

LIFE ON OUR BAYOU

A BAYOU WATER ACTIVITY BOOK



LET'S START WITH HELLO

We eat from the bayou. We drink from the bayou. Our communities make memories along the bayou. We grow with the bayou. The Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District has made efforts to restore, protect and enhance Bayou Lafourche. Our mission is to reserve and enhance Bayou Lafourche as a source of fresh water, economic strength, and cultural heritage for all who live along its banks.

This book will educate you on the impact our bayou has on us and the impact we can make on it through some fun activities. Let's learn how to make our bayou better!



HENRI THE HERON

Not only does Henri have a great personality but he's also known as a Great Egret.

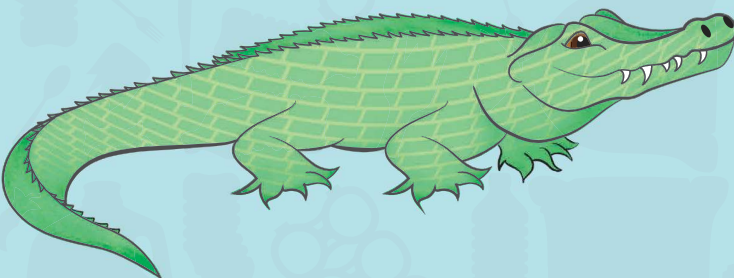


NEIL THE NUTRIA

Neil is a large, semi-aquatic rodent, originally native to South America but has become very populated in our wetlands.

CLAUDETTE THE CATFISH

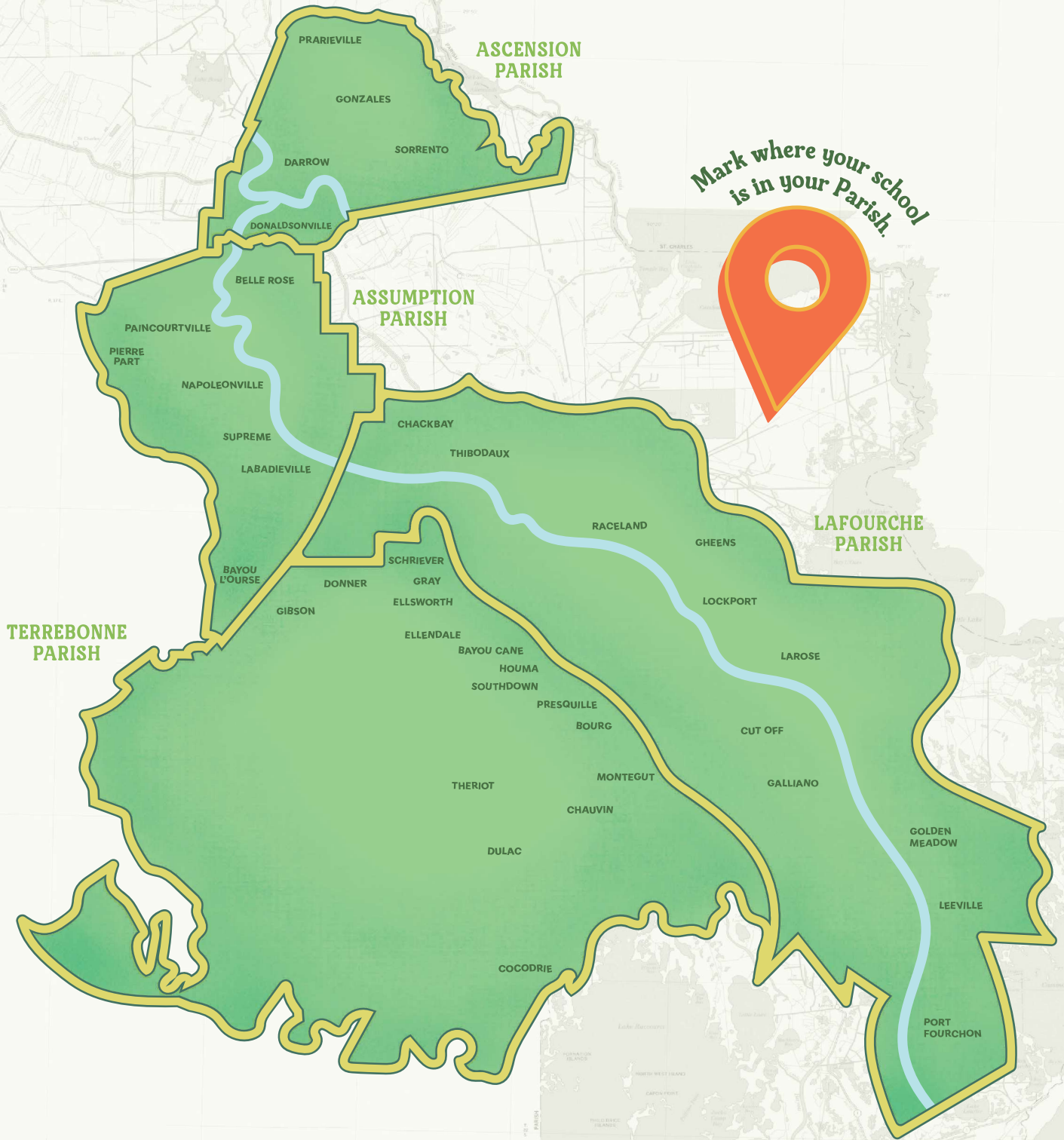
Claudette is a Flathead Catfish but is also known as a yellow catfish, mud cat, and shovelhead cat.



AMIE THE ALLIGATOR

Amie is an American Alligator frequently seen when peering into our bayou. Her species is the largest reptile in North America.

MARK YOUR MAP!



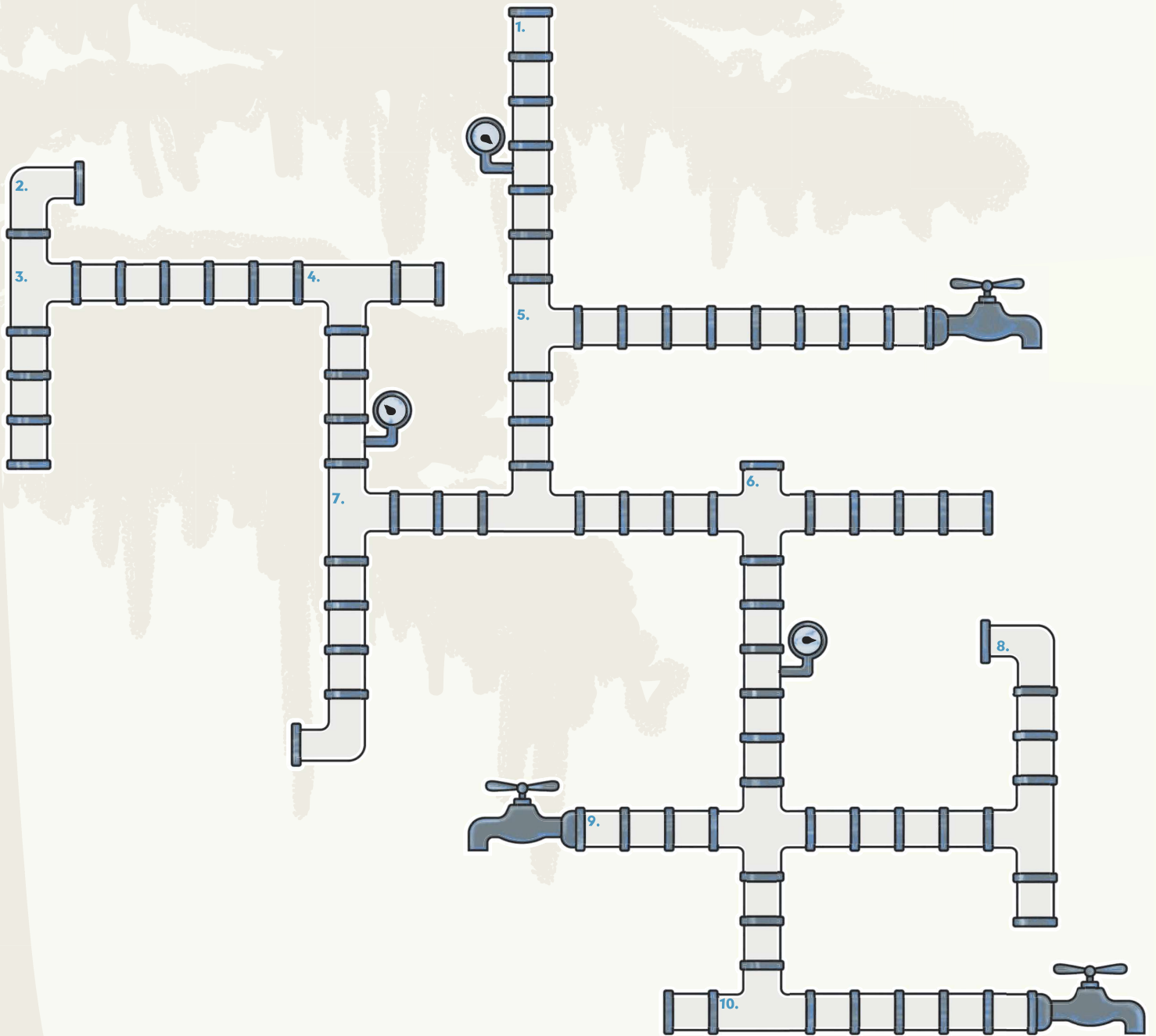
Mark where your school is in your Parish.



Hi! My name is:

I attend school at:

WATERWORKS PUZZLE



ACROSS

3. A boil water _____ is a public notification advising residents to boil tap water before consuming or using it.
5. City in Lafourche Parish.
7. Practice of gathering water and using water responsibly.
9. Bayou _____ is 106 miles long.
10. Water treatment is the _____ of cleaning water.

DOWN

1. A water treatment plant treats raw water and removes this to make it safe to drink.
2. A slow-moving creek or a swampy waterway of a river or a lake.
4. An act that helps improve water quality and reduces pollution.
6. Tall, elevated structures that store water, typically in a tank, to provide water to homes, businesses, and fire systems.
8. Over _____ hundred thousand residents depend on the bayou for fresh drinking water.

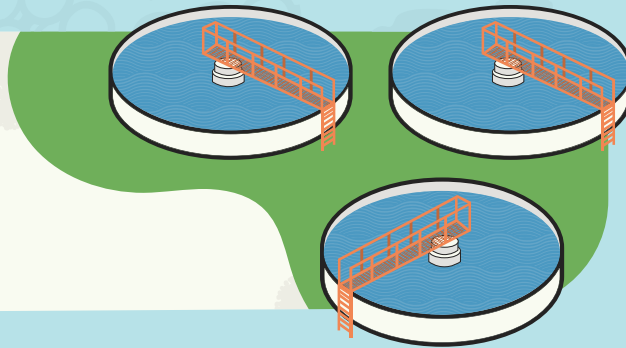


Our drinking water actually comes from our own Bayou Lafourche which is supplied by the Mississippi River.

From our bayou, the water's next stop is a water treatment plant.



Here the filtration process begins. A polymer is added to remove the impurities. Bacteria and viruses are found within the mud, but the polymer causes the mud to stick together and settle to the bottom of the treatment units.



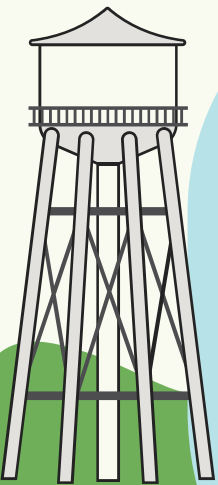
The cleanest water in the top layer of the treatment units is brought into the filters where chlorine is added to disinfect the water.



This water then travels through the filters where there are a layer of sand and anthracite to filter the water and catch any remaining particles. After, ammonia is added to make chloramines which is a disinfectant that lasts longer than chlorine alone. The water is now clean and ready to be sent out.



Now, it's time to learn about water towers: tall, round structures that store water in a tank at top. They store water high up, so gravity helps push the water down into pipes and out of your faucets providing water pressure.



They can also provide water if there's a problem with the regular water supply, like a power outage or a fire.



The water leaves the tower to go through the water distribution mains. These are the main arteries of the water system.



This water comes to us through our service lines providing 300,000 parish residents with clean drinking water. Used water then travels to our Wastewater Plants to go back to the environment.



GET THROUGH THE BAYOU

START!

FINISH!

DID YOU KNOW?

Litter can clog drainage systems which can contribute to flooding and create breeding grounds for mosquitoes, and who wants more mosquitoes?!

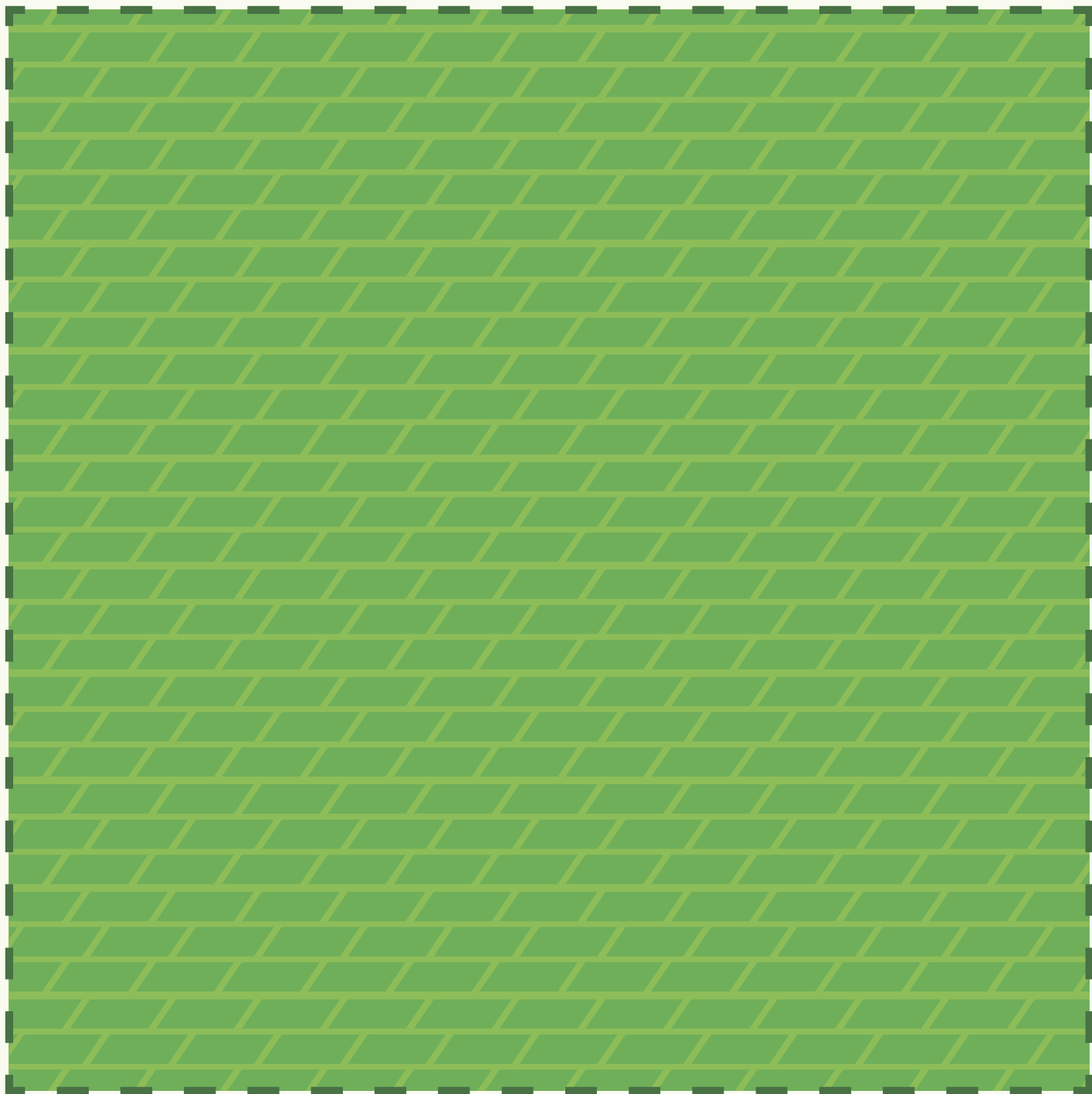
Litter doesn't belong in our swampy waterways. Our bayou friends, like Claudette, can get stuck in it or ingest it and get sick.

Help Claudette make it from the bottom of the page to the top while avoiding the litter and microlitter in the swamp! Color the page when you're done.



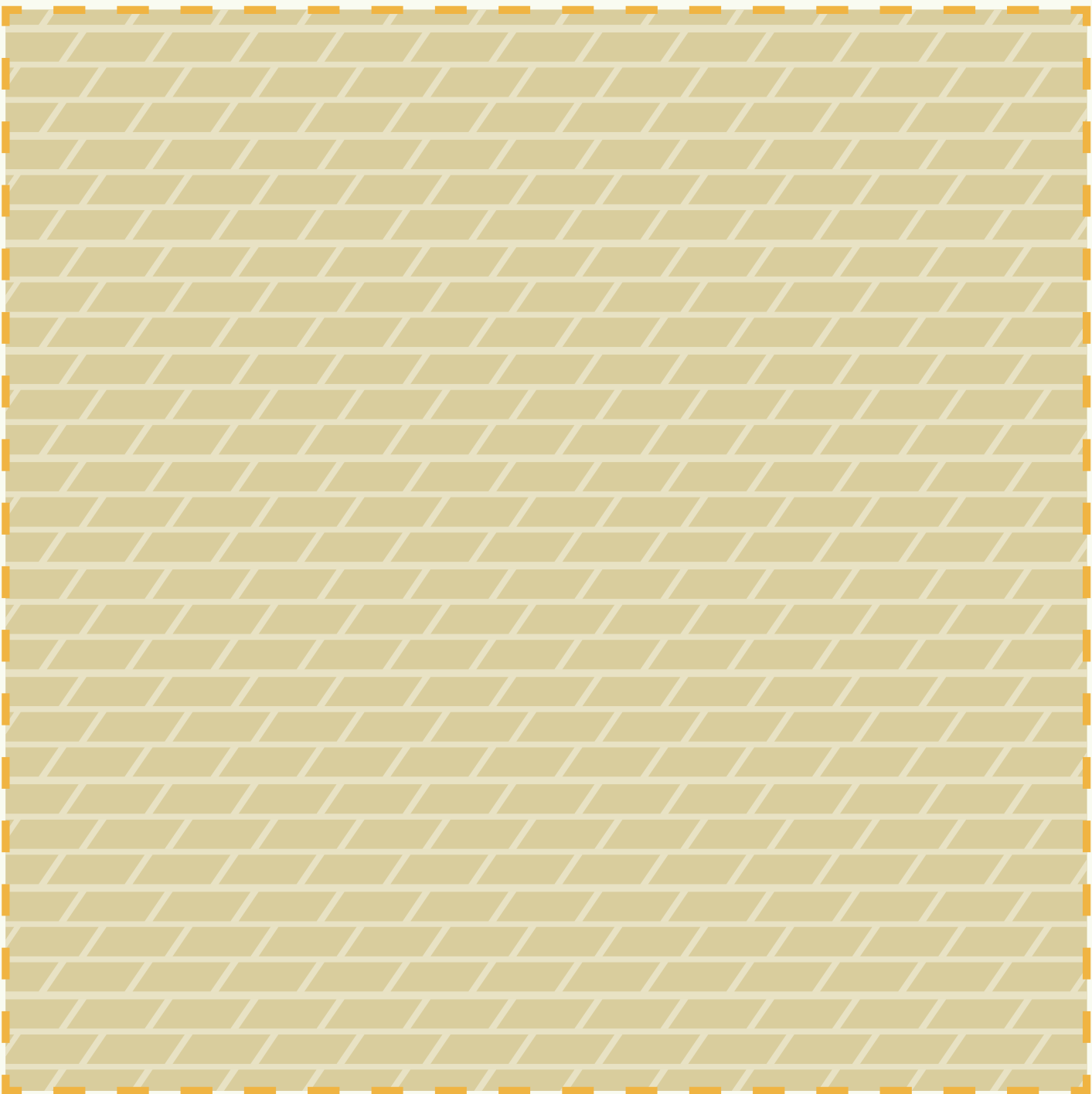
MAKE YOUR OWN AMIE THE ALLIGATOR

Please use a pair of scissors to cut out the paper very carefully.
This green side will be Side 1.

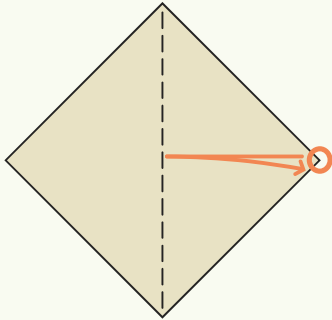


MAKE YOUR OWN AMIE THE ALLIGATOR

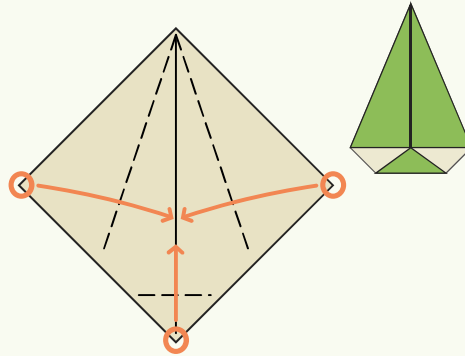
Please use a pair of scissors to cut out the paper very carefully.
This brown side is your alligator's belly and will be referred to as Side 2.



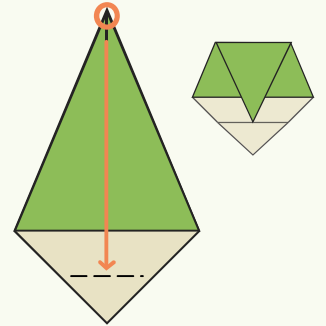
AMIE ALLIGATOR INSTRUCTIONS



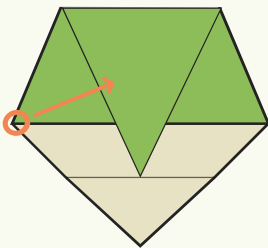
1. With Side Two facing up, fold the paper in half and then unfold it with the crease pointing vertical.



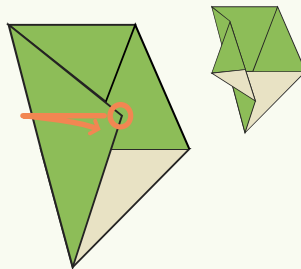
2. Take the left and right corners and fold them to the center. Take the bottom corner and fold to the center crease.



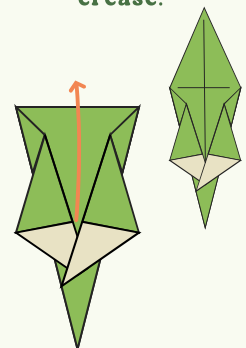
3. Unfold the bottom then take the top corner and fold to bottom horizontal crease.



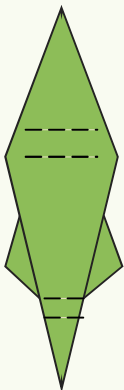
4. Take the left corners and fold until your flap's bend meets the top triangle's side. Repeat to the right corner.



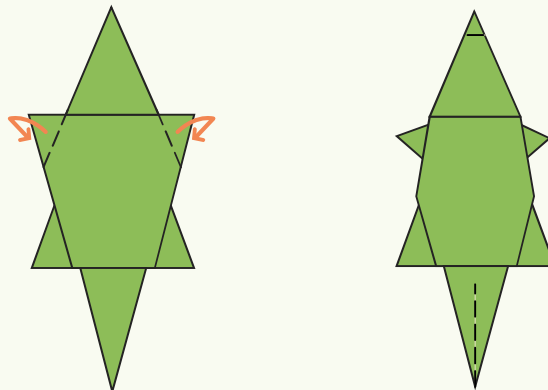
5. Still holding that left corner, bring it out from the center and then back in like an accordion. Repeat to the right corner.



6. Untuck the hidden flap then flip your gator over.



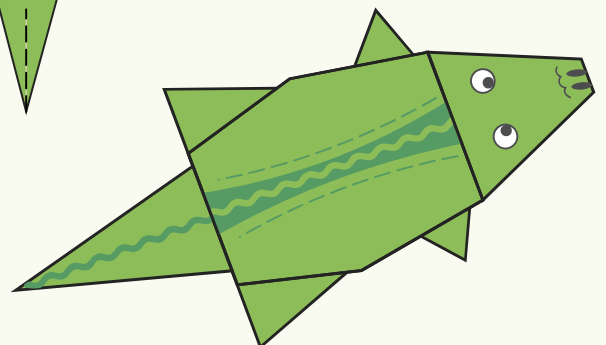
7. Pleat your gator at the top and bottom.



8. Taking the top right and left corners, pleat them beneath.

9. Pinch crease the tail, fold the tip to create the nose and now your alligator is ready to be personalized.

Add markings, eyes, teeth, whatever you'd like!



LITTER BINGO

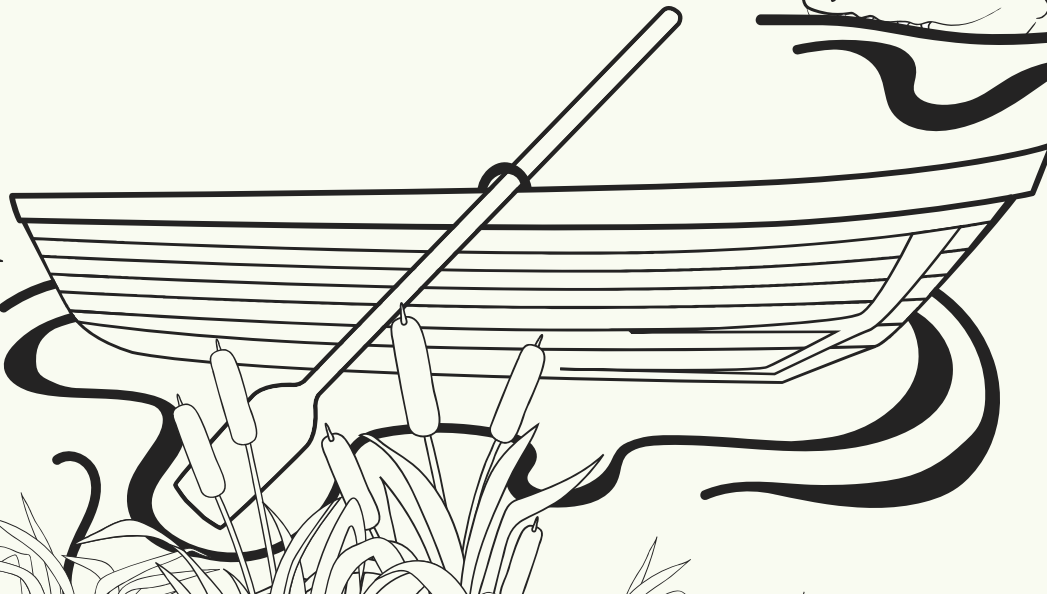
 <p>Organic Waste</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>	 <p>Newspaper</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>	 <p>Aluminum Can</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>	 <p>Mask</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>
 <p>Plastic Utensils</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>	<p>FREE What did you clean up?</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>	 <p>Balloon</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>	 <p>Plastic Bottle</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>
 <p>Cardboard</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>	 <p>Broken Glass</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>	<p>FREE What did you clean up?</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>	 <p>Coffee Cup</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>
 <p>Cigarette Butts</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>	 <p>Single Use Plastic</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>	 <p>Wrappers</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>	 <p>Plastic Straw</p> <p>HOW MANY?</p>

Mark the ones you find. Tally how many pieces you clean up in the blank below the item. Don't forget hand sanitizer and to handle these items carefully!

WHAT HELPS FLOAT YOUR BOAT

Before boating, implement a Float Plan. It includes the route, expected return time, and contact information.

Maintain a healthy distance from local wildlife and don't feed us because feeding wildlife can disrupt our natural ecosystem.



DID YOU KNOW?

It's always important to pack water to stay hydrated, but do you know the signs of heat exhaustion? Heat exhaustion symptoms include faintness, rapid heartbeat, low blood pressure, an ashen appearance, cold, clammy skin and nausea. If you suspect heat exhaustion, get the person out of the sun and into a cool place.

Color yourself in the boat, but don't forget to stay safe and pack and draw the essentials:

- LIFE JACKET:** Everyone on and near the boat should be wearing a life jacket.
- SUNSCREEN:** Your sunscreen should have at least an SPF of 30. SPF measures how long a sunscreen protects the skin from sunburns.
- FIRST AID KIT:** It helps to be prepared in case someone gets injured.

CONNECT THE DOTS



Connect the dots to finish the turtle. Connect the ● dots first. Then connect the ◆ diamonds second to give your turtle his stripes. Color him in when you're done.

TIP: If the line goes into a border of another shape, you do not have to cross through that line.

DID YOU KNOW?

Louisiana is home to 26 species of turtles including freshwater, sea, and land turtles. The one in the activity is a Southern Painted Turtle known for the red or orange stripe down the center of their top shell.

SWAMP SEARCH

T A L L I G A T O R P I A U J U O A
L S N A P P I N G T U R T L E A C X
C E K Q O D S G T P G O J E A K Q B
O H B L C G S T F R B X F U V L A S
X E G R D C O N B C L D I C Q M A A
K R J A R M A D I L L O S B H A G P
E O O G S A T Y J E F F S T W L S Q
T N I S J O K A B A Y Q L I R L C W
O C P E Y C C R A W F I S H J A O O
Z W Q L W T U O T T E R Z C Y R Q E
V Y J H G L E Z M F N Y E H U D B E
N V Y K O B X Y L F V E G R E T J K



Find all the swamp animals in the list.

ALLIGATOR

EGRET

OTTER

ARMADILLOS

HERON

SNAPPING TURTLE

CRAWFISH

MALLARD



REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE



REDUCE! What are some ways you, your friends, or your family can reduce waste that can pollute our beautiful bayou?

REDUCE! What are some ideas that your school could implement to care for our bayou and its environment?

REUSE! What are some items you can use more than once to reduce waste?

RECYCLE! What items can you recycle in one week?

Label each bin with the type of recycling belongs in it.





IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



ASSUMPTION PARISH
WATERWORKS
DISTRICT NO. 1