



[Catch 'n' color]. [Supplement, Vol. 17, No. 2] [April 1993]

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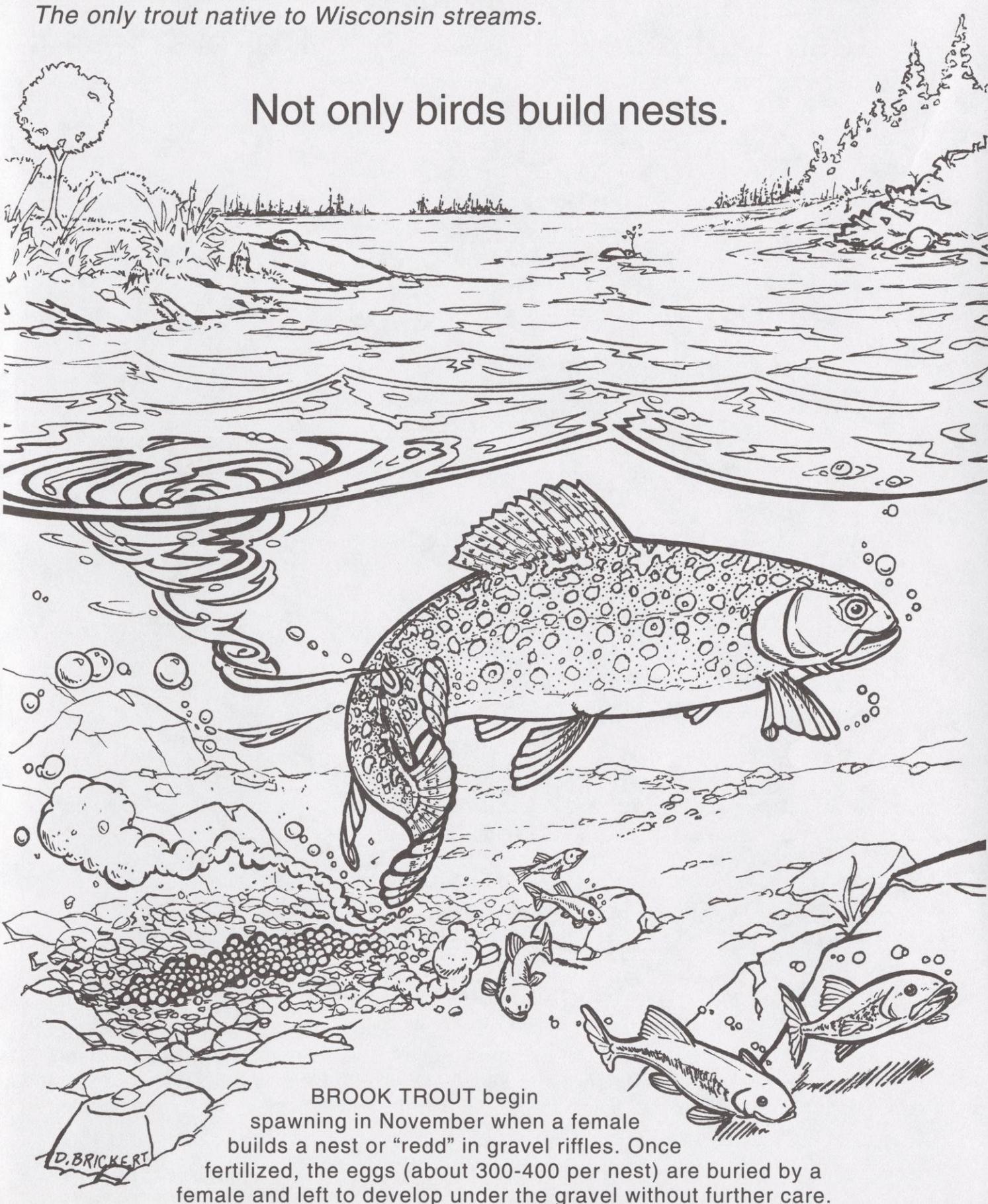
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BROOK TROUT

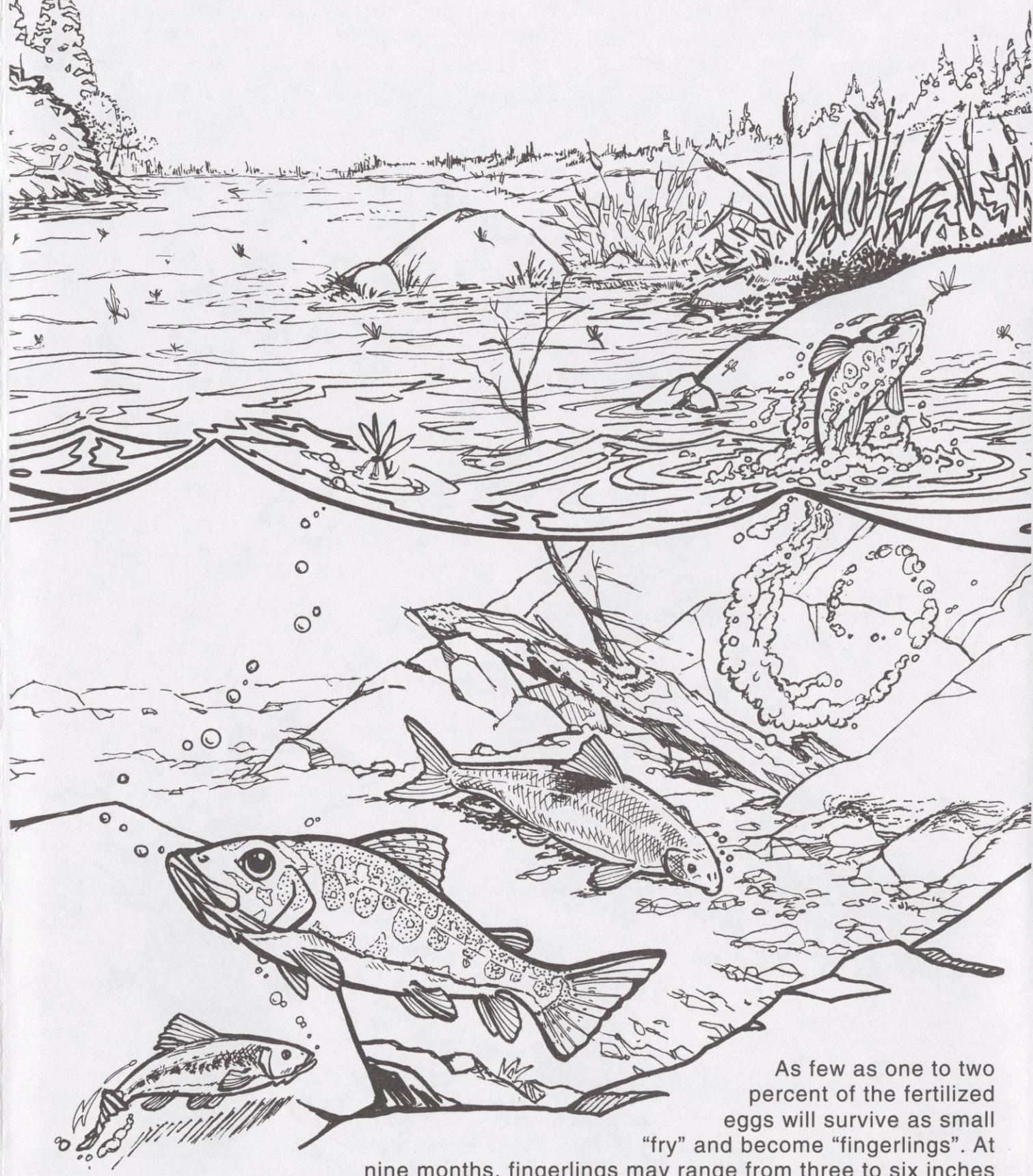
The only trout native to Wisconsin streams.

Not only birds build nests.



BROOK TROUT begin spawning in November when a female builds a nest or "redd" in gravel riffles. Once fertilized, the eggs (about 300-400 per nest) are buried by a female and left to develop under the gravel without further care.

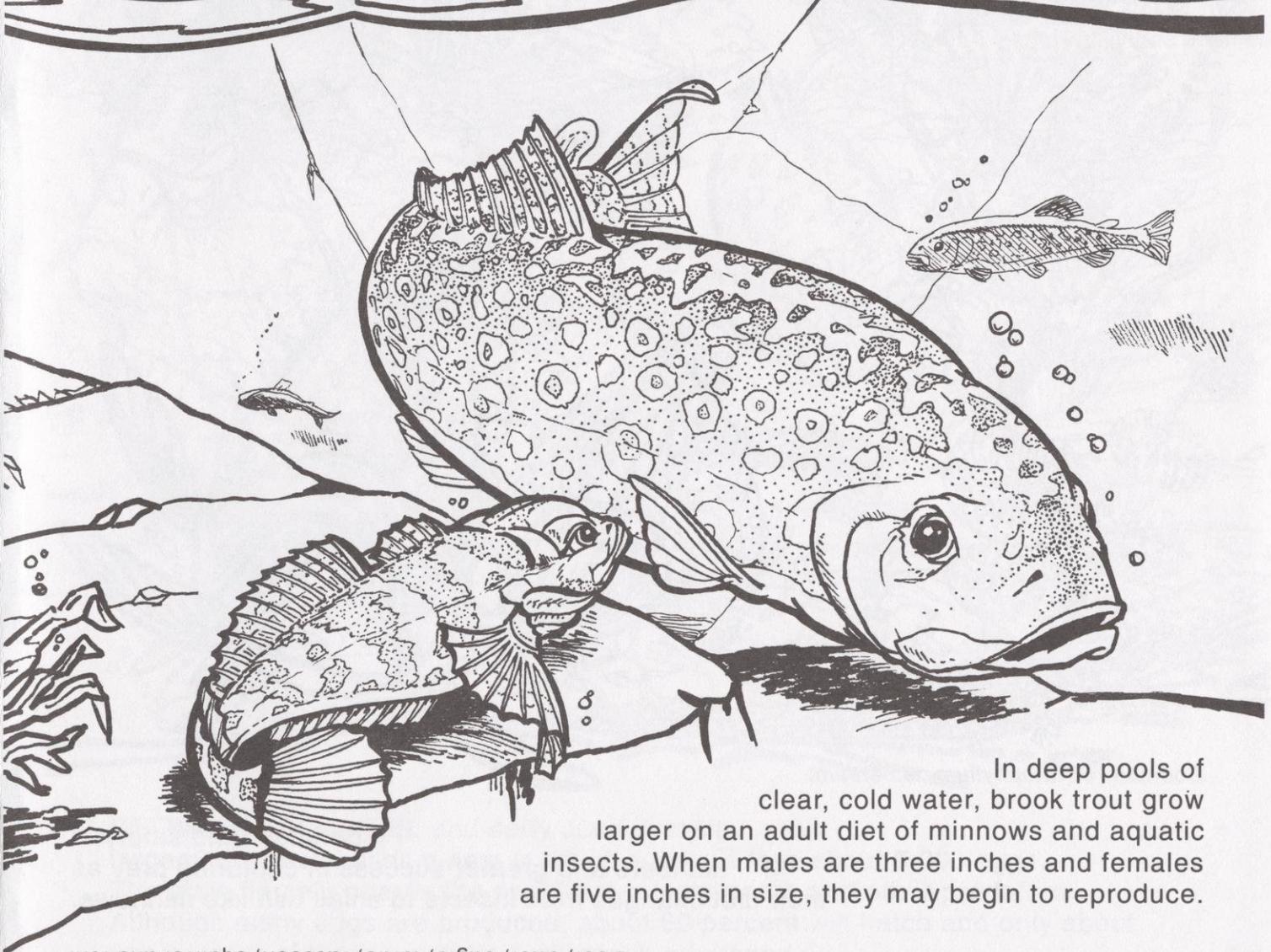
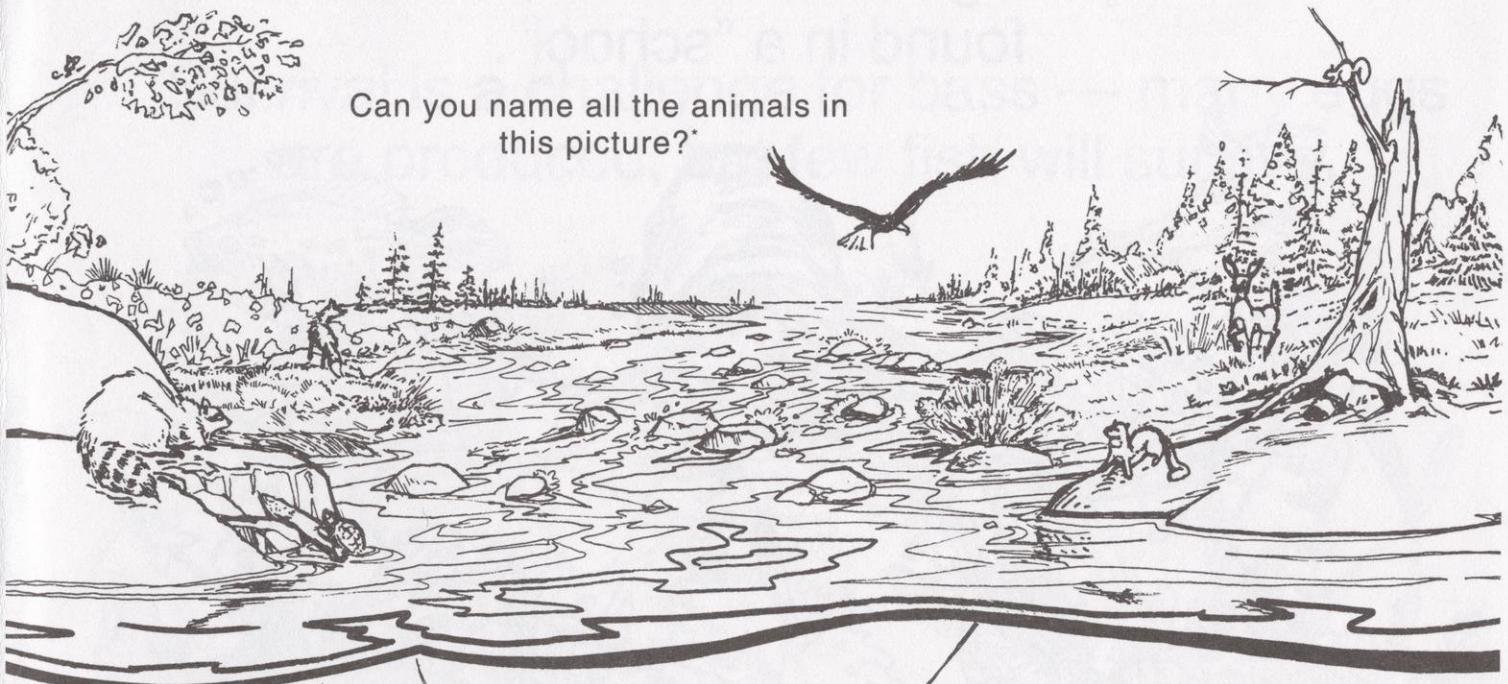
Mayflies are a trout's favorite food.



As few as one to two percent of the fertilized eggs will survive as small "fry" and become "fingerlings". At nine months, fingerlings may range from three to six inches long. These immature trout thrive on a diet of aquatic insects.

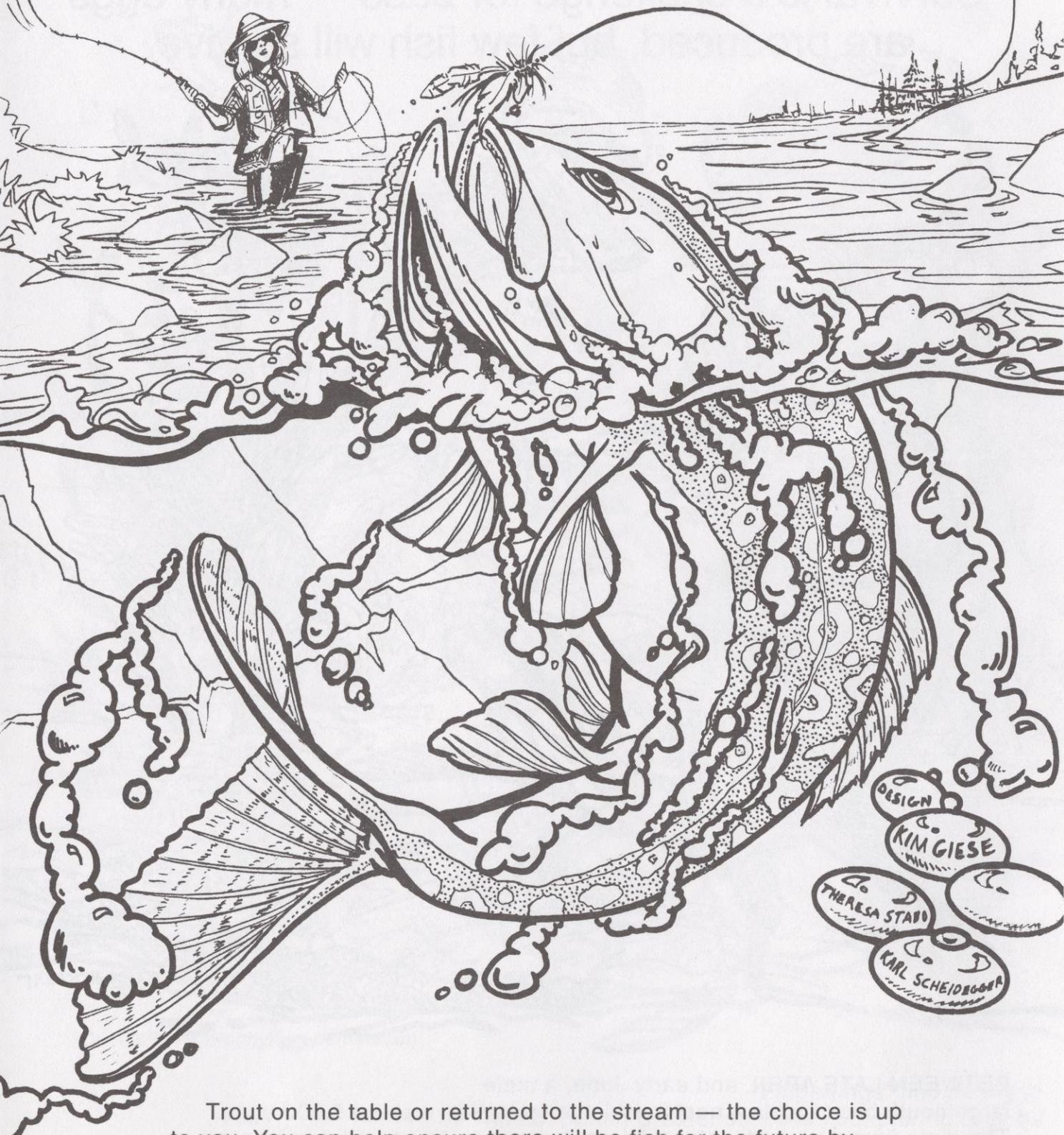
Brook trout grow up quickly.

Can you name all the animals in this picture?



In deep pools of clear, cold water, brook trout grow larger on an adult diet of minnows and aquatic insects. When males are three inches and females are five inches in size, they may begin to reproduce.

Let it go, watch it grow!



Trout on the table or returned to the stream — the choice is up to you. You can help ensure there will be fish for the future by practicing catch-and-release fishing. For successful release, hold the trout under water while you gently remove your hook.

LARGEMOUTH BASS

A common, but clever fish.

Survival is a challenge for bass — many eggs are produced, but few fish will survive.



BETWEEN LATE APRIL and early June, a male largemouth bass builds a nest in which a female lays about 5,000 eggs. The male fiercely guards the nest from hungry perch and other predators. Although many eggs are produced, about 60 percent will hatch and only about one percent of these small "fry" will reach adulthood.

All young bass, like kids, can be found in a “school”.

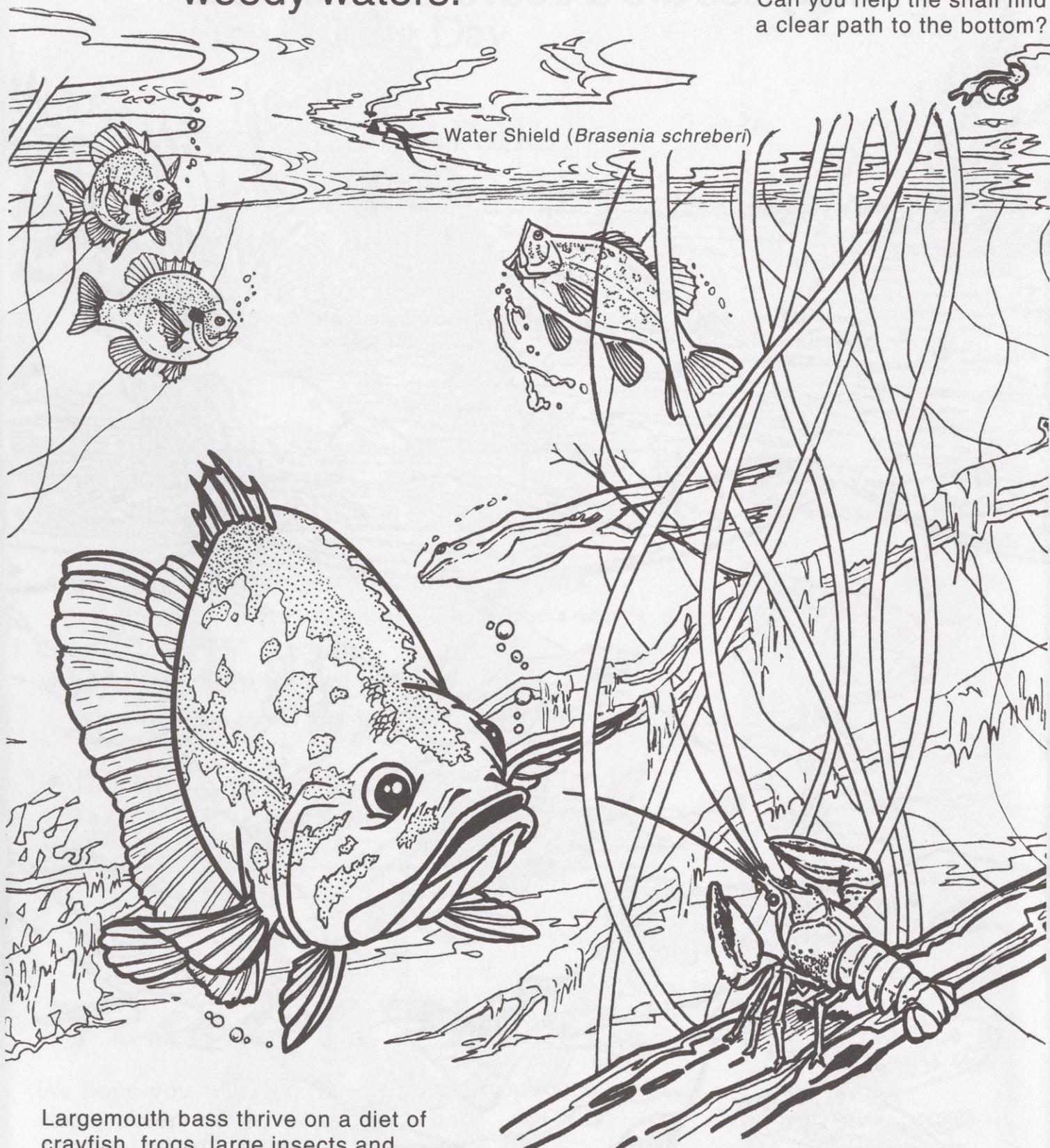


Coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*)

“Fingerlings” find safety in numbers and greater success in capturing prey as their diet changes from insects to small fish like minnows.

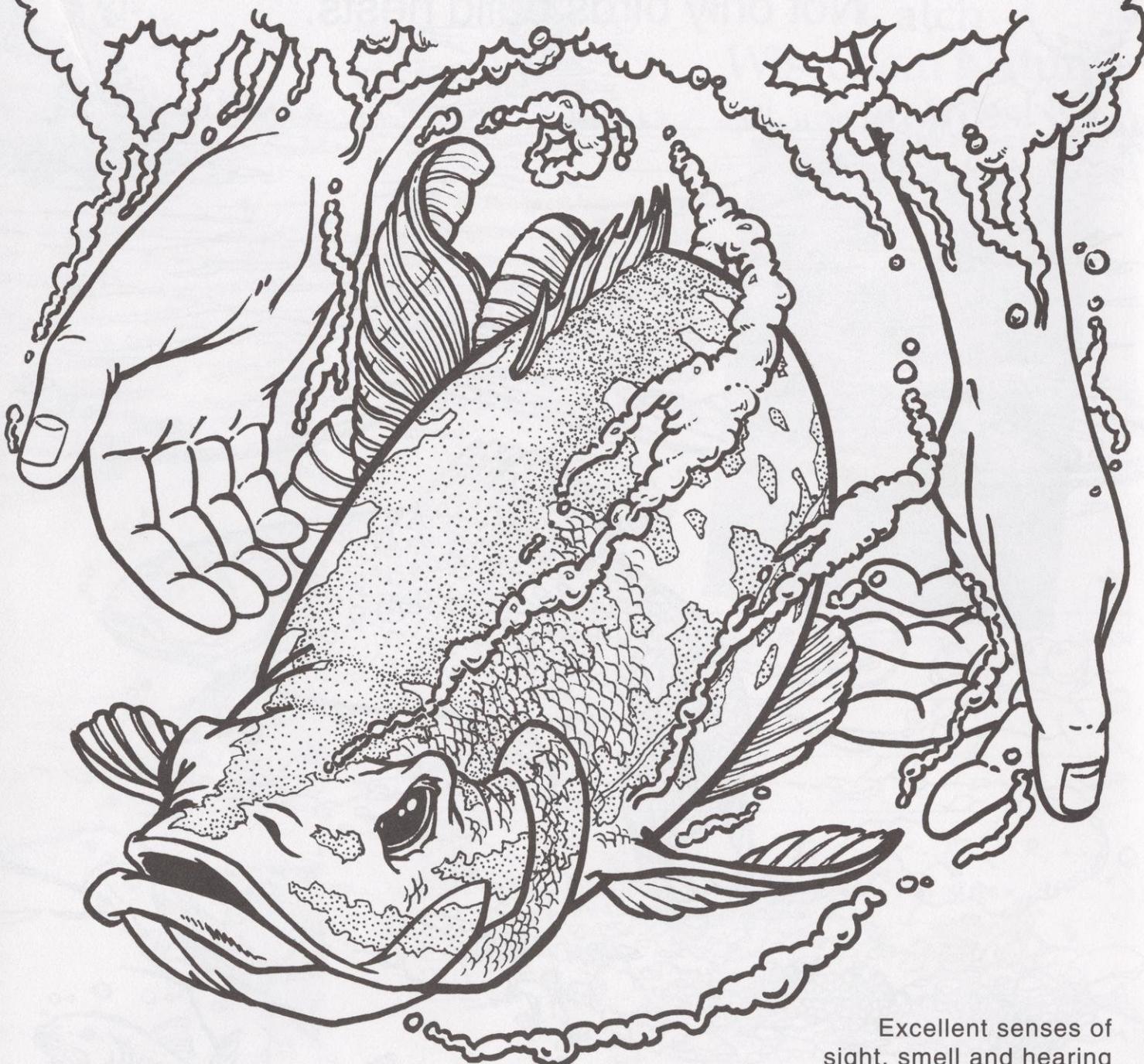
Largemouth bass like warm, weedy waters.

Can you help the snail find a clear path to the bottom?



Largemouth bass thrive on a diet of crayfish, frogs, large insects and small fish. By the time bass are three to four years old and 10-12 inches long they begin reproducing and are considered adults. Their ability to reproduce increases with size and age. They live up to 14 years!

Bass are fun to catch and good to release.



Excellent senses of sight, smell and hearing make this fish a great challenge to catch. Many bass anglers practice catch-and-release fishing to preserve the fishery and allow largemouth bass to grow and reproduce.