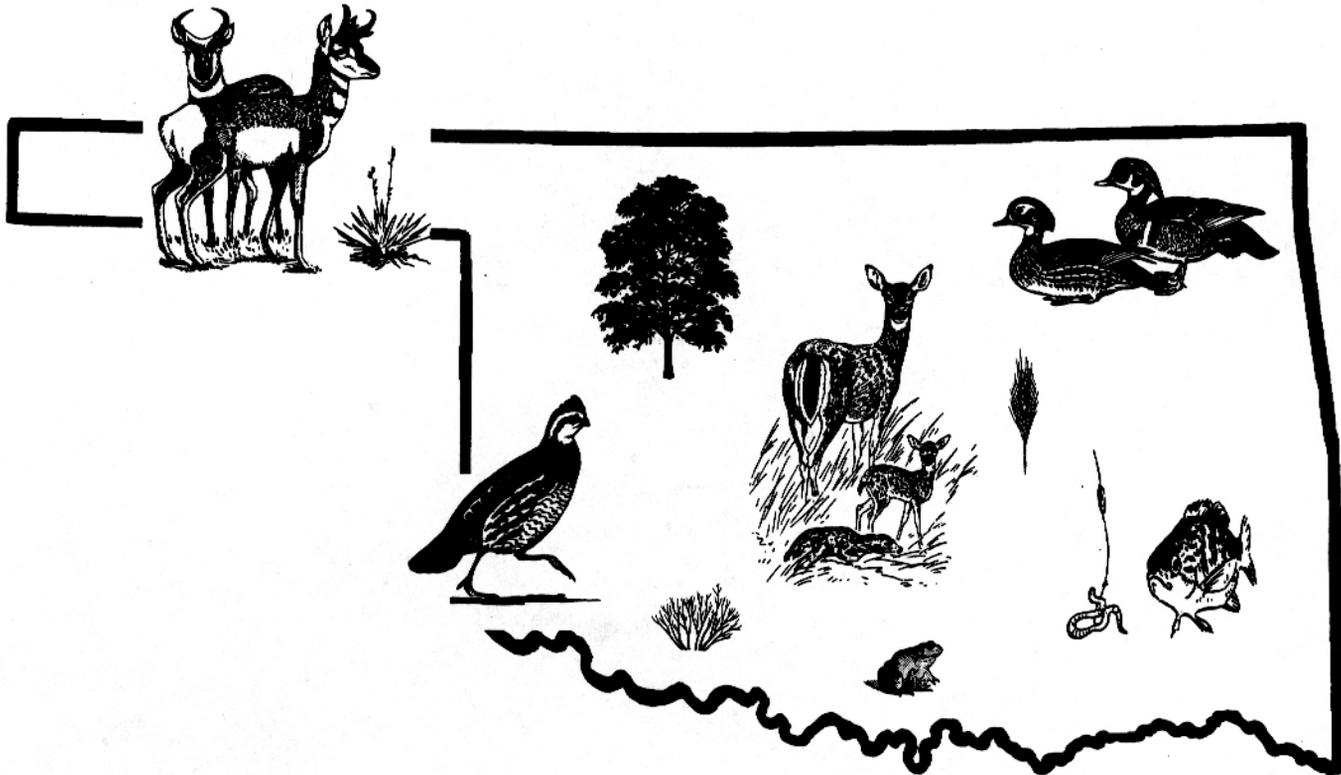


Outdoor Oklahoma

Wildlife Activity Book

For grades K - 4



*Dedicated to the wise use
of our wildlife resources.*

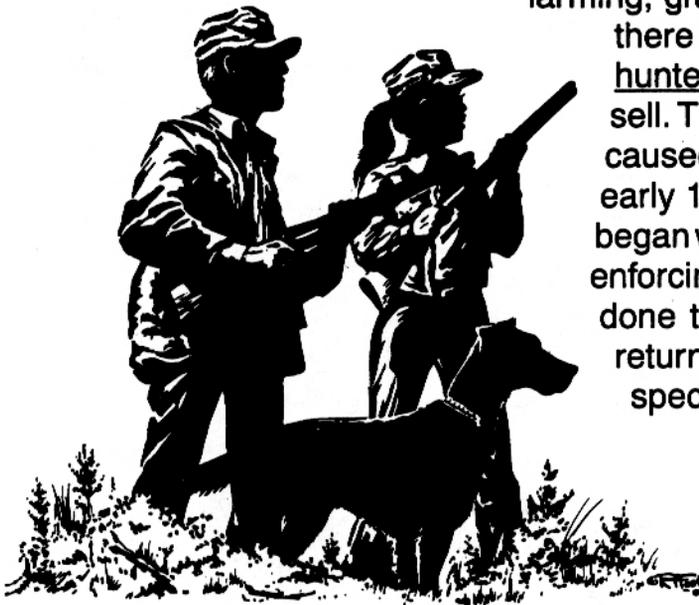
Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
Safari Club International
Oklahoma Station, Safari Club International

Printing Provided By Conoco Inc.

Outdoor Oklahoma – Wildlife Activity Book

Everyone enjoys seeing the many species of wildlife found in Oklahoma. But did you know that many animals are found in greater numbers today than ever? White-tailed deer are a good example. During the late 1800s whitetails were found only in the most remote areas of the country. As the pioneers moved westward, deer habitat was destroyed to make room for

farming, grazing cattle and logging. Also during this time there were few laws protecting animals from market hunters -- those taking large numbers of animals to sell. The pressure of overhunting and loss of habitat caused a decline in many species of wildlife. By the early 1900s sportsmen and other concerned people began working together to halt this trend. States started enforcing game laws to protect wildlife. Work was also done to improve habitat so that whitetails could be returned to their former range. The results were spectacular and today we have more deer than ever.



This success in bringing back white-tailed deer, wild turkey, Canada geese and wood ducks from near extinction happened when people began using scientific principles to manage wildlife. Wildlife management is a

science concerned with maintaining balanced populations of animals. For some species the goal may be to increase the number of animals while with others it may be to keep the population at the same or lower level. Most wild animal populations produce more young each year than their habitat can support, particularly during harsh winter conditions. The ability of a habitat to provide enough food, cover and water for a species is called its carrying capacity. Wildlife managers recognize that carefully regulated hunting is an important tool in adjusting wildlife populations to meet the carrying capacity of their habitat.

Wildlife managers are biologists trained to set bag and season limits based on studies they conduct. They ask such questions as: what does an animal eat? How much water does it need? Where does it live? Another challenge they face is preventing conflicts between wildlife and human activities.

Many people are interested in hunting as an important wildlife management tool and an exciting outdoor activity. **Safari Club International (SCI)** is a sportsmen's organization whose members are bonded by a love of hunting and dedicated to the wise use of our wildlife resources. SCI helped produce this activity book for the young people of Oklahoma. Its members know that ethical hunters have helped rescue many wildlife populations from near extinction. Their generous contributions allow wildlife populations to thrive and be enjoyed by future generations.

UN-ENDANGERED SPECIES

American wildlife is thriving due to the successful conservation efforts funded by hunting sportsmen and women. In fact, **NO** species has become extinct due to sport hunting. Here are some of America's un-endangered species. Use the information below to complete the paragraph at the bottom of the page.



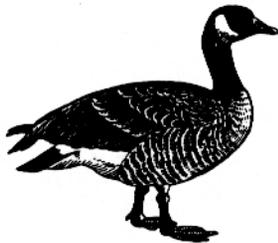
White-tailed deer

1900's

Less than 500,000

1992

27,000,000



Canada Goose

1940's

1,110,000

1990

2,500,000



Wild Turkey

1890's

Nearly extinct

1992

4,000,000+ (Healthy & growing populations in 49 states)



Wood Duck

1890's

Nearly extinct

1991

Most common breeding waterfowl in eastern U.S.

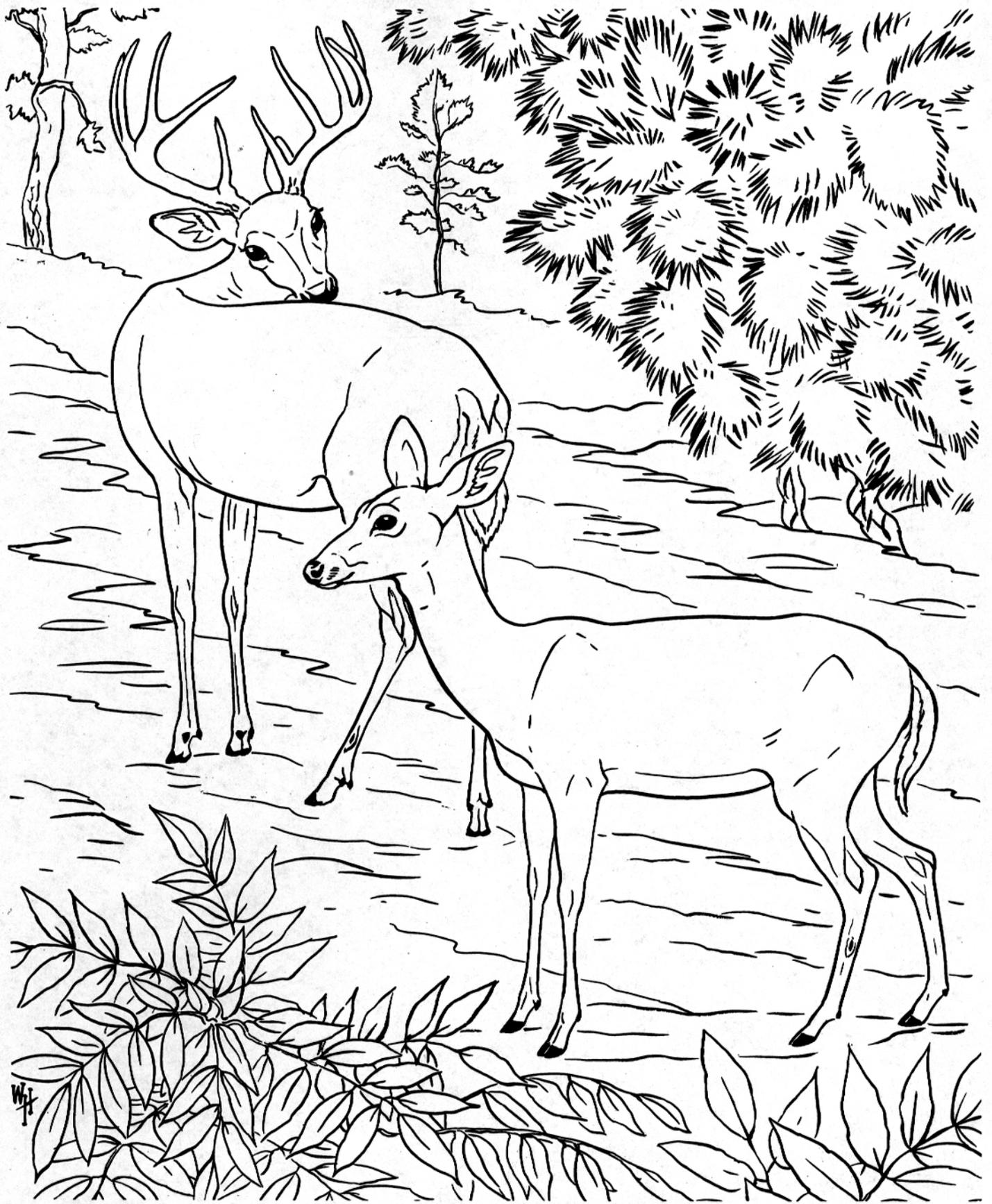
COMPLETE THE PARAGRAPH

Circle the correct word or fill in the blank to complete the paragraph below.

All American game animals have increased / decreased in numbers due to the conservation efforts of sport hunters. In fact, several / no species have become extinct due to sport hunting. The two species that almost became extinct are the _____ and the _____. Today there are 27,000,000 _____ in the U.S. Even though its numbers were never extremely low, there were more than two times as many _____ in 1990 as there were in the 1940's.

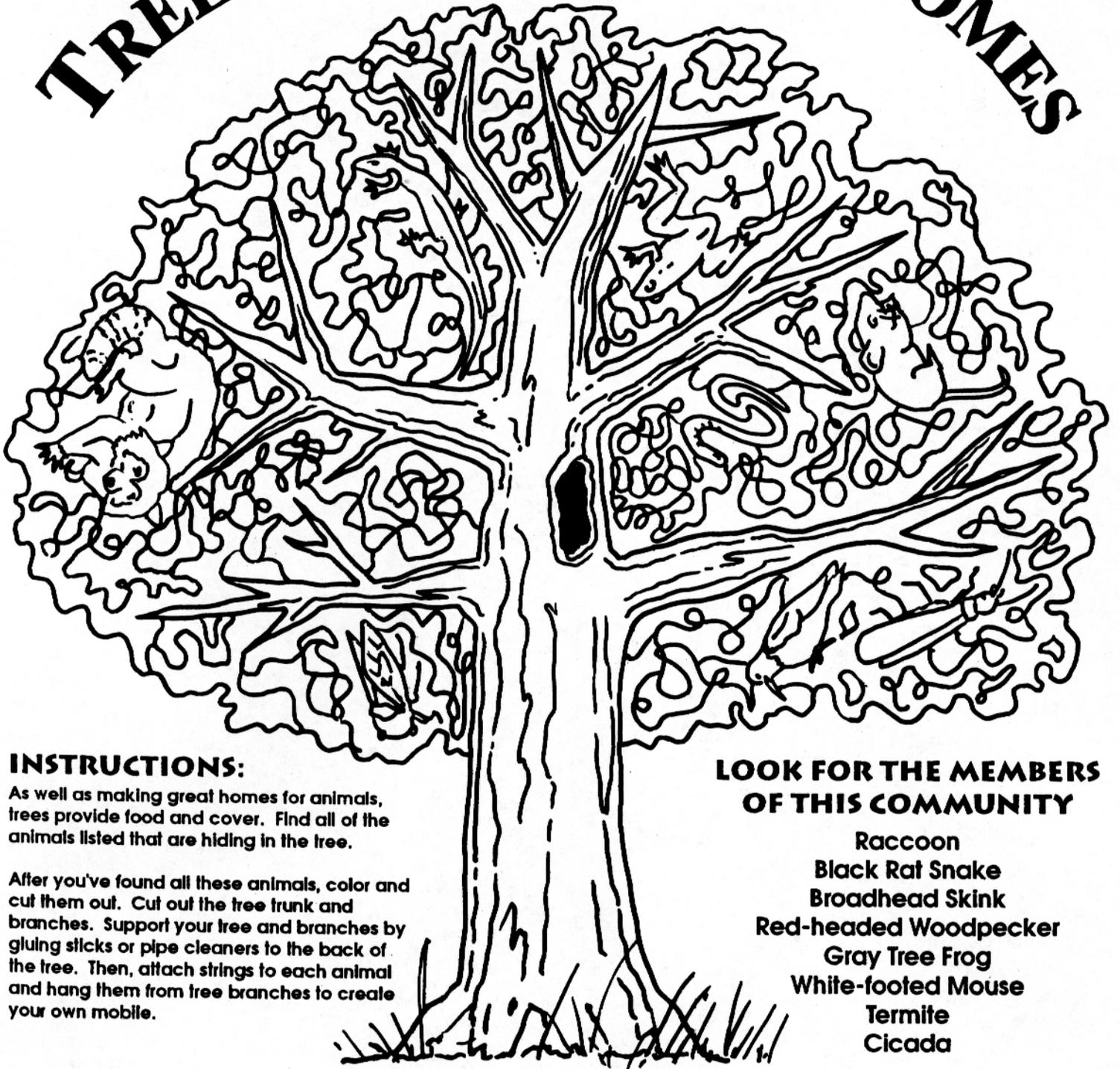
Thank you American hunters!

Answers: increased, no, wild turkey, wood duck, white-tailed deer, Canada geese.



White-tailed Deer are a great example of successful wildlife management. There are more than 27 million whitetails in the nation. Each year the male deer, called a buck, grows a new set of antlers. Antlers fall off in the winter and are eaten by rodents such as mice for the calcium they contain.

TREES MAKE GREAT HOMES



INSTRUCTIONS:

As well as making great homes for animals, trees provide food and cover. Find all of the animals listed that are hiding in the tree.

After you've found all these animals, color and cut them out. Cut out the tree trunk and branches. Support your tree and branches by gluing sticks or pipe cleaners to the back of the tree. Then, attach strings to each animal and hang them from tree branches to create your own mobile.

LOOK FOR THE MEMBERS OF THIS COMMUNITY

Raccoon
Black Rat Snake
Broadhead Skink
Red-headed Woodpecker
Gray Tree Frog
White-footed Mouse
Termite
Cicada

Which happens first?

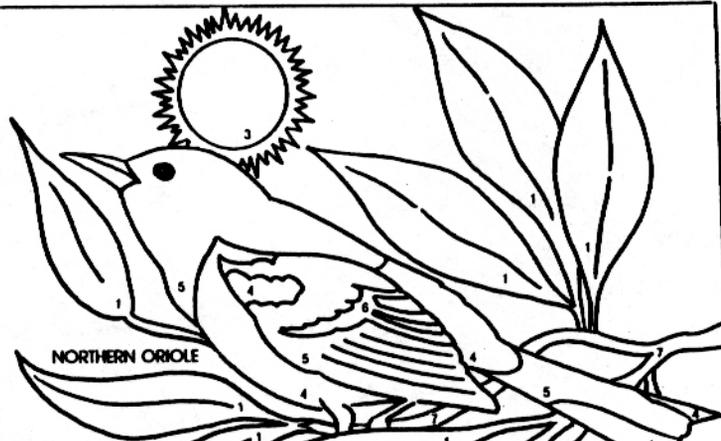
Look at the pictures in each row. Circle the one that happens first.



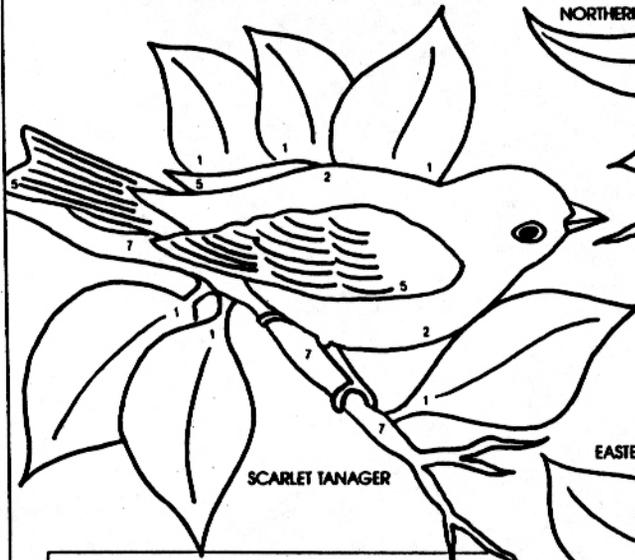
COLOR-BY-NUMBER

Songbirds

Use the guide below to color these pretty songbirds. They fly halfway around the world just to spend the summer in your backyard!



NORTHERN ORIOLE



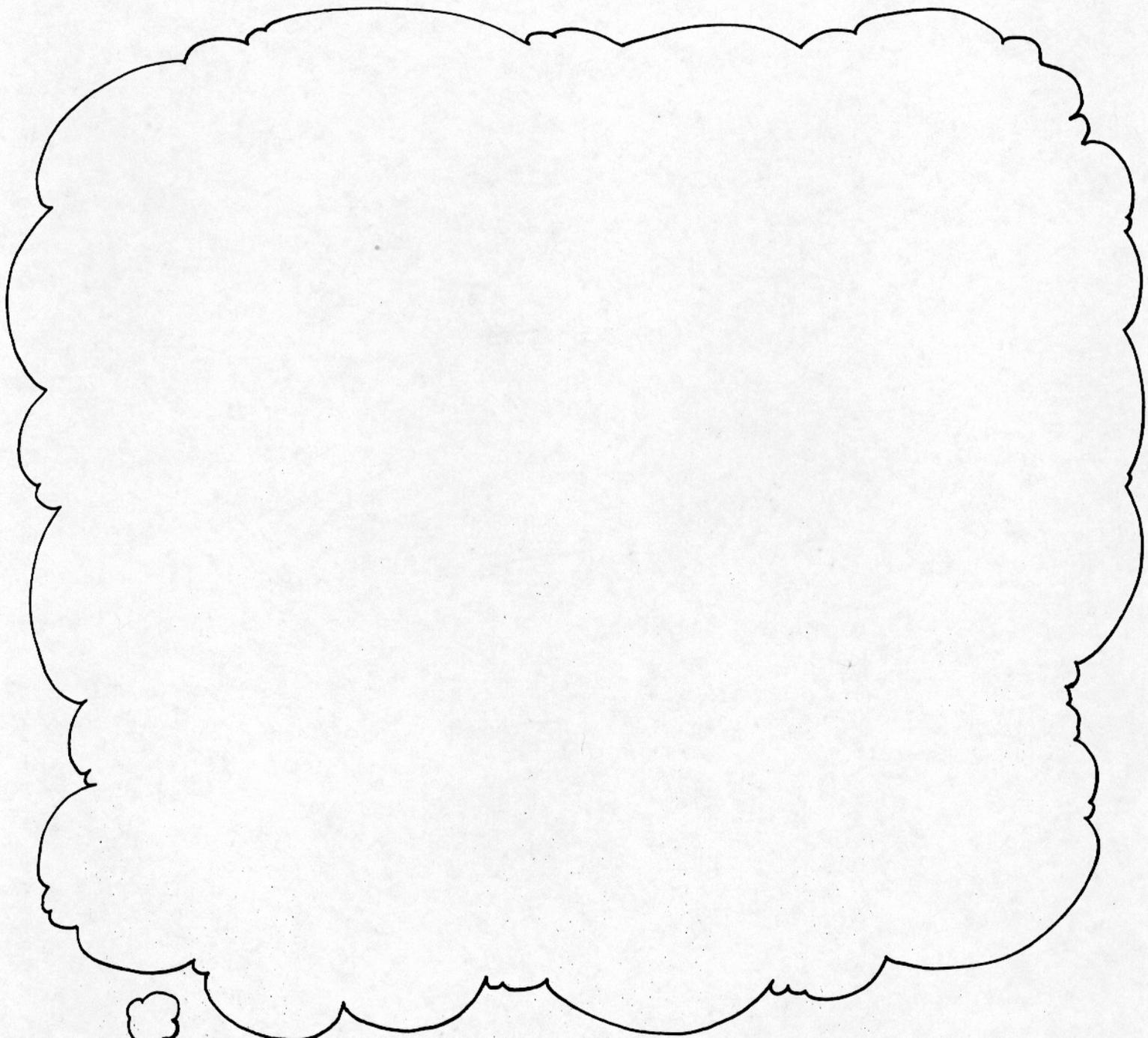
SCARLET TANAGER



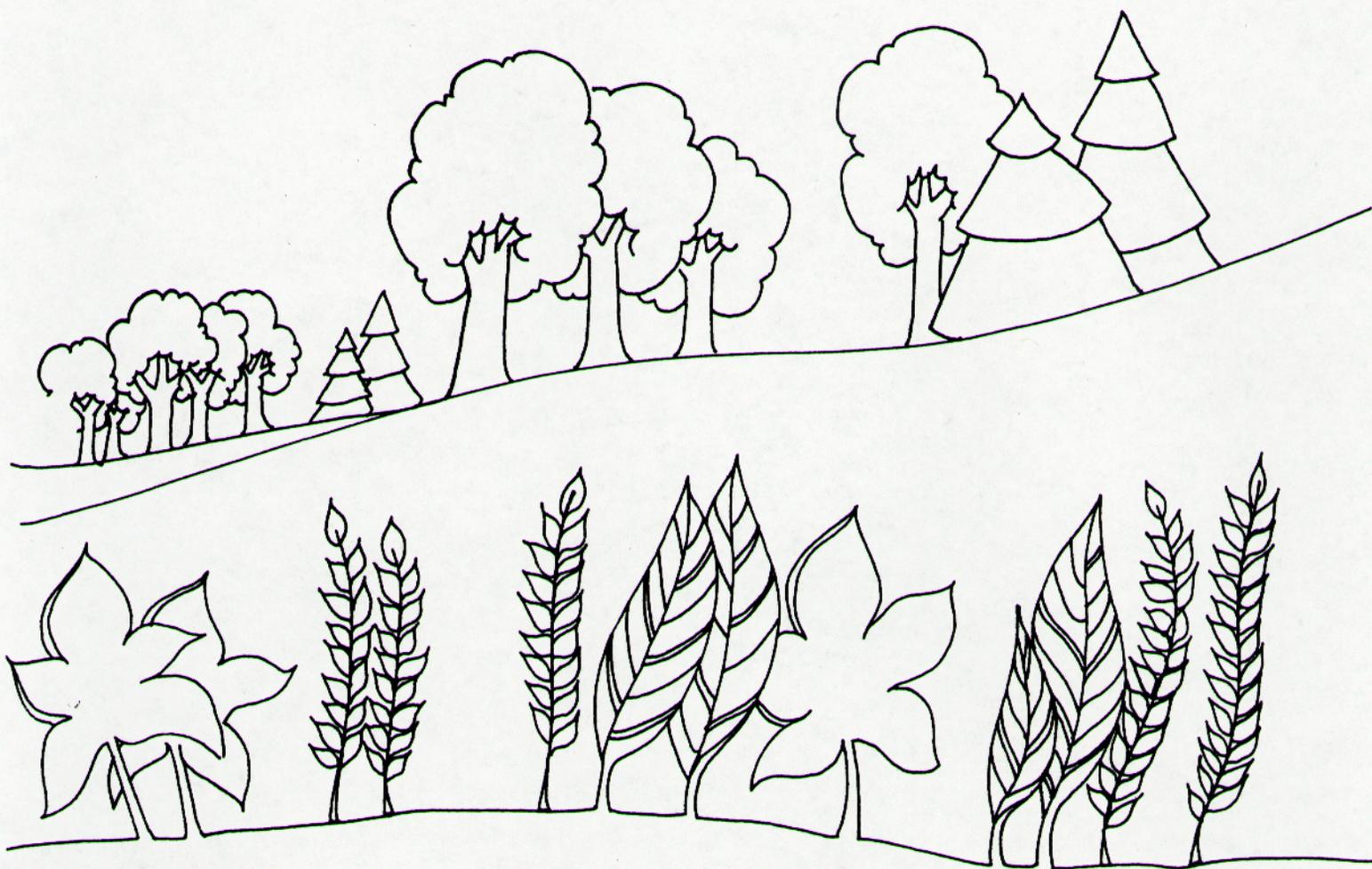
EASTERN BLUEBIRD

COLOR-BY-NUMBER GUIDE

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| 1 - GREEN | 5 - BLACK |
| 2 - RED | 6 - WHITE |
| 3 - YELLOW | 7 - BROWN |
| 4 - ORANGE | 8 - BLUE |



Animals provide food, clothing, transportation, and recreation.
Think of some ways you use animals.



Plants and animals are renewable resources. Draw some young animals among these plants.

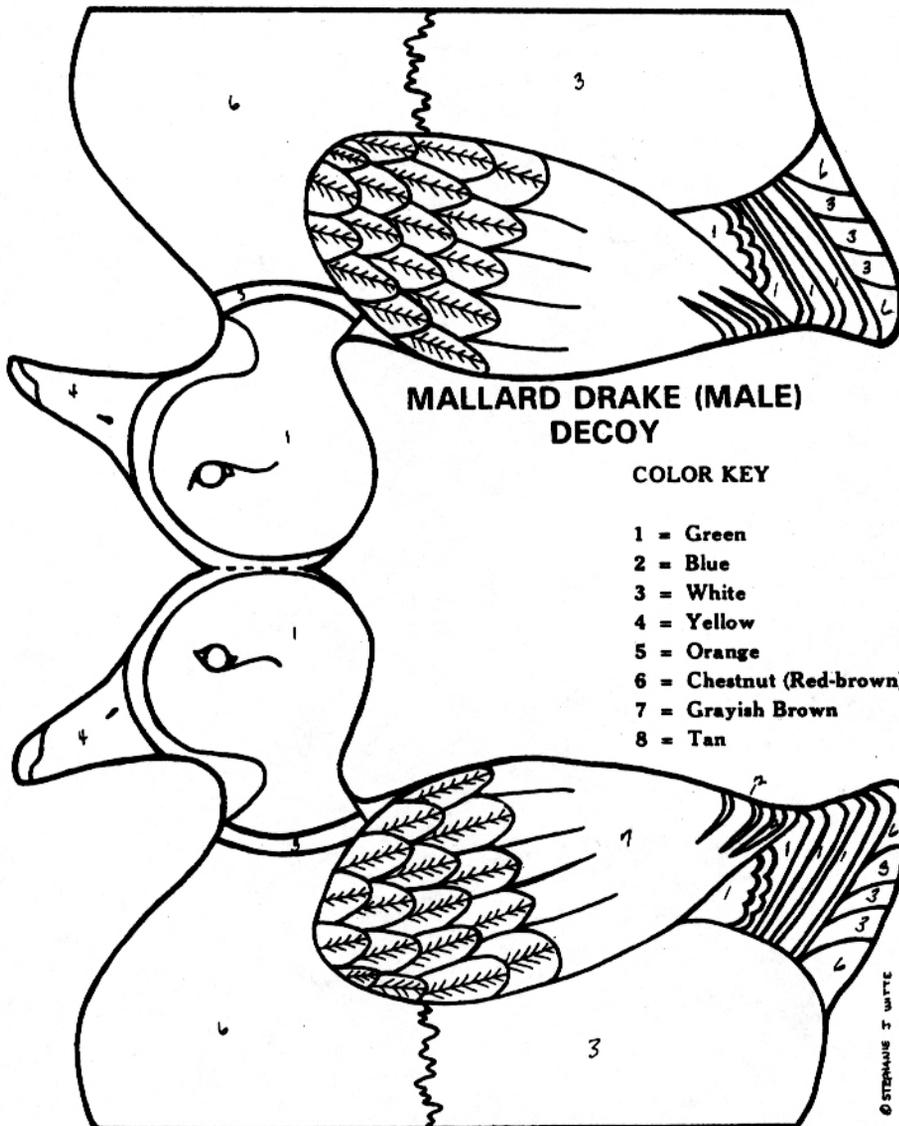
NATURE'S NOTEBOOK

by Joyce Harmon Deppenbusch

DUCKS AND DECOYS

Decoys are duck likenesses that are used to attract birds into an area. The first known waterfowl decoys were made by American Indians over a 1,000 years ago. The head and body were made of woven and tied bulrushes and reeds colored with pigment. Feathers were tucked into the body to make a fairly lifelike canvasback duck. These first decoys were found in Lovelock Cave, Nevada in 1924.

Decoys have advanced from reeds, mud and skins to wood and plastic, but they still attract ducks. Decoy carving has expanded to an art with beautiful models of birds as the end product. Below are two duck decoy models that can be colored to look like the live bird. Trace or make duplicate copies of the decoys and reinforce the back of the model with construction paper if necessary.



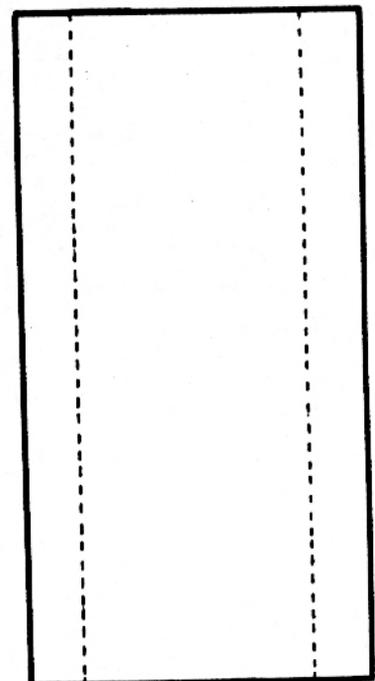
MALLARD DRAKE (MALE)
DECOY

COLOR KEY

- 1 = Green
- 2 = Blue
- 3 = White
- 4 = Yellow
- 5 = Orange
- 6 = Chestnut (Red-brown)
- 7 = Grayish Brown
- 8 = Tan

The male mallard is nicknamed "Greenhead." Mallards are the most common kind of duck, and are found in all flyways. The adults weigh about 2 3/4 pounds and are about 24" long. Mallards often feed in flocks in early morning and late afternoon in farm fields, spending nights in marshes and creeks. They eat insects, grain and other vegetation.

BASE FOR MALLARD

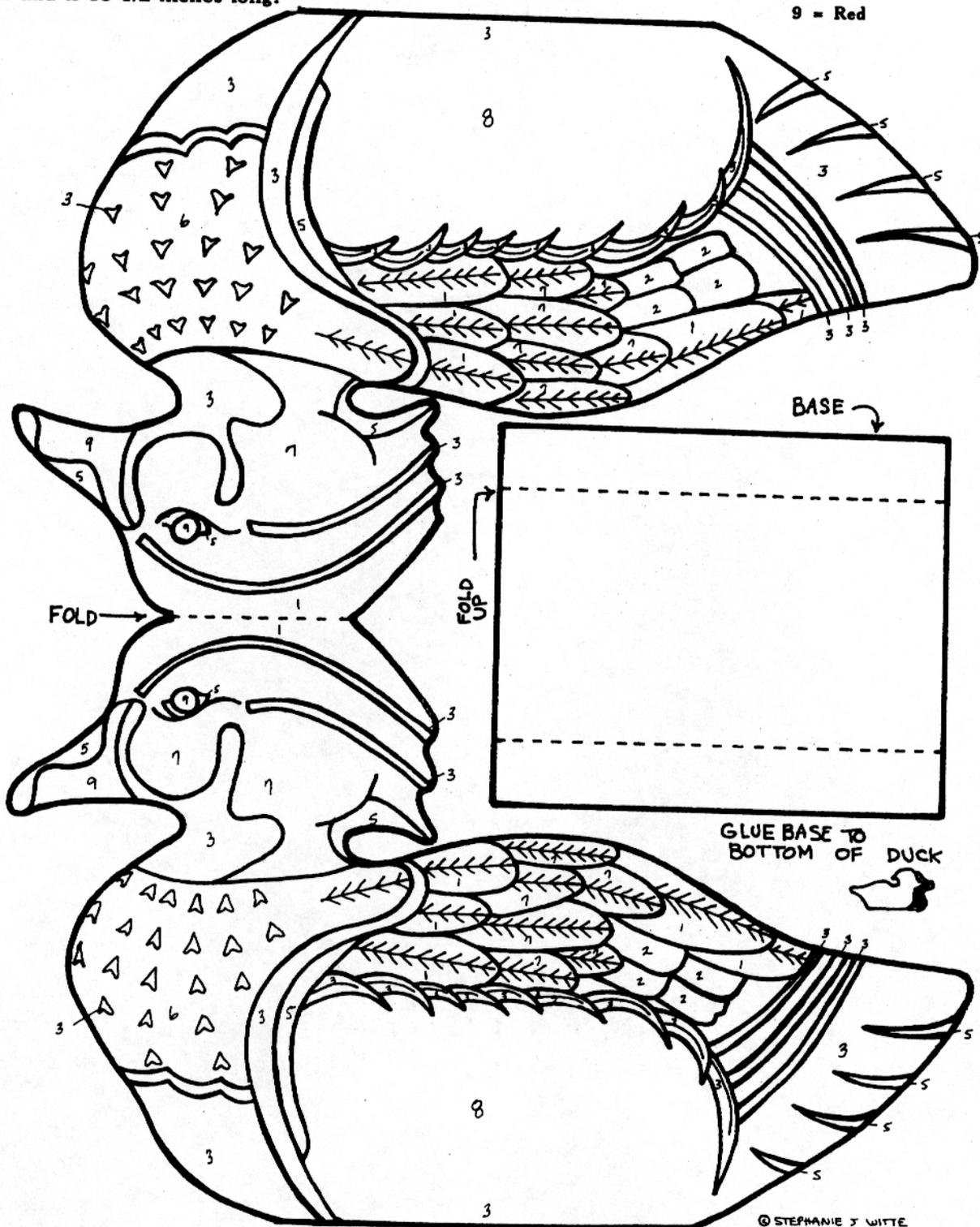


Wood ducks have beautiful plumage and are nicknamed "woody." They can be found in all flyways, often near wooded streams and ponds. They are able to fly through thick timber easily. Food for the wood duck includes acorns, insects, berries and other vegetation. The average adult weighs about 1 1/2 pounds and is 18 1/2 inches long.

WOOD DUCK DRAKE (MALE) DECOY

COLOR KEY

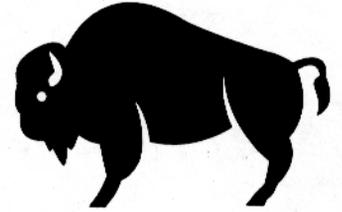
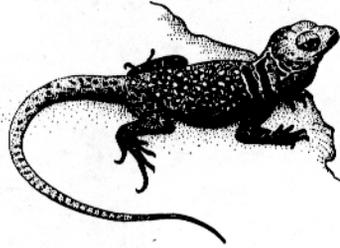
- 1 = Green
- 2 = Blue
- 3 = White
- 4 = Yellow
- 5 = Black
- 6 = Chestnut (Red-brown)
- 7 = Purple
- 8 = Tan
- 9 = Red



OKLAHOMA STATE SYMBOLS

3 WAY MATCH

Connect each drawing with a line to the correct state symbol and name.



STATE
REPTILE

STATE
BIRD

STATE
MAMMAL

STATE
FISH

SCISSOR-TAILED
FLYCATCHER

WHITE
BASS

BISON

COLLARED
LIZARD

FILL IN THE BLANKS

_____ is another name for the state reptile.

Oklahoma's state tree, the _____, is one of the first to bloom in the spring.

This large grazing animal weighs between 800 to 2,000 pounds: _____.

The white bass was adopted in 1974 as the state fish. These fish are sometimes called _____.

This state symbol migrates to Mexico and Central America during the winter: _____.

The state rock is the _____ rock, so named because it looks like this flower.

- Bison
- Tulip
- Scissor-tail Flycatcher
- Sandies
- Rose
- Mountain Boomer
- Redbud
- Oak
- Cardinal
- White-tailed Deer
- Gobbler
- Minnows

MATCHING

Match the state symbol with one of the statements on the right by placing the letter on the line.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| ___ Scissortail Flycatcher | a. Is formed by the mineral Barite. |
| ___ Mistletoe | b. Grows on the tallgrass prairie. |
| ___ Port Silt Loam | c. Has heavy curved horns. |
| ___ Redbud | d. Has white berries |
| ___ Collared Lizard | e. Has heart-shaped leaves. |
| ___ Indian Blanket | f. Found in many Oklahoma lakes. |
| ___ American Bison | g. Lives in rocky areas. |
| ___ White Bass | h. Has bright orange and brown flowers. |
| ___ Rose Rock | i. Catches insects in the air. |
| ___ Indian Grass | j. This soil is good for growing crops. |

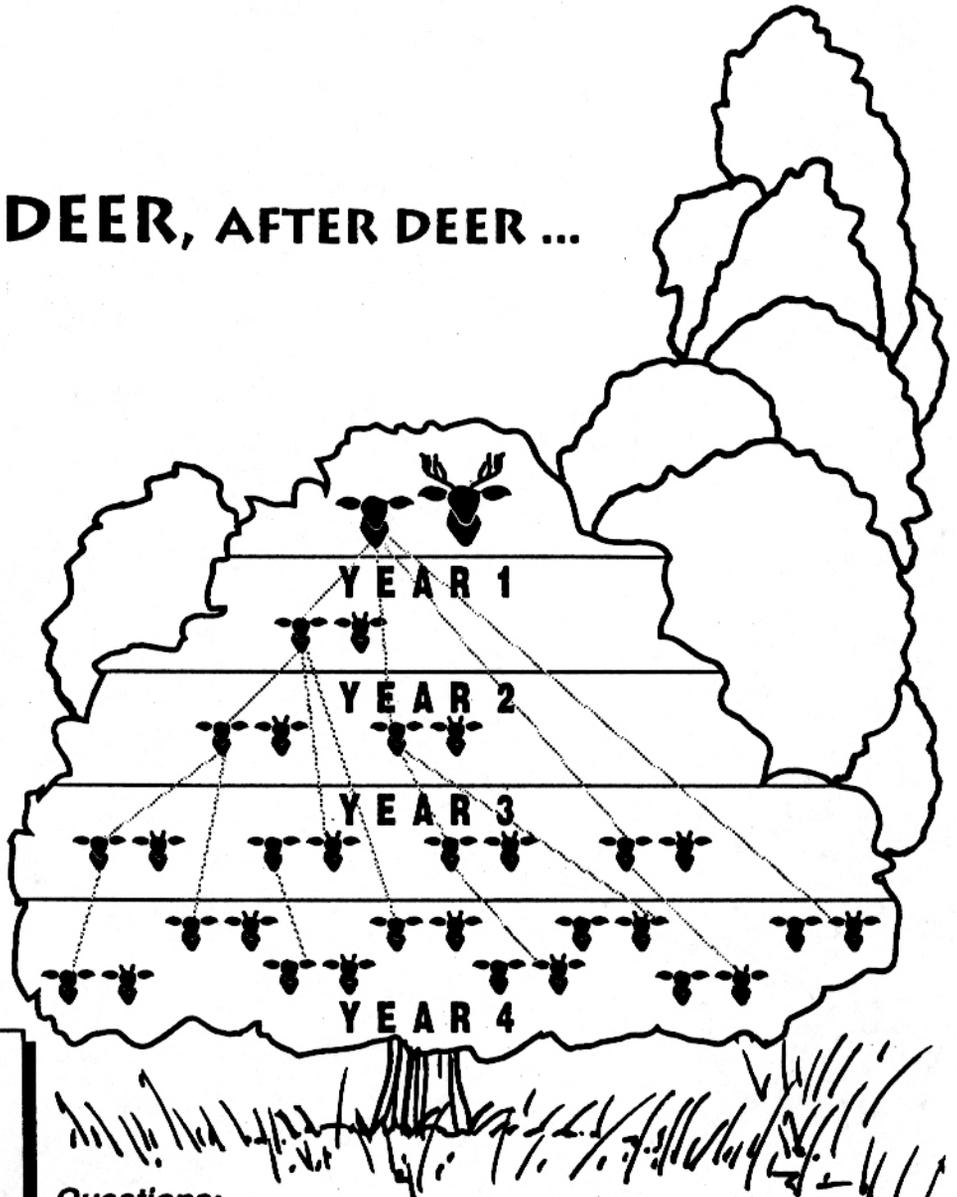
Answers: reptile: collared lizard; bird: scissor-tailed flycatcher; mammal: bison; fish: white bass. Fill-in: Mountain Boomer, redbud, bison, Sandies, scissor-tailed flycatcher, rose. Matching: i,d,j,e,g,h,c,f,a,b.

DEER, AFTER DEER, AFTER DEER ...

An average doe will have 2 fawns (young) each year. Half the fawns will be does (females) and the other half bucks (males).

Their habitat (surroundings) provide food, cover, water and space to support a specific number of animals. This is called *carrying capacity*.

Complete the math problem below to find the carrying capacity of deer in this illustration. Then answer the three questions.



WORK IT OUT HERE

YEAR 1 •	<u>2</u>	+	<u>2</u>	=	<u>4</u>
YEAR 2 •	—	+	—	=	—
YEAR 3 •	—	+	—	=	<u>16</u>
YEAR 4 •	—	+	—	=	—
	I OF ADULTS		I OF FAWNS		

Questions:

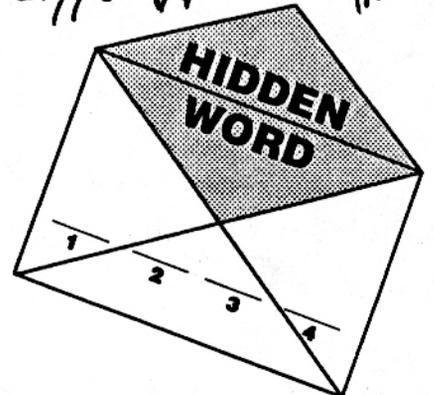
- 1.) The carrying capacity of this habitat is ___ deer, ___ does and ___ bucks. (Hint! The carrying capacity is reached after the fourth year).
- 2.) How many deer would there be in year five? ___
- 3.) This is ___ over the carrying capacity.

1 STA○VATION

2 ○ISEASE

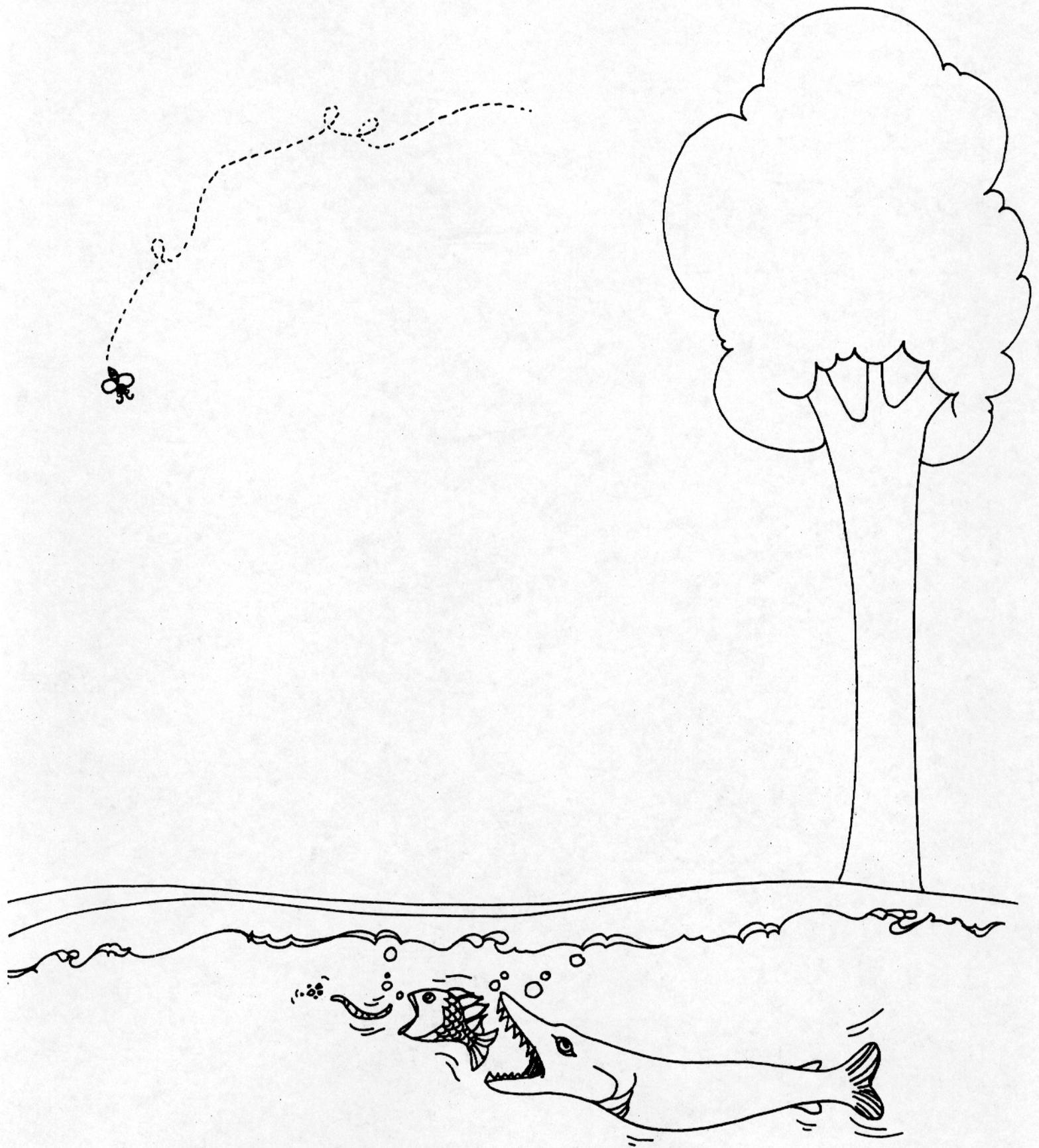
3 PR○DATION

4 HARV○ST



When there are too many deer the over population is controlled by a number of means. Complete each answer and find a hidden word.

Answers: 1.) 32 deer, 16 does and 16 bucks. 2.) 64 deer. 3.) 32 • Hidden Word - Deer (of course).



Many animals feed on other animals. What might eat this bug?

Dot 2 Dot

Do you know what I am?
Connect the dots and find out!



Color Me Too!

I am a tom (male) turkey.

Color my:

Head - blue

Wattles - red

Bill - yellow

Feathers - brown or
bronze with black tips

Legs - brown

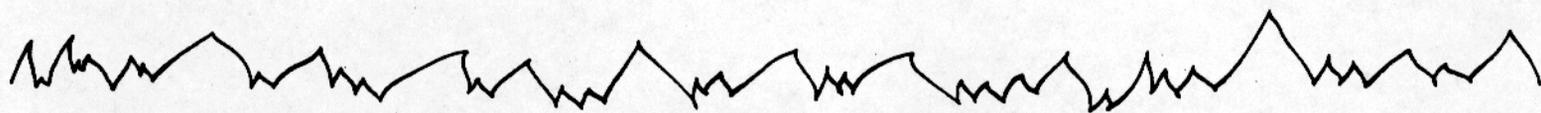
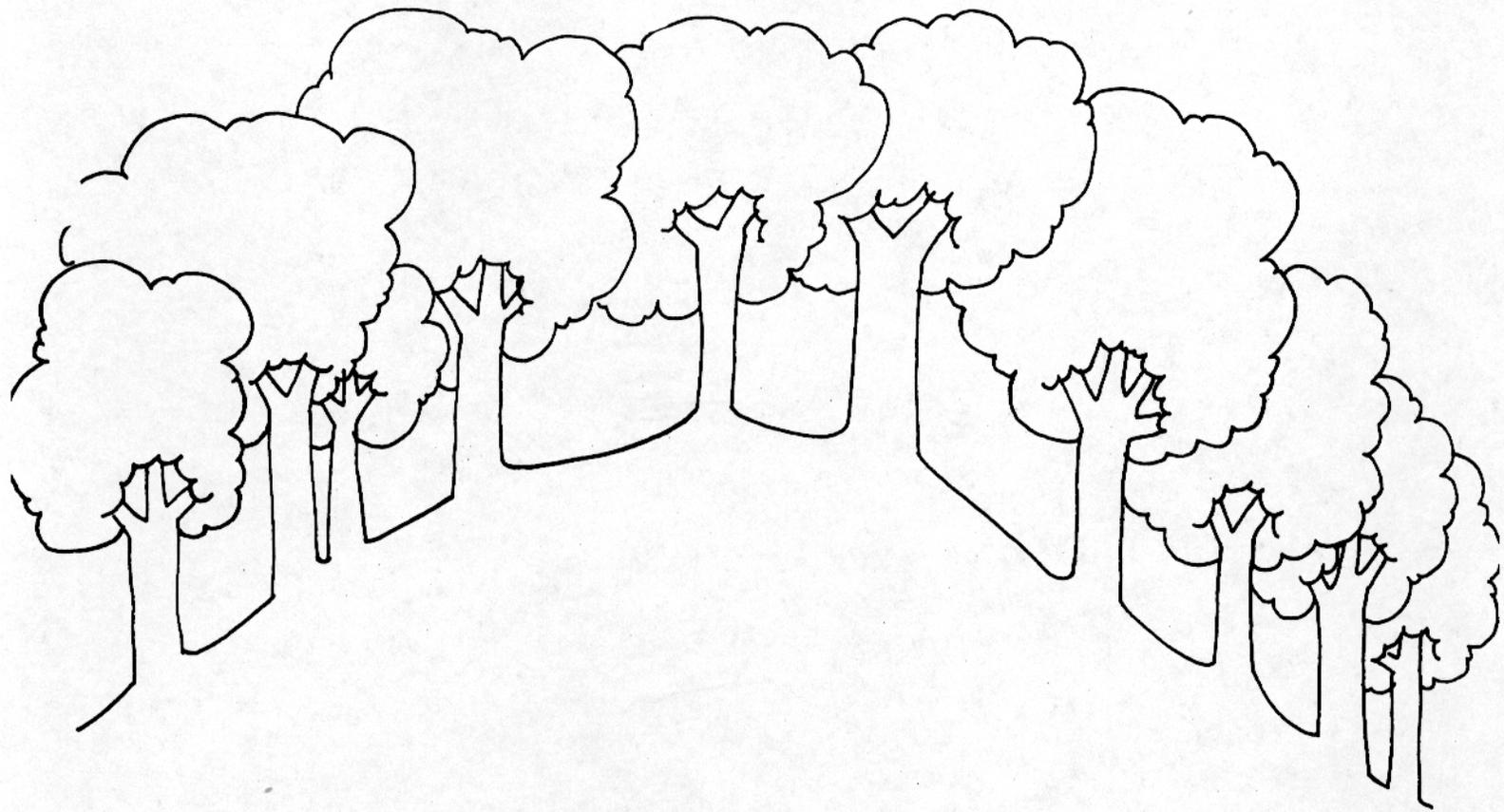
Beard - black

WOW!

THAT'S WILD!

- Benjamin Franklin wanted the wild turkey to be our national bird.
- Young turkeys are called *POULTS*.
- Wild turkeys almost disappeared from Oklahoma in the early 1900s.
- Conservation and education helped save one of our state's most interesting birds.

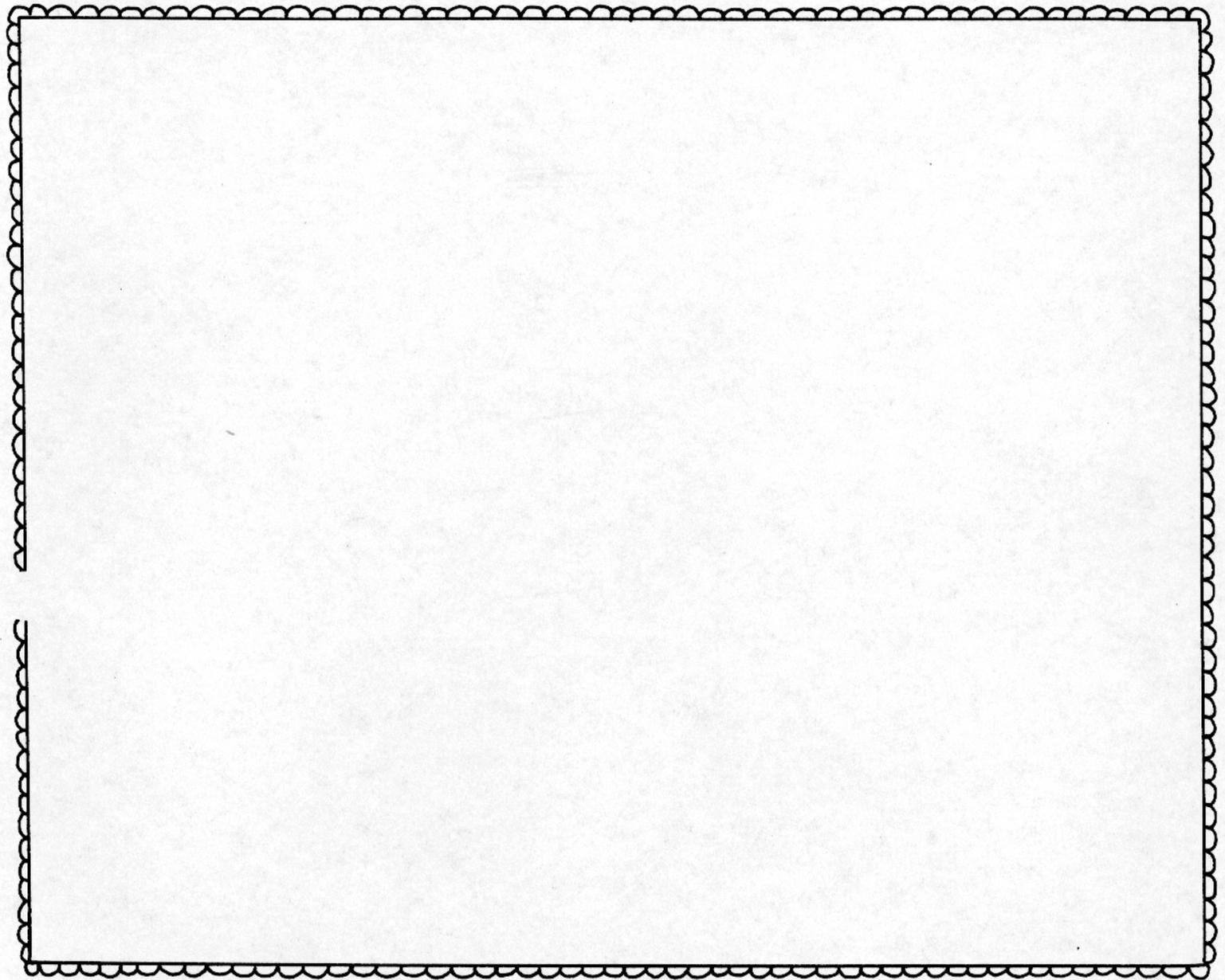




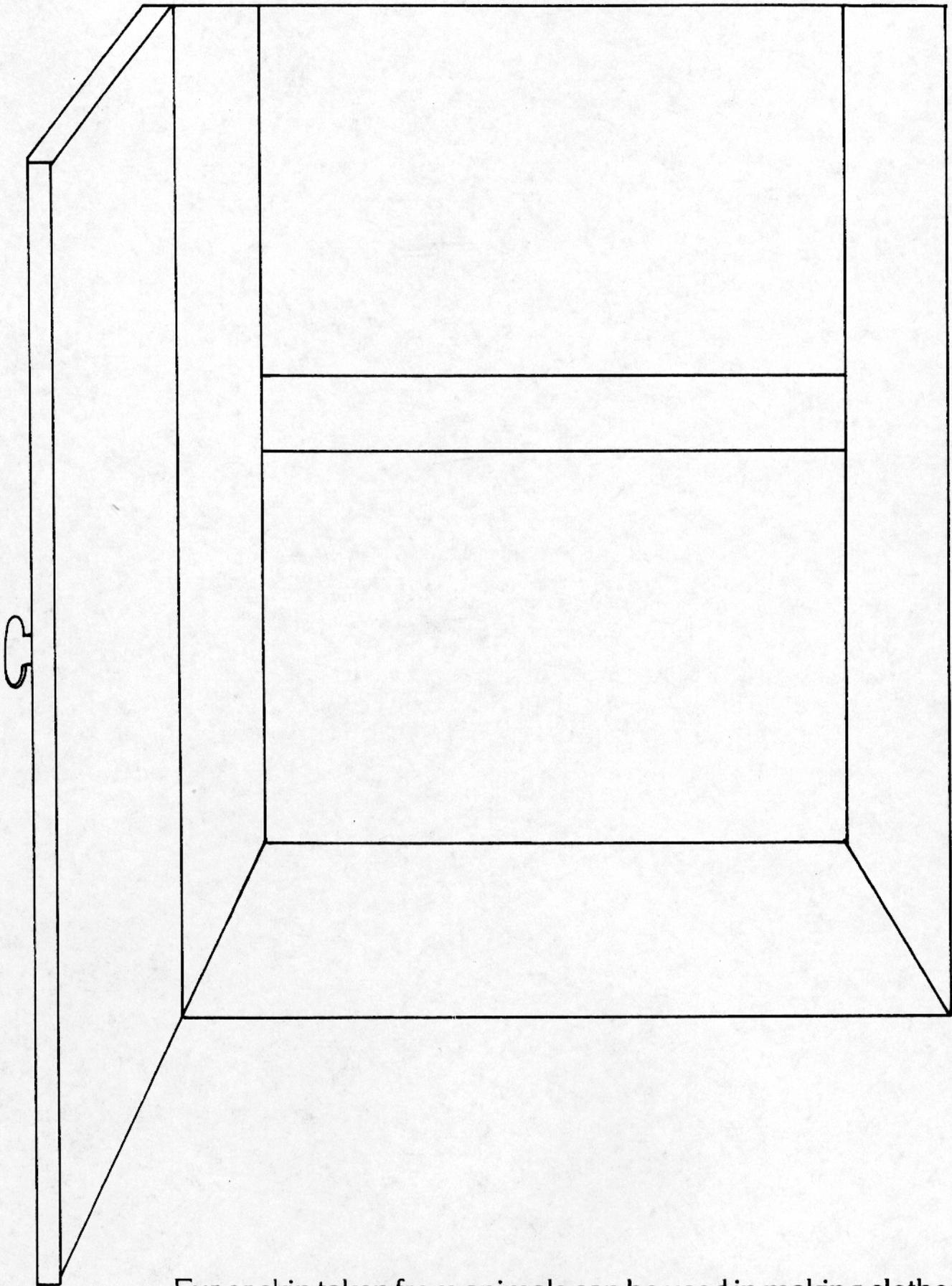
If wild animals did not die, overpopulation would be a problem.
What would a field or forest look like if too many animals lived there?



Cottontails – are found in all parts of Oklahoma. The types of habitat preferred by cottontails include brushy areas, creek bottoms, briar patches and swamps. During the summer they eat green plants while during the winter their diet is made up mostly of bark and twigs.



People enjoy wildlife in many ways. Design a postcard showing how wildlife provides recreation for people.



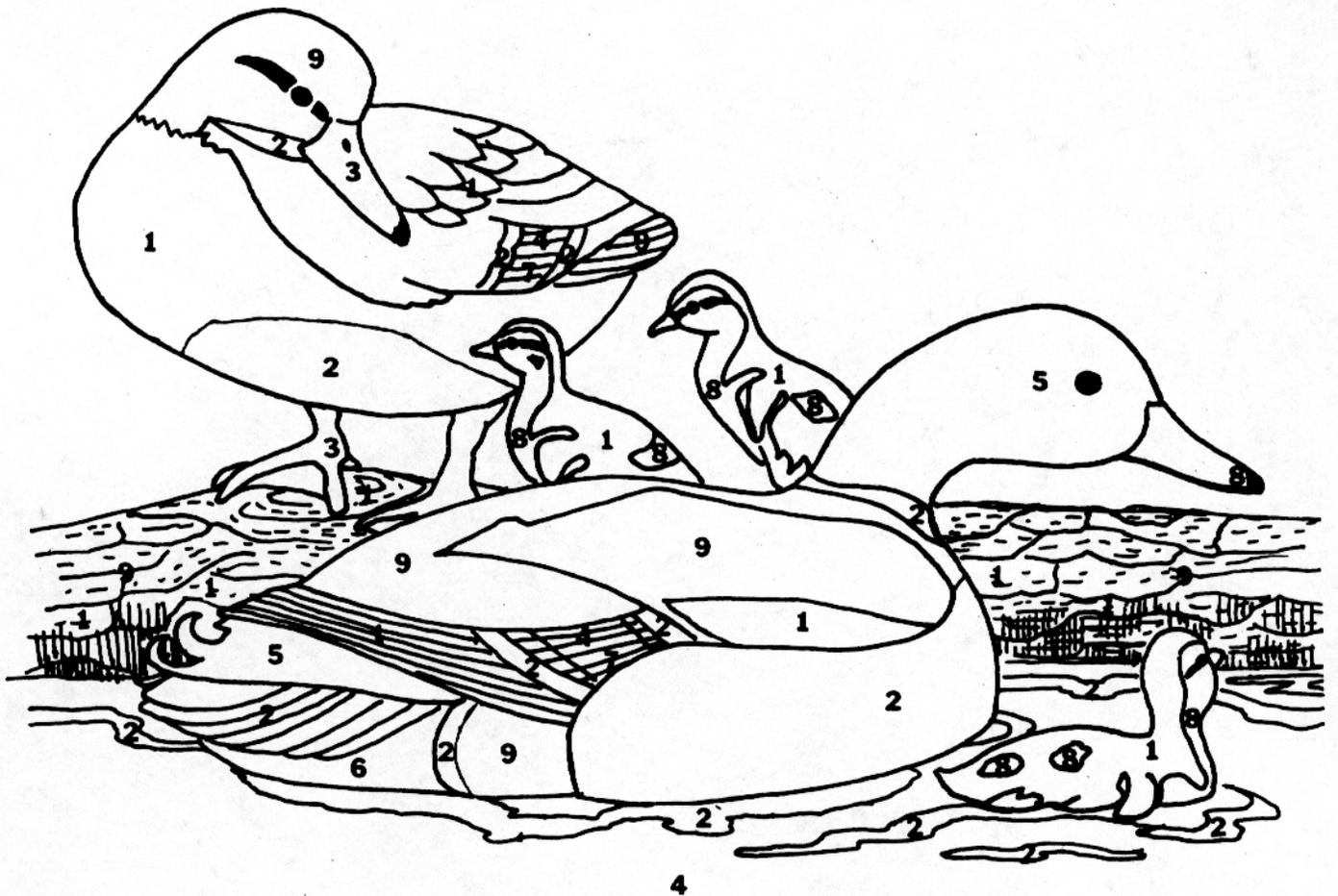
Fur or skin taken from animals can be used in making clothes or shoes. Draw some things made from animals' hides.

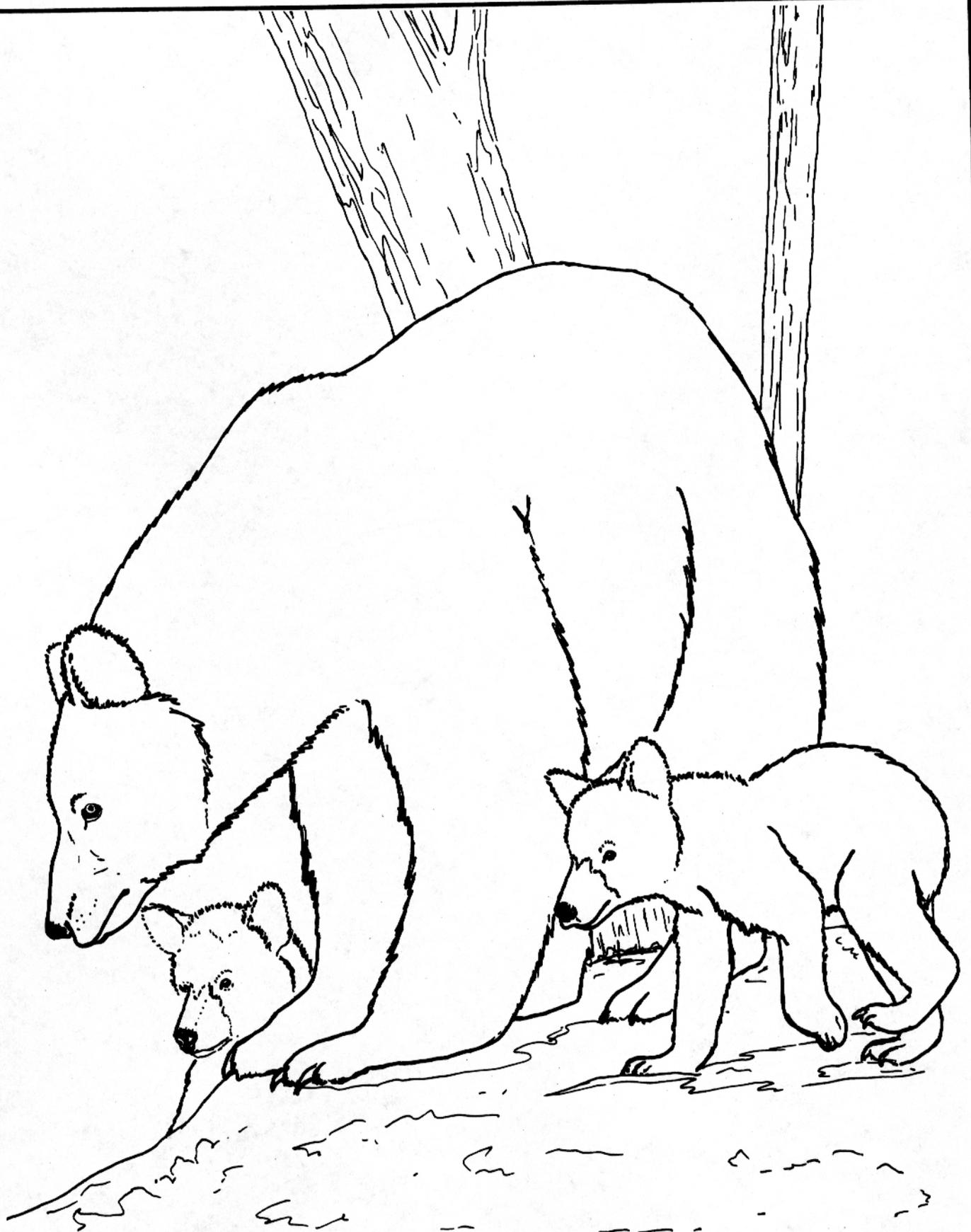
THE MALLARD PATROL

Color the mallard duck family by following the key below. The male, or drake, has bright colored feathers to attract a mate. The drab feathers of hens and chicks make them difficult for predators to see.

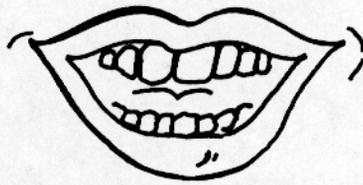
1 : brown
2 : white
3 : orange
4 : blue

5 : green
6 : black
7 : purple
8 : yellow
9 : tan or beige





Black Bear – Did you know that Oklahoma has black bears? In 1995 there were an estimated 250 bears in the eastern and southeastern parts of the state. Black bears in Oklahoma are a protected species and cannot be hunted. Bears do not hibernate but they do sleep for long periods during the winter.



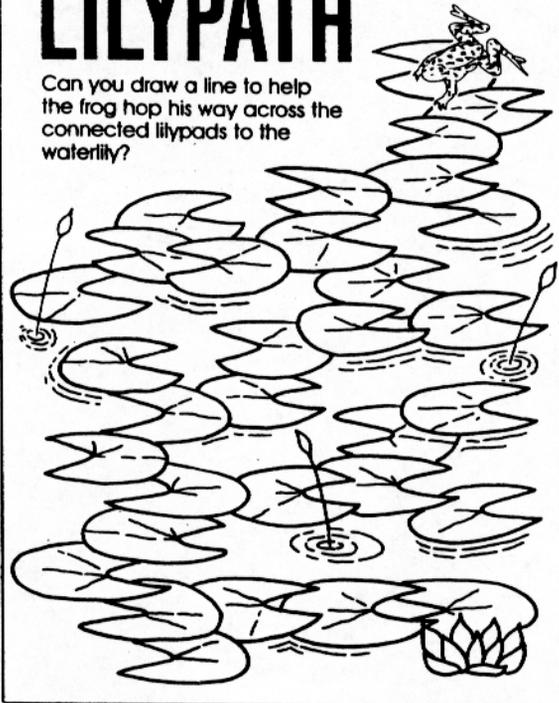
Many people hunt, fish, and trap for food. Draw a picture of an animal you have eaten.



Bluegill – are a small sunfish found in most lakes, ponds and streams in Oklahoma. These tasty fish are easy and fun to catch. Many anglers catch bluegill using just basic fishing equipment and a can of worms. They can often be caught from the shoreline.

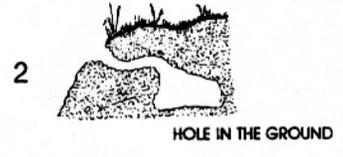
LILYPATH

Can you draw a line to help the frog hop his way across the connected lily pads to the waterlily?



Where do they live?

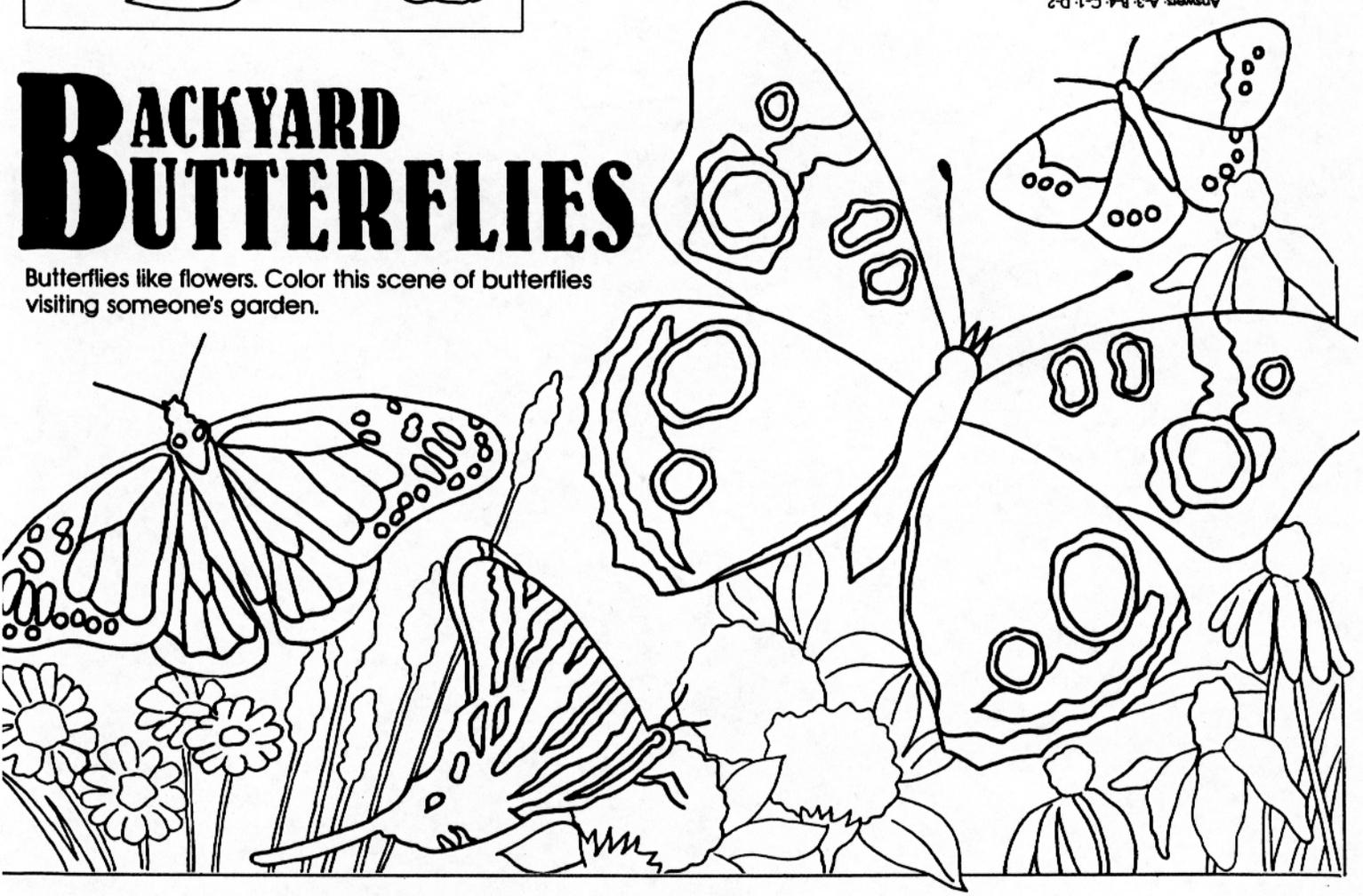
Draw lines to match these animals to the homes they would like best.



ANSWERS: A-3; B-4; C-1; D-2

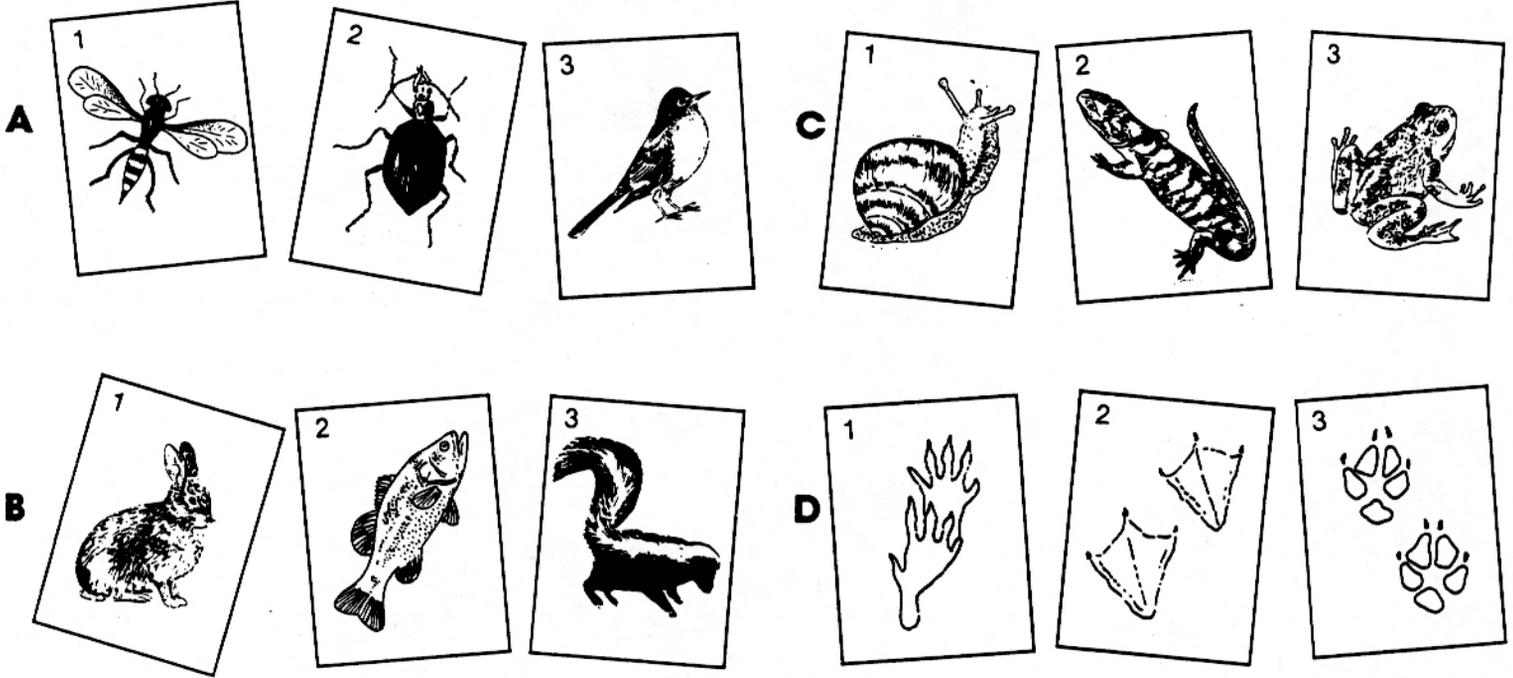
BACKYARD BUTTERFLIES

Butterflies like flowers. Color this scene of butterflies visiting someone's garden.



ODD ONE OUT

Circle the picture in each row that doesn't belong. See the answers below to find out why.



ANSWERS: A: 3 is a bird; 1 and 2 are insects; B: 2 is a fish, 1 and 3 are mammals; C: 1 is a snail, 2 and 3 are both amphibians; D: 2 is a bird track, 1 and 3 are both mammal tracks.

COLD COUNTING

Brrrr! How cold is it outside? Count how many things pictured below start with the letter "C", then count how many things start with "O", "L", and "D". Write the numbers on the line by each letter.



C = _____

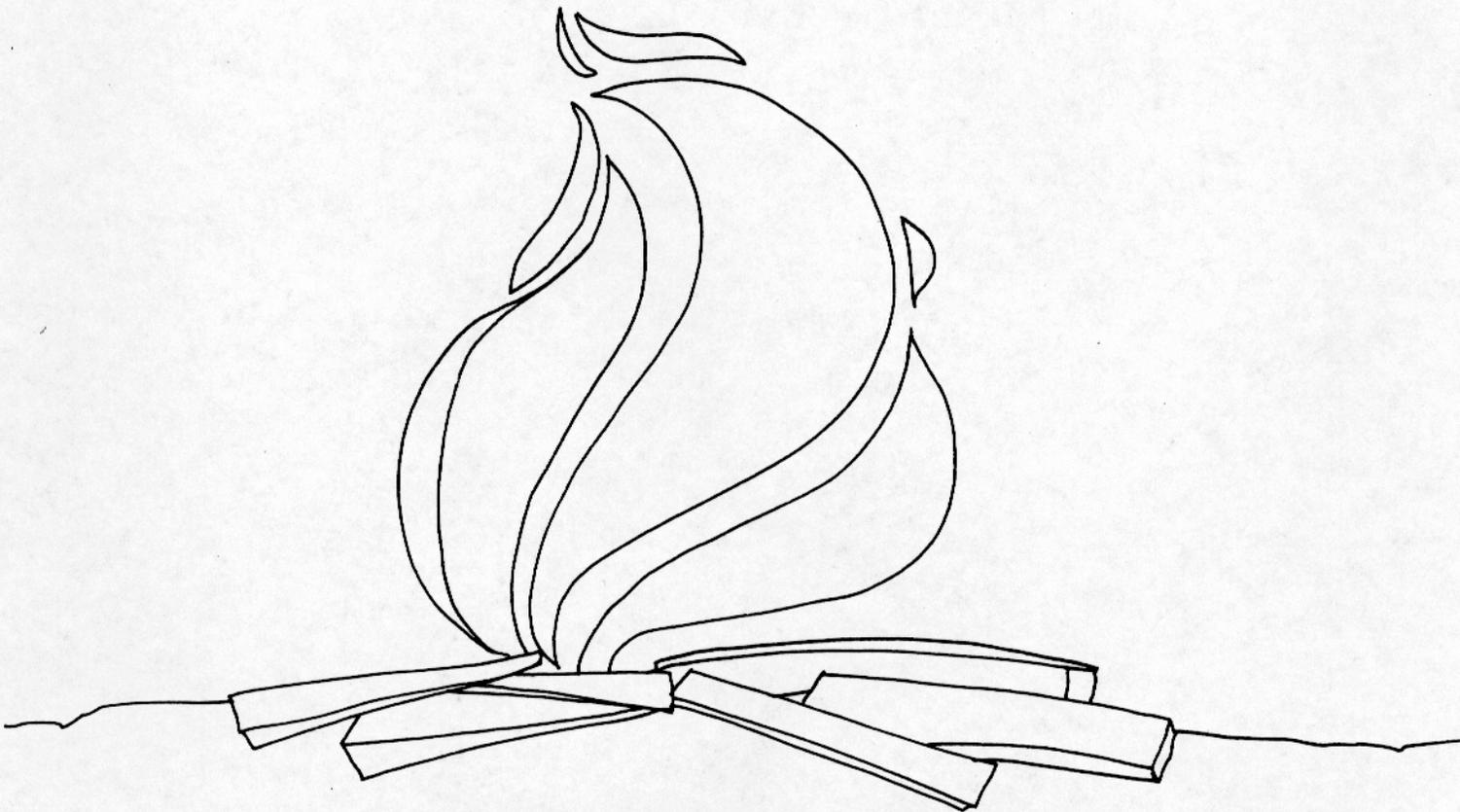
O = _____

L = _____

D = _____



Squirrels – Two kinds of squirrels are hunted in Oklahoma, Eastern fox squirrels and Eastern gray squirrels. Gray squirrels are a little smaller than their cousins the fox squirrel. Squirrels live in tree cavities or build nests from leaves. Watch squirrels in the fall to see where they hide their acorns.



After hunting or fishing all day, many campers prepare dinner over an open fire. What would you cook for dinner if you had been successful?

Vocabulary Words

Bag limit – the maximum number of animals allowed to be taken by an individual in regulated fishing or hunting.

Carrying capacity – the number of animals of a species that can live in a habitat given the ability of that habitat to provide food, cover and water.

Conservation – the wise use of natural resources to ensure their availability for future generations.

Cover – the vegetation and terrain (physical features of the land) that provide concealment, sleeping, feeding and breeding areas for wildlife.

Endangered – used to describe a species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant part of its range.

Game animal – the legal designation for animals which may be managed and hunted only under regulation.

Habitat – the place where an animal lives, including food water, shelter or cover, and space suitable to its needs.

Harvest – the intentional gathering of plants, animals and other natural resources for use, especially renewable resources. In wildlife management, hunting is considered a form of harvest in which individual animals are killed.

Hunter – a person or animal who searches for wildlife with the intent of catching or killing it.

Market hunting – unregulated hunting for the purpose of selling various wildlife species. Took place up through the 1800s and early 1900s.

Nongame species – all wildlife species which are not commonly hunted, fished or trapped by humans.

Predator – an animal that kills and eats other animals.

Preservation – protection which emphasizes no direct use by humans, contrasted with conservation which emphasizes a wise use of natural resources.

Prey – animals that are killed and eaten by other animals.

Recreational or Sport Hunting – hunting that is regulated through hunting laws and bag limits. It is an important tool used by wildlife managers to adjust wildlife populations so they do not exceed an area's carrying capacity. Do not confuse with poaching, which is a violation of game laws.

Territory – an area defended by an animal against others of the same species and used for breeding, feeding or both. Many species of wildlife are territorial.

Wildlife management – the application of scientific knowledge and technical skills to protect, conserve, enhance or extend the value of wildlife and its habitat to maintain wildlife resources at the optimum level.

Acknowledgements

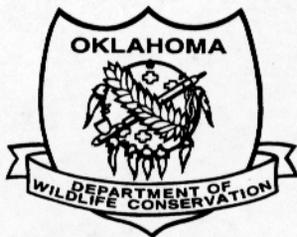
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Safari Club International is a nonprofit organization formed to promote the conservation of wildlife and the protection of hunter's rights.



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Oklahoma Station is the local chapter of Safari Club International.



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