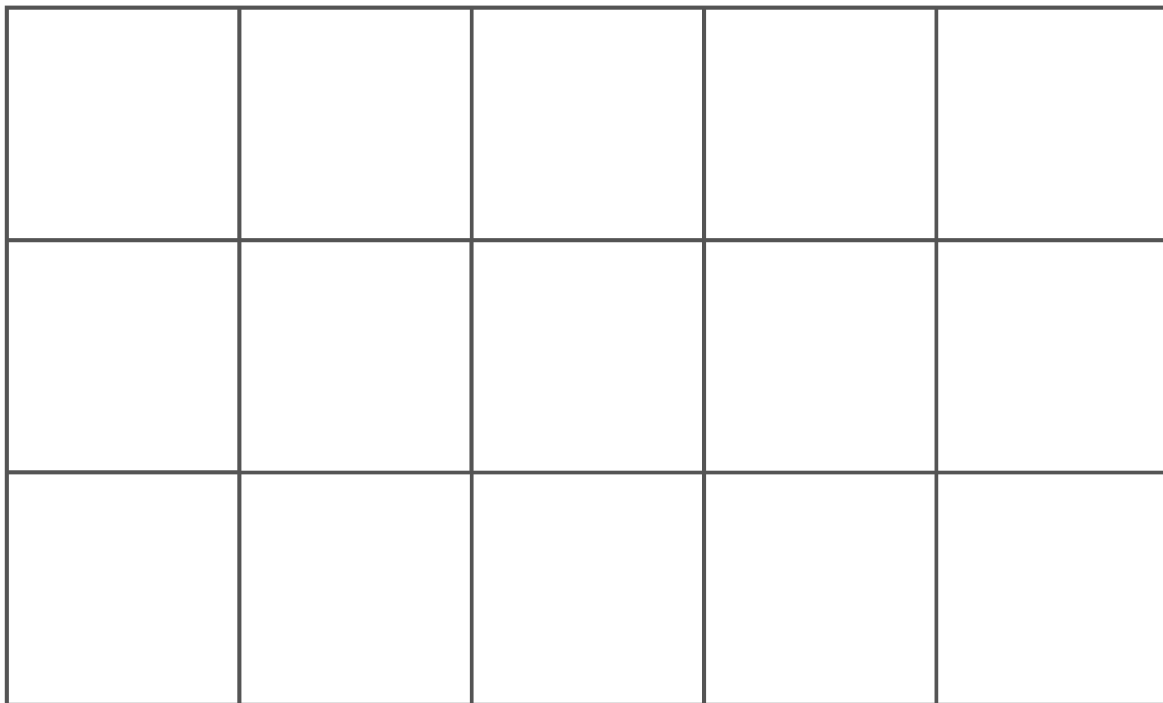
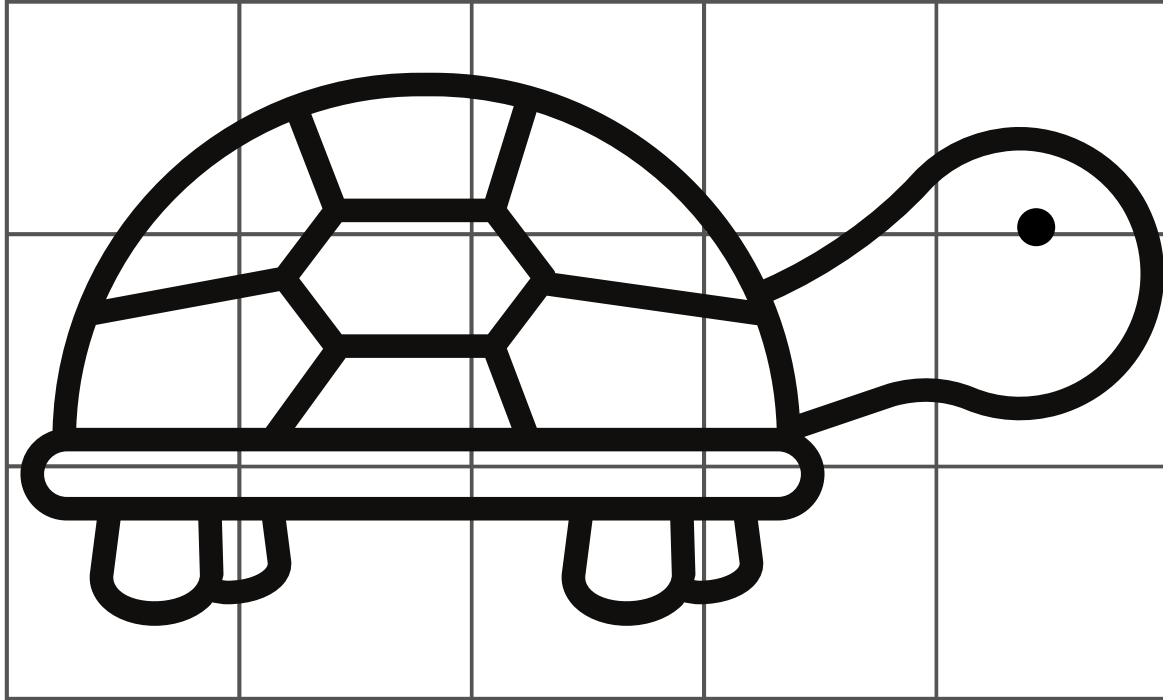
Duckweed

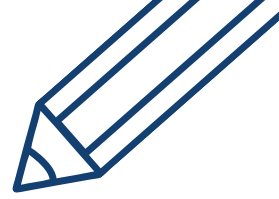
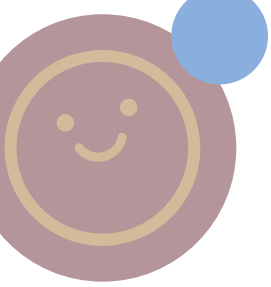




Student workbook

7- Draw the turtle on the same model



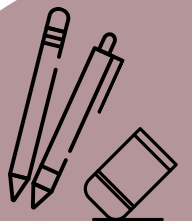


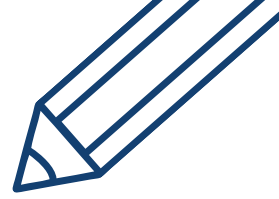
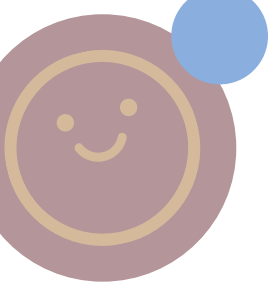
Student workbook

8- Colour the image of a scented water lily below



The fragrant water lily normally has white petals with a pale pink underside, but can sometimes be pink or even red. Its center is yellow and its leaves are green.





Student workbook

9- Cut out the cards below and paste the aquatic animals on the table

Aquatic animals

 Red fox	 Digger crayfish	 Kingfisher	 Crow	 Bullfrog	 Brown bear
 Northern pike	 Red squirrel	 White tailed-deer	 Raccoon	 Beaver	 River otter

