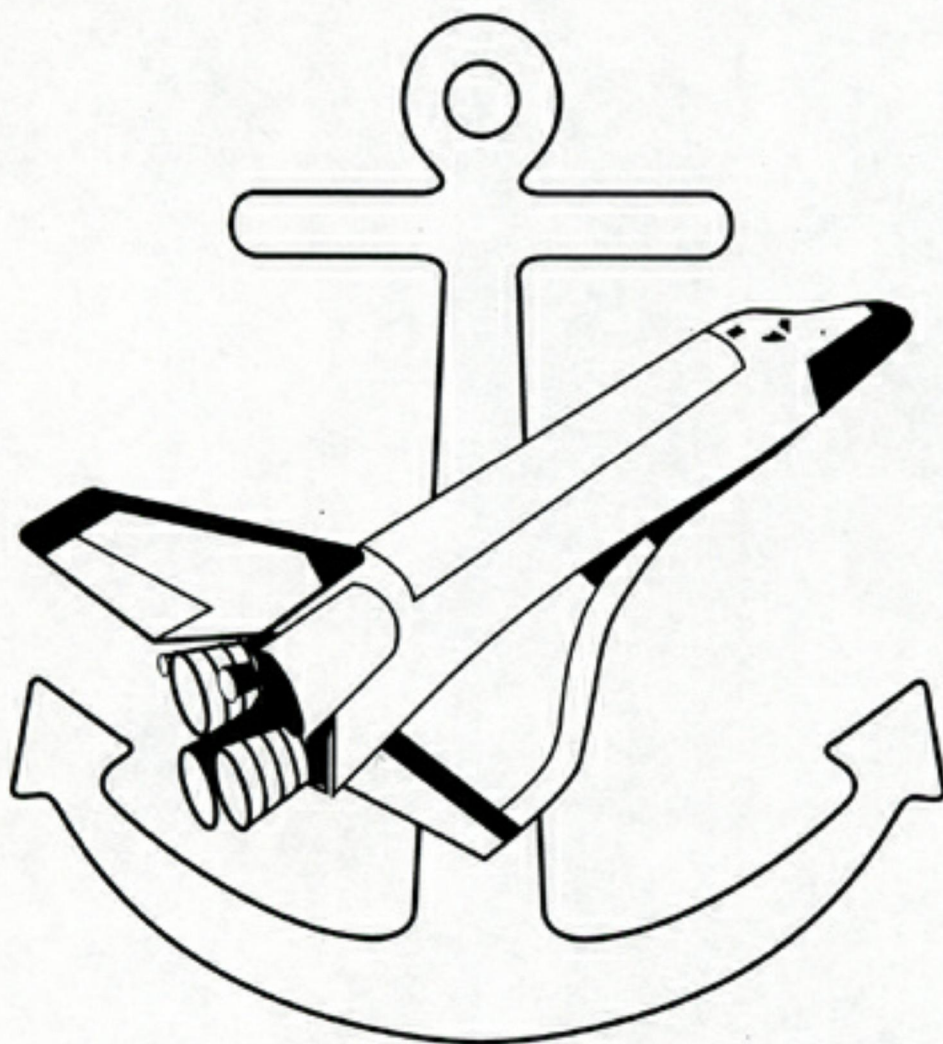


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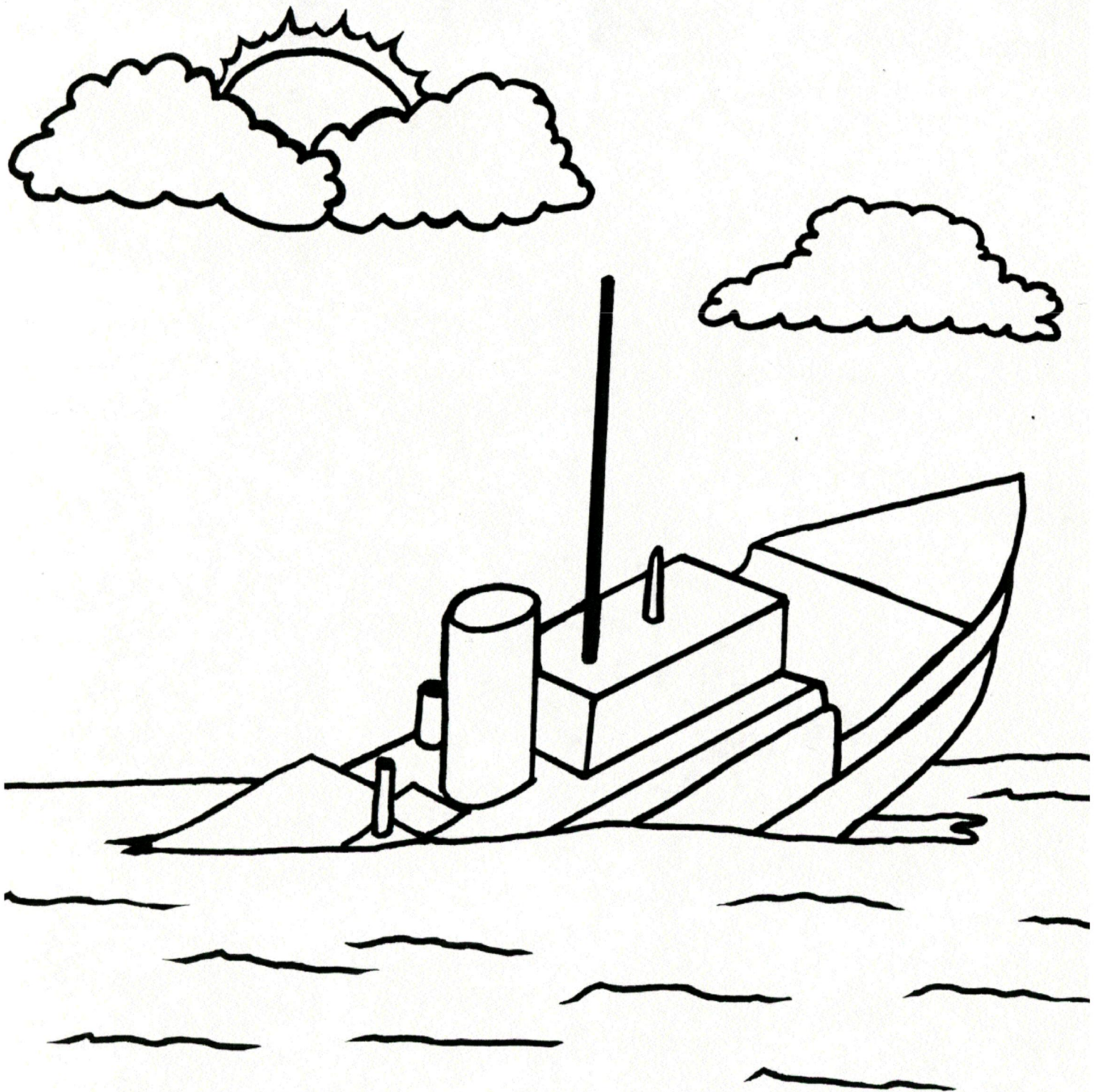
Our Fragile Environment



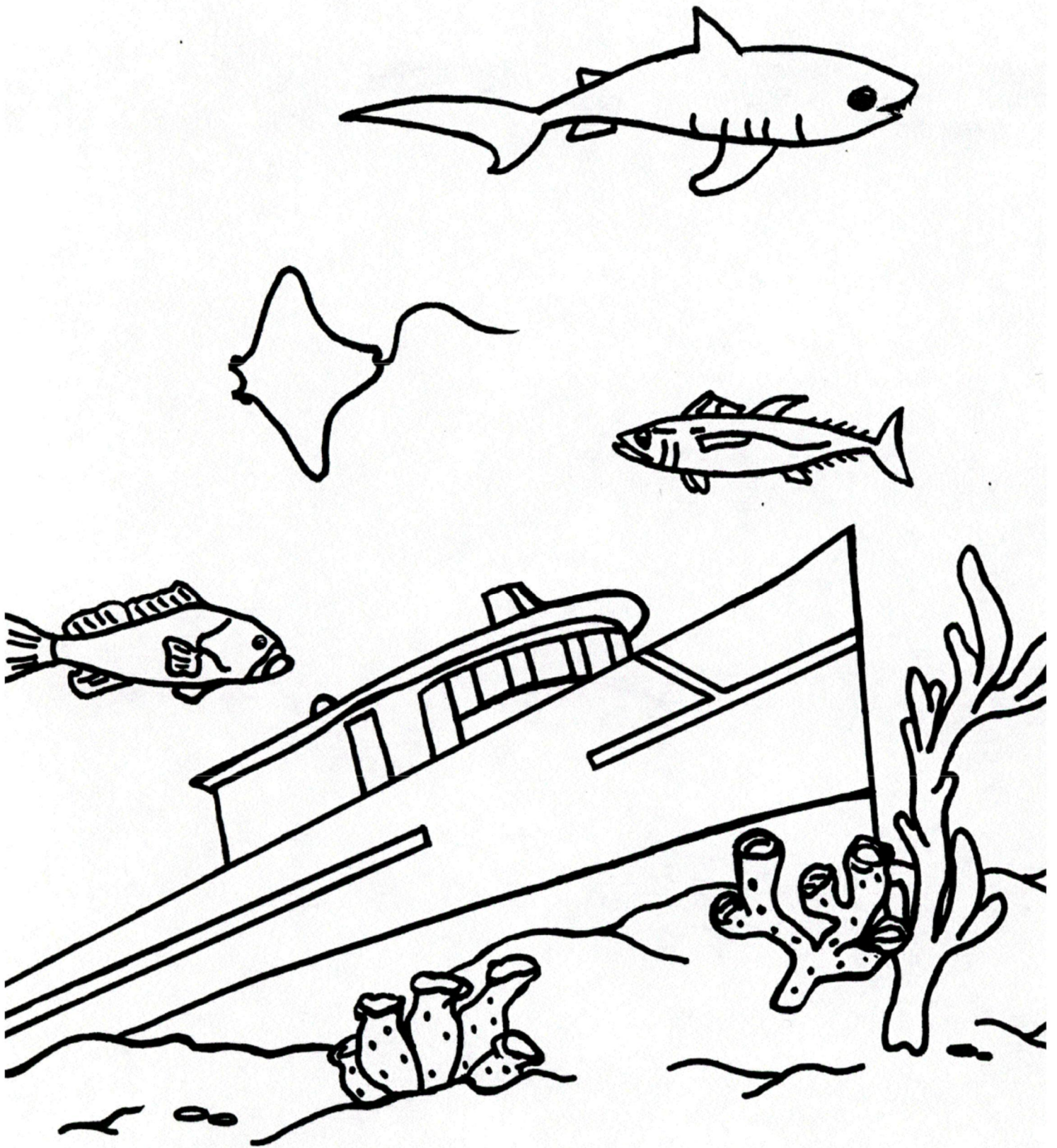
Our Fragile Environment



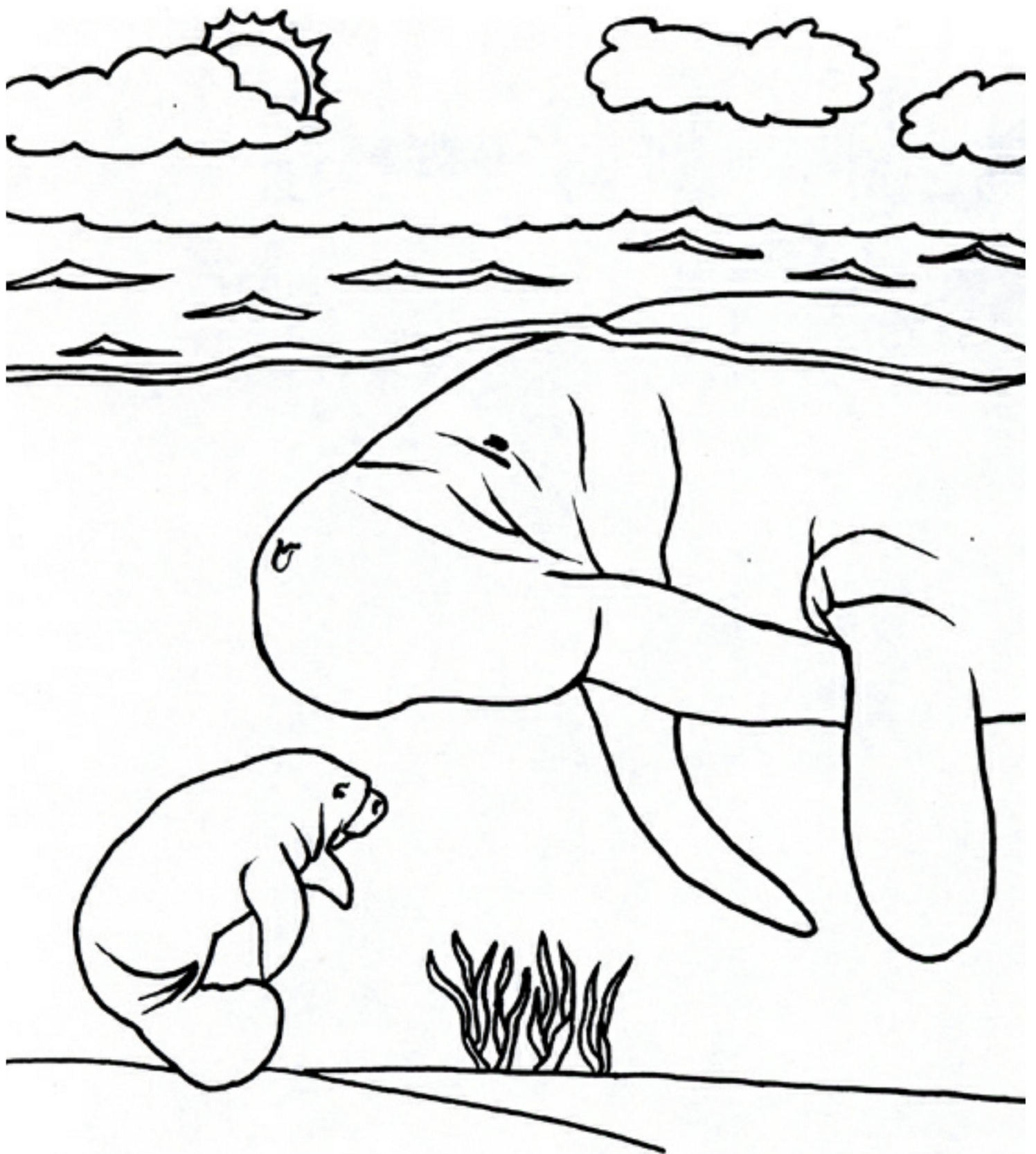
**Coloring book published by the Canaveral Port Authority.
Illustrations by Jeannie Adame.**



Coral reefs are made of lots of tiny animals that grow very slowly. Pollution is making it hard for coral to grow. This boat is being sunk to make an artificial reef.



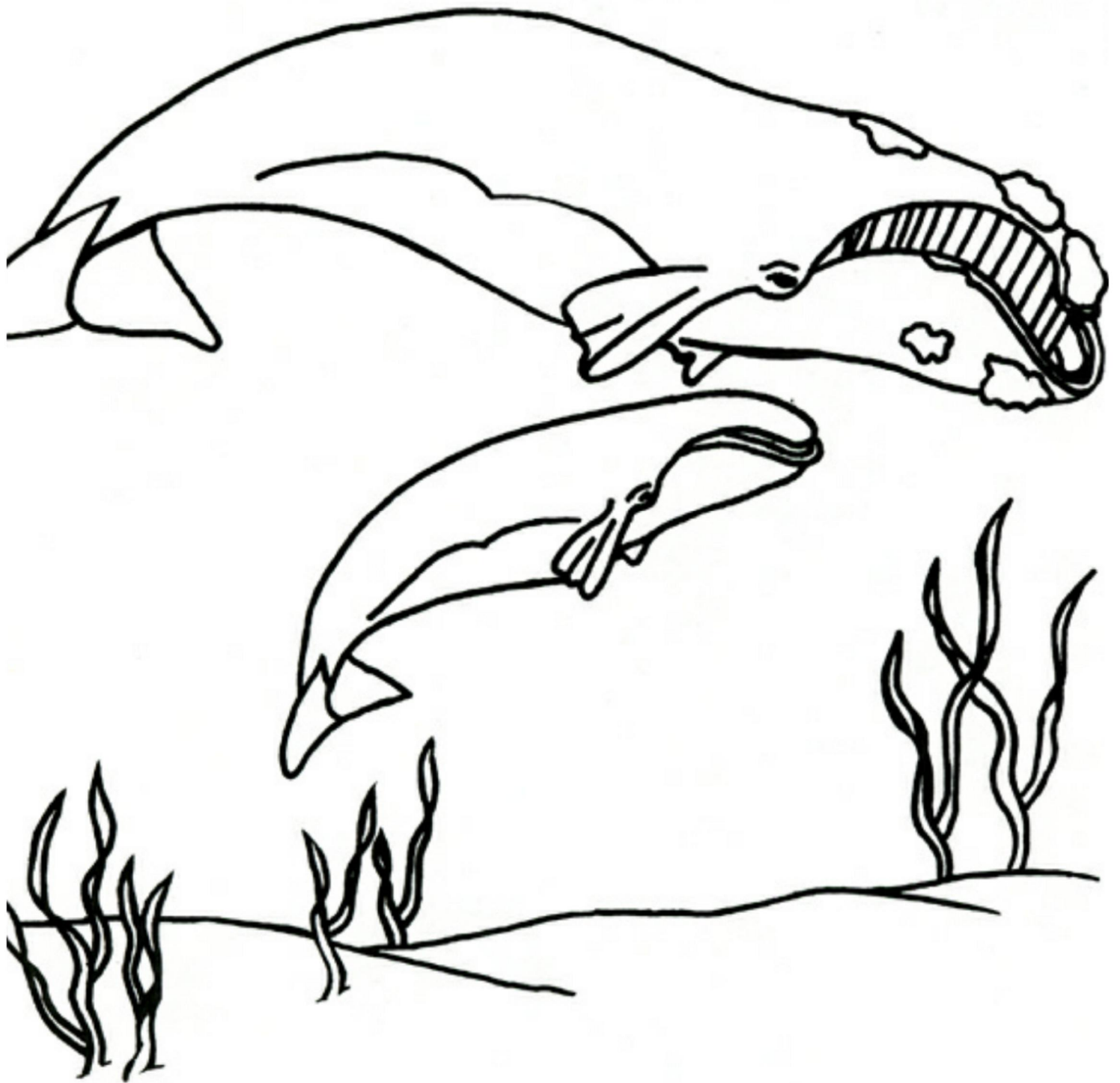
Artificial reefs can be made of many things like old boats or even old rocket pieces. Things with lots of places for baby fish to hide can make a good artificial reef.



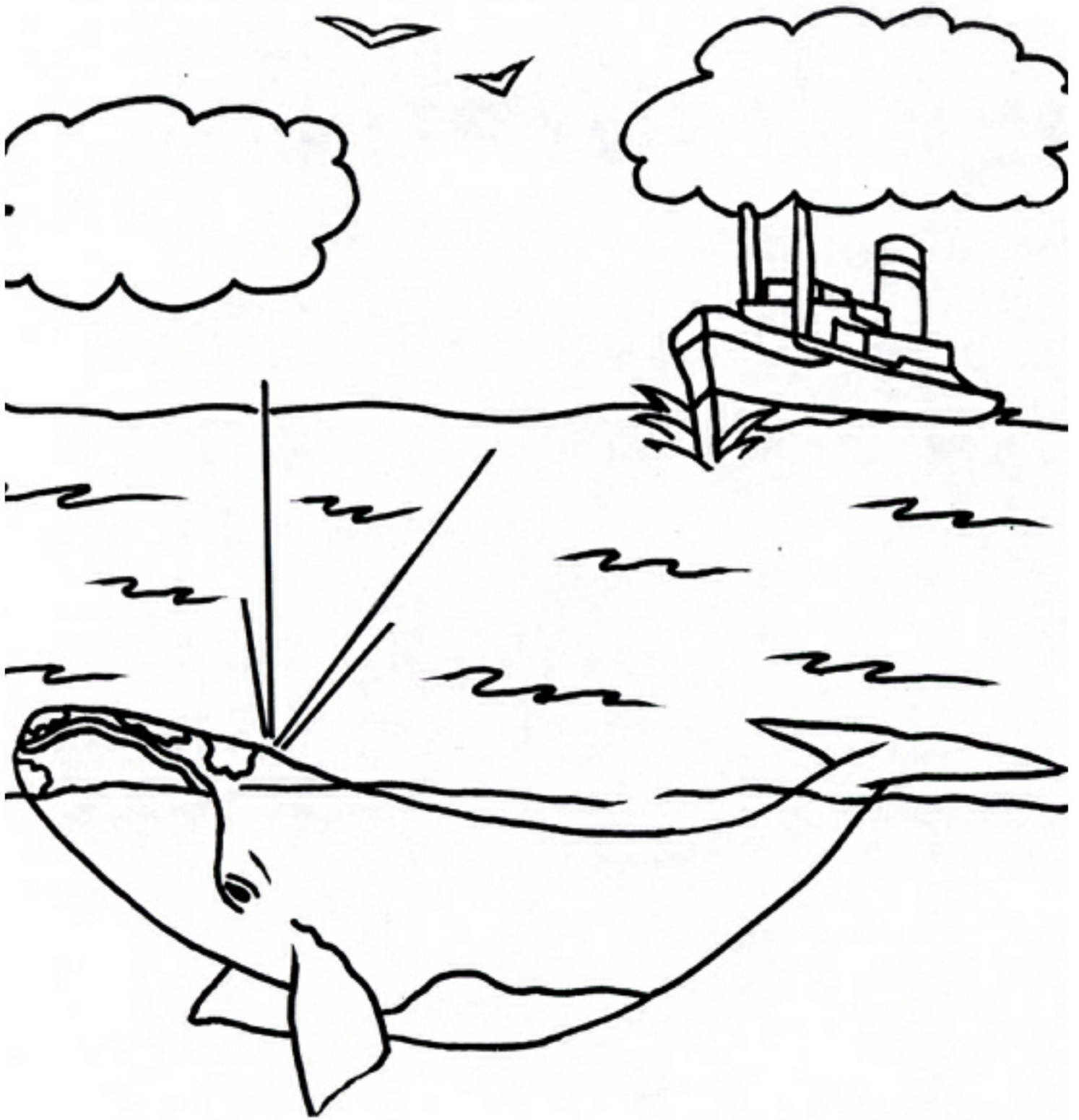
Hi, I am Martha Manatee. I am not a fish. I am a mammal, which means I breathe air just like you. I live in warm water with my baby that is called a calf.



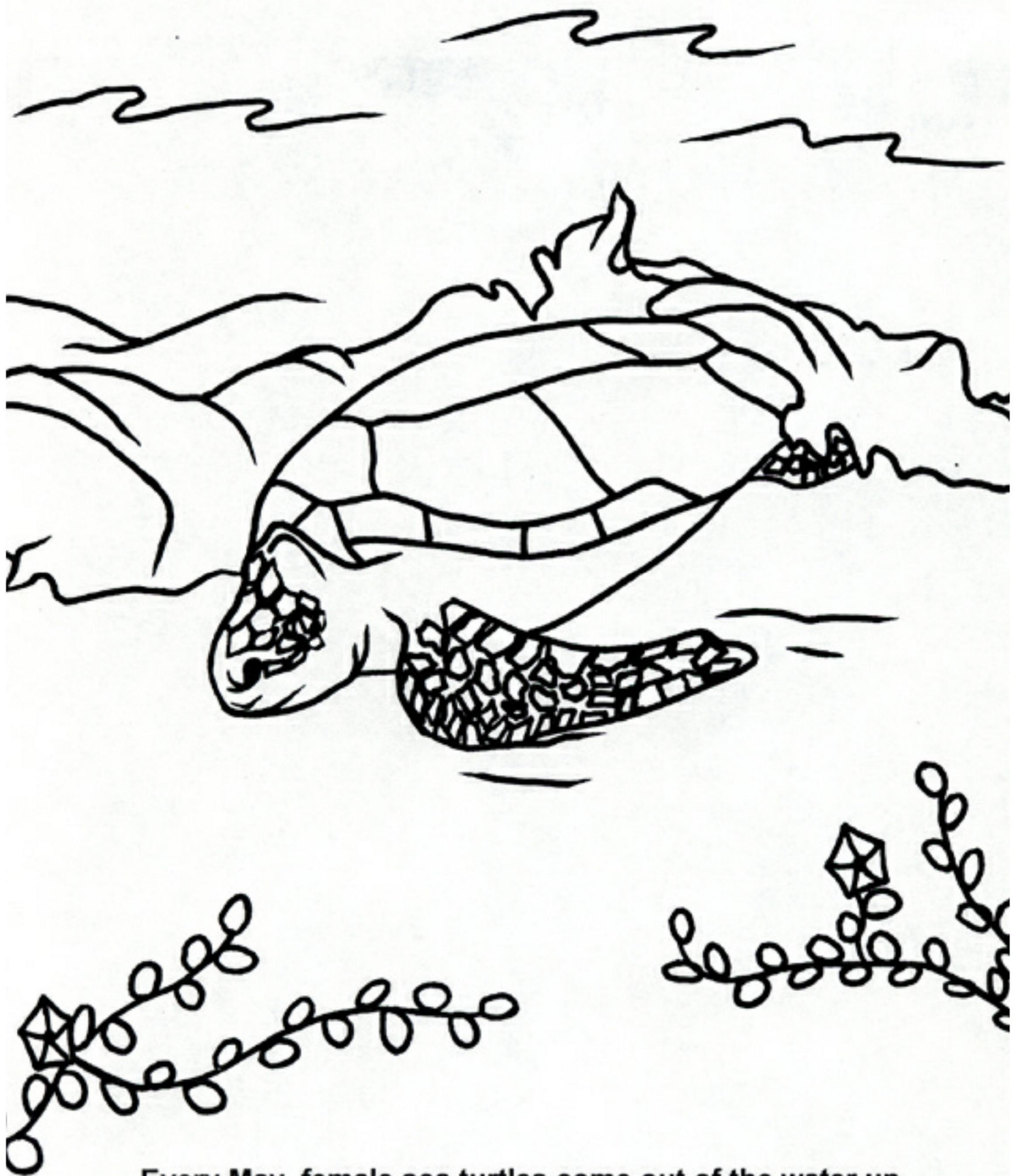
I can be hurt by speeding boats. Make sure to go slowly if you are in a Manatee Zone and watch out for me.



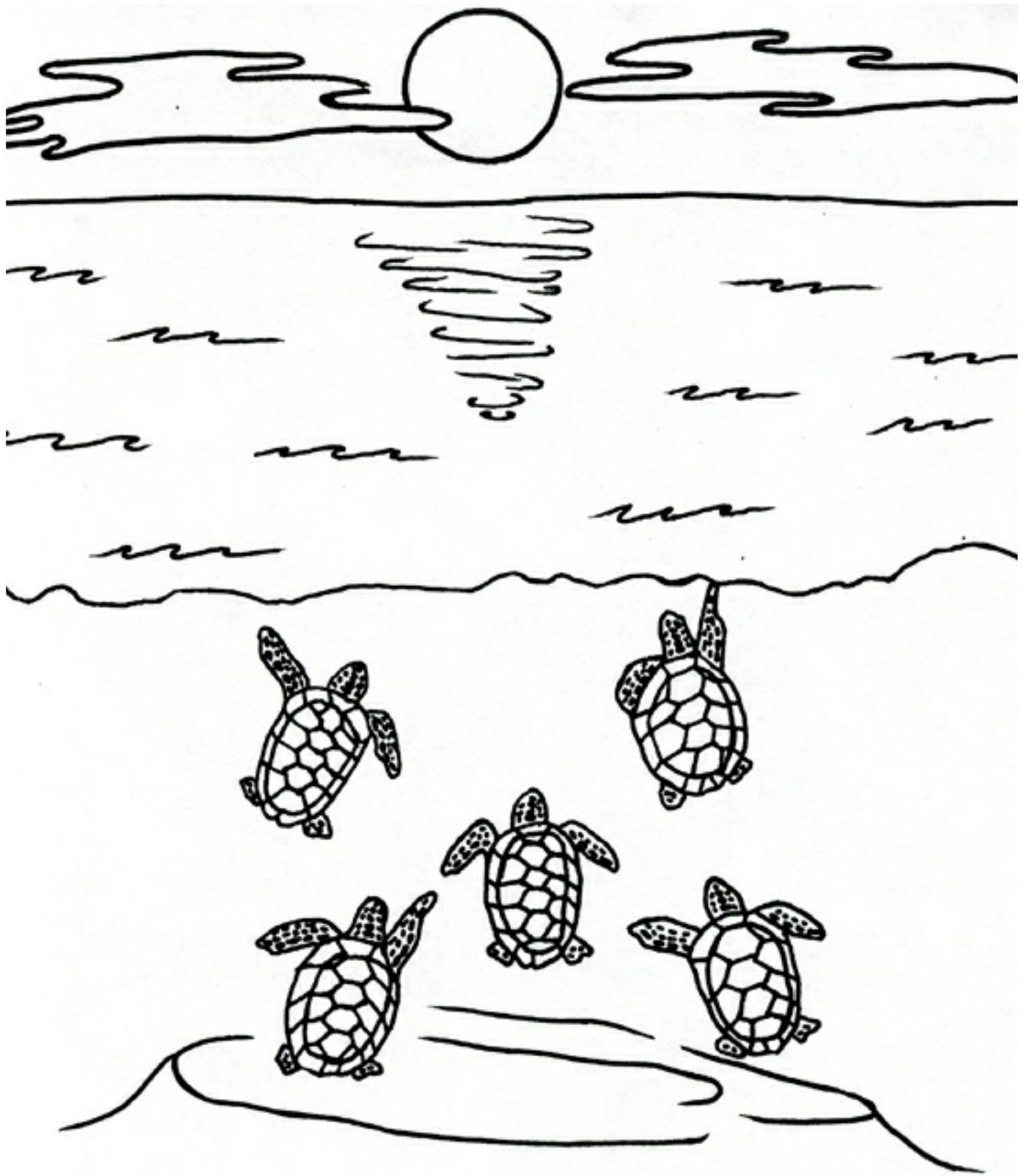
Right Whales are the rarest whales in the world. There are only about 300 left on earth. Each year they come to Florida to have their babies, which are called calves.



Right Whales weigh about 50 tons and are about 50 feet long. They swim so slowly that it is easy for them to get hit by a ship or caught in a fisherman's net.



Every May, female sea turtles come out of the water up onto the beach to dig a big hole and lay about 120 eggs. They cover the hole with sand and return to the ocean.



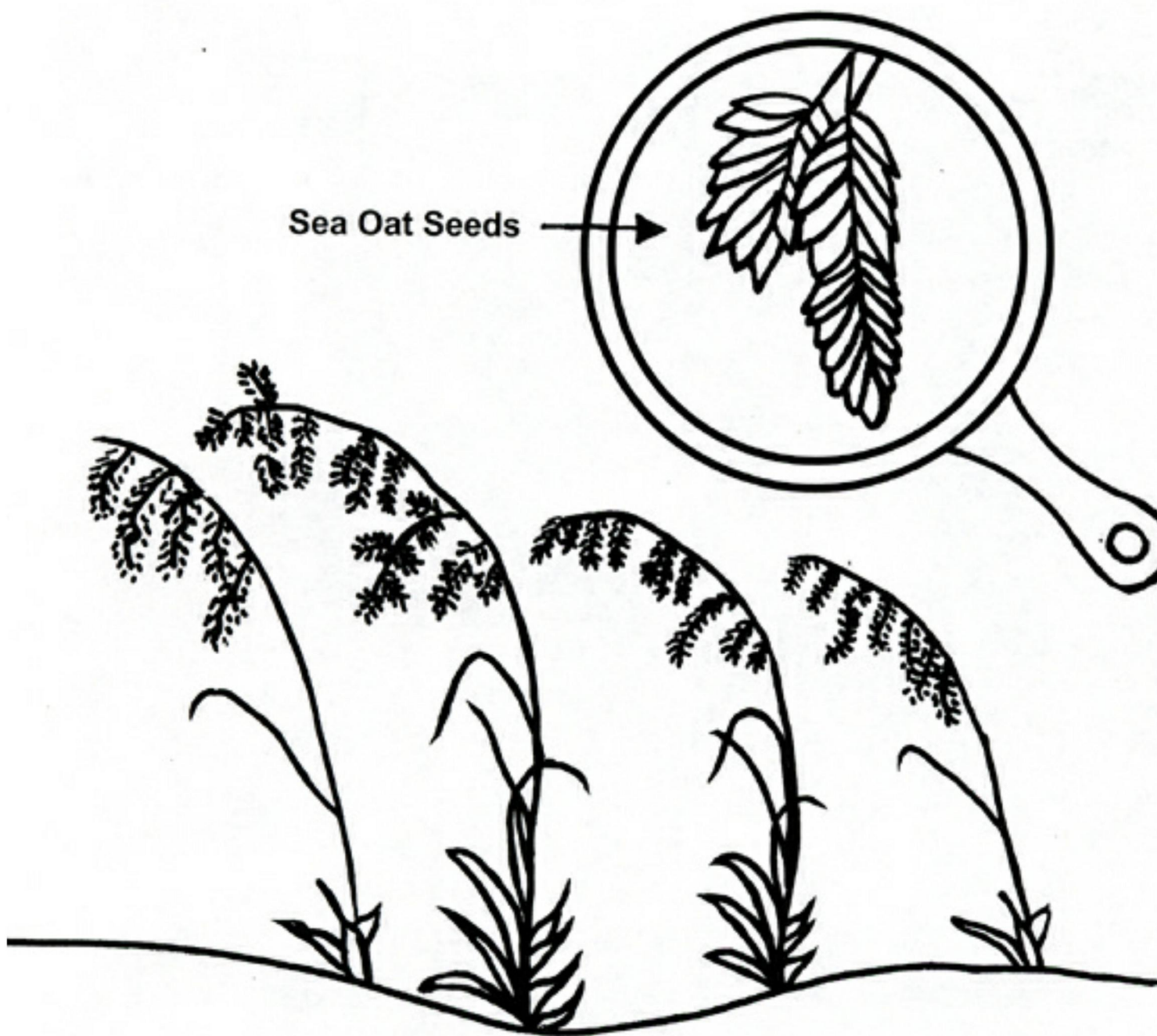
When the eggs hatch, the baby sea turtles dig out of the sand and crawl to the ocean following the moonlight. Bright lights near the beach can cause the baby sea turtles to go the wrong way.



Florida has more than 1,260 miles of coastline. The beach and dune system found along most of Florida's coast can be changed by wind, waves, tides, and storms.



When sand is washed away it is called erosion. Sand can wash back on the beach from sandbars, or underwater sand ridges. Sandbars are found in the water close to the beach, called the nearshore.

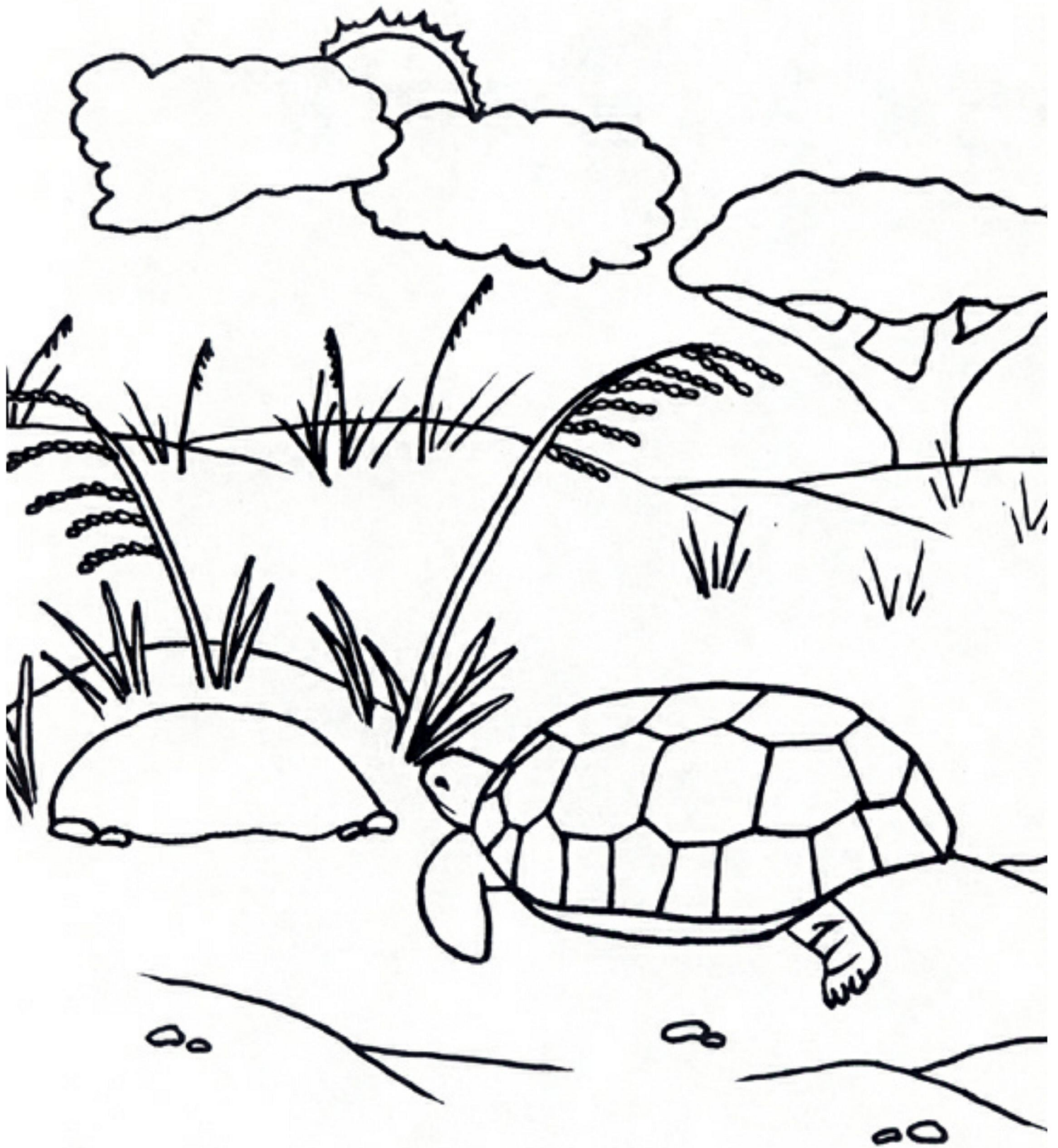


Sea Oat Seeds

These plants are called sea oats. They grow along the beach, and they have a very important job to do. They help to keep sand from being blown or washed away.



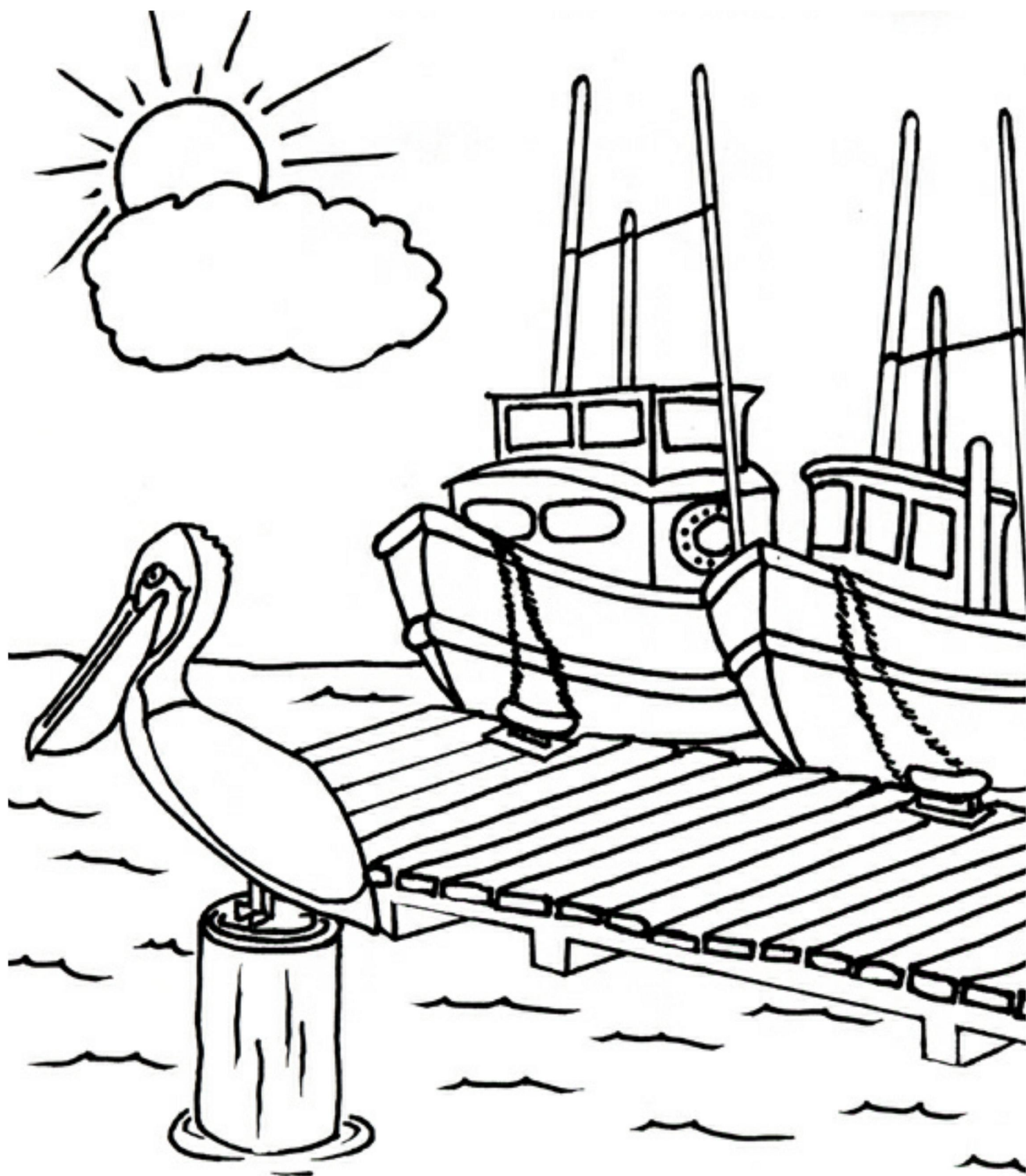
By helping to hold sand in place, sea oats help build bigger sand dunes. When a storm comes, sand dunes help protect houses and other buildings from being washed away.



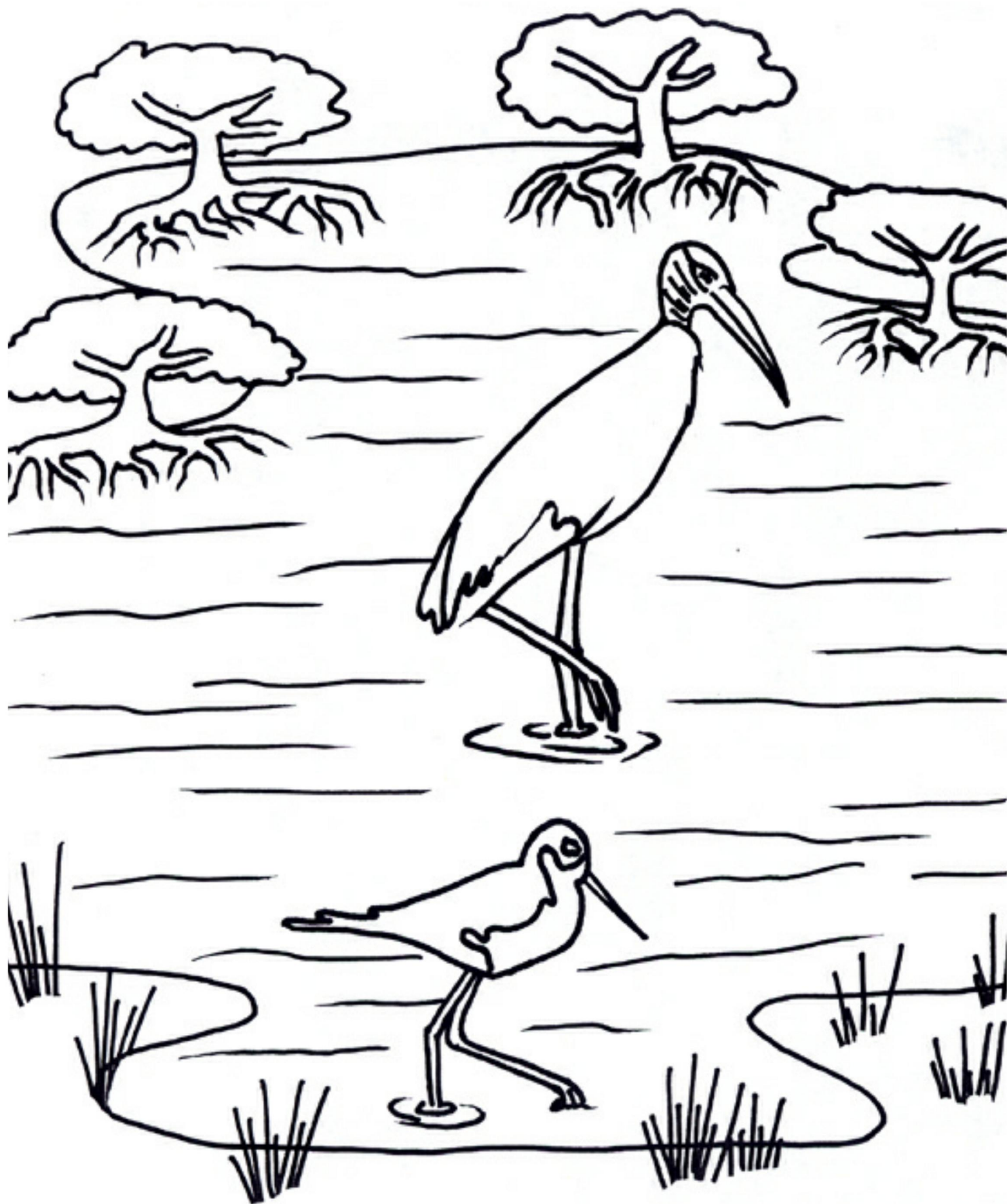
Tortoises are turtles that live on land instead of in the water.
Gopher Tortoises live in the sand dunes along the beach.



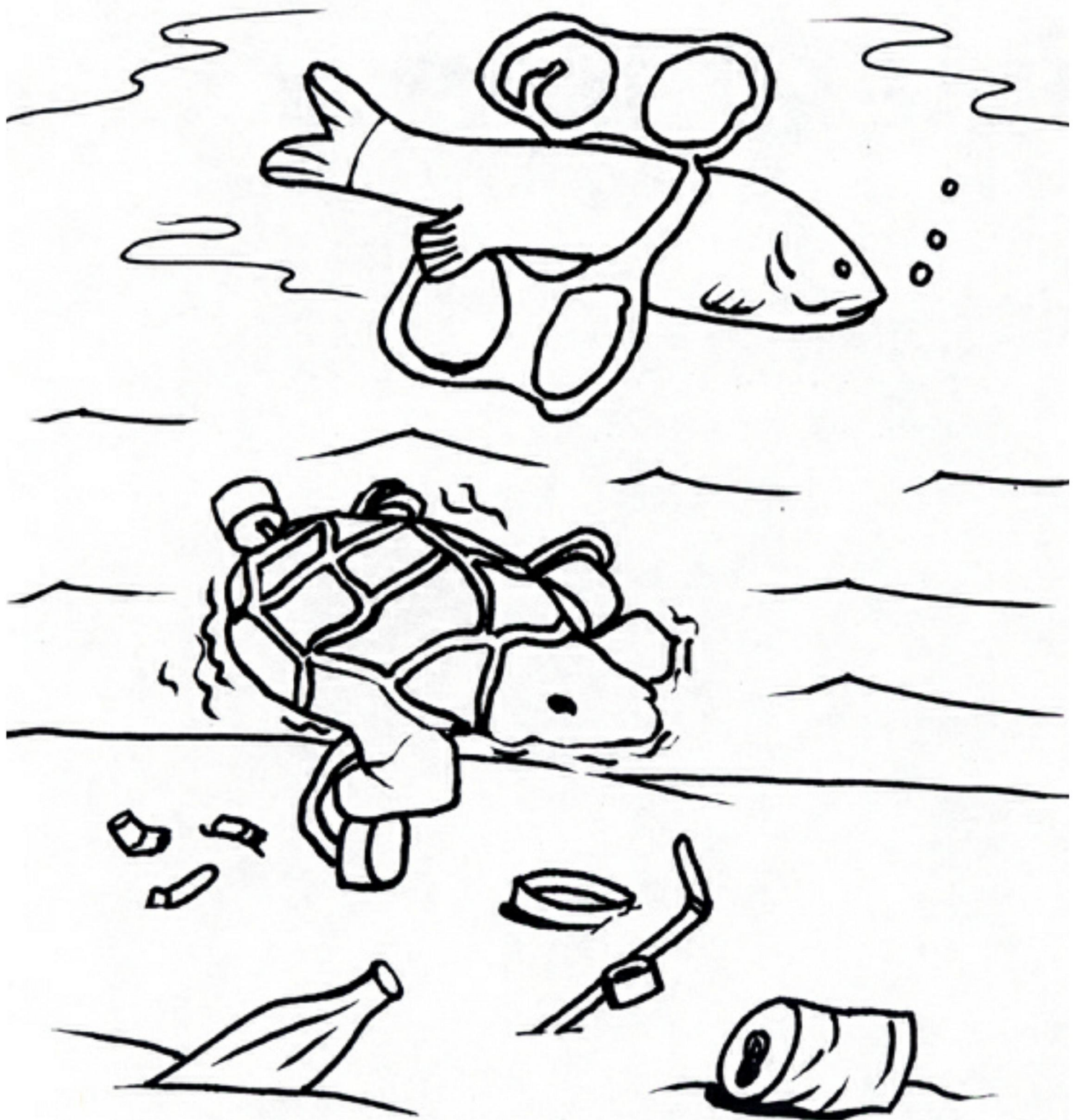
Gopher Tortoises live in burrows that they dig underground. A burrow can be almost 50 feet long and can be shared by other animals like mice, owls, frogs, and snakes.



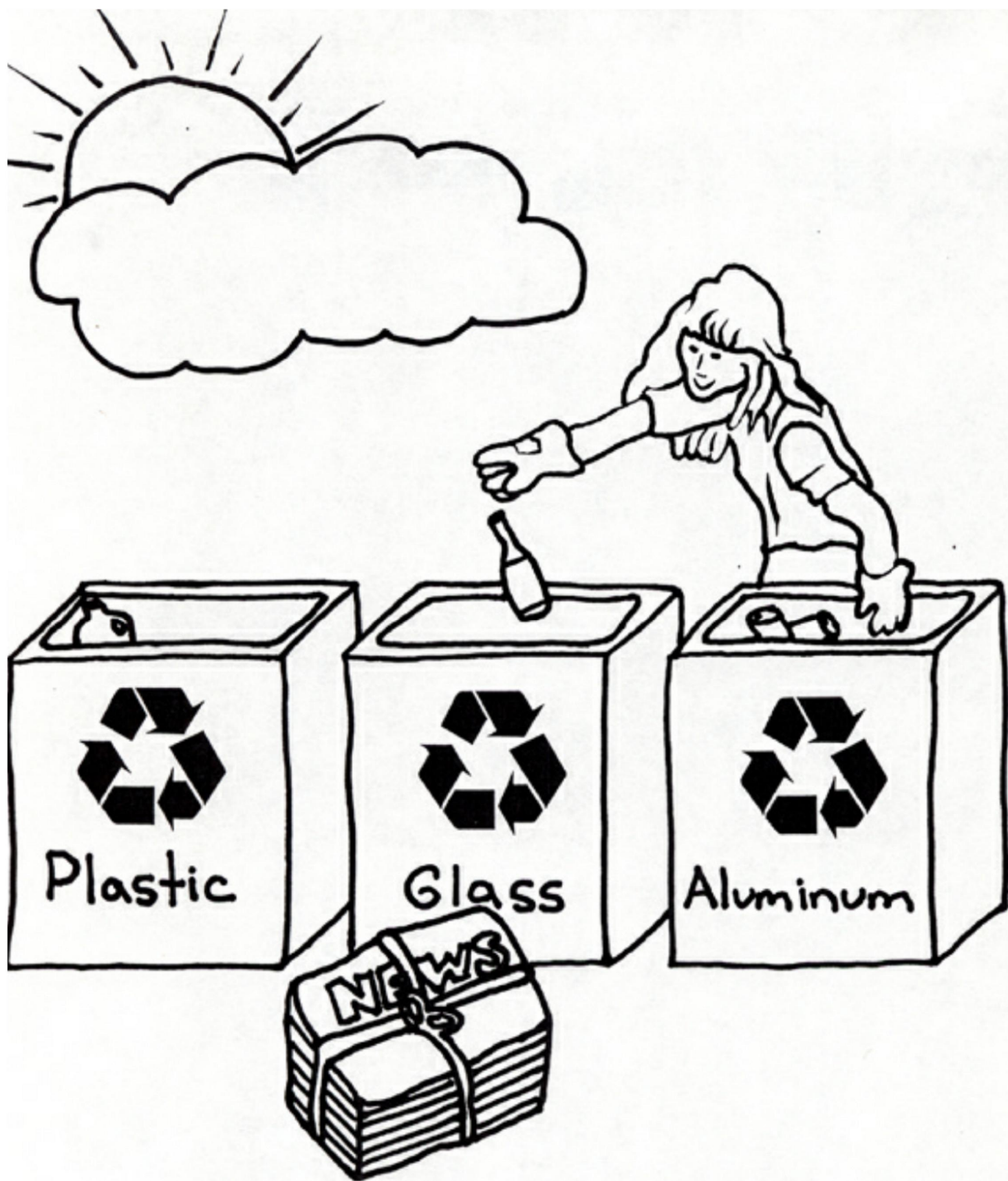
There are many endangered birds in Florida. This is Penny.
She is a Brown Pelican. Pelicans dive from high up
in the air to catch fish in their large bills.



Here are two of Penny's friends, Wally Woodstork and Betty the Black-necked Stilt. These birds are both endangered because they live in wetland areas that are being destroyed.



Fishing line, nets, and other trash can get tangled around animals and hurt them. Some animals try to eat the trash and get sick. In order to protect wildlife, make sure to always throw your trash away properly.



The best thing you can do for the environment is to remember the 3 R's, Recycle, Reduce, and Reuse. If everyone does their part, we can all help keep the environment clean.

**Draw a picture of
what you can do to help
protect the environment.**

A Message From the Canaveral Port Authority

Since we opened for business in 1953, the Canaveral Port Authority has been expanding Port Canaveral's cruise and cargo facilities while remaining environmentally sensitive. Not only does Port Canaveral have more recreational facilities than all other Florida ports combined, but we're known throughout the port industry for our award-winning environmental programs. The programs described in this book are just a few of the efforts undertaken by the Canaveral Port Authority as part of our commitment to protecting the environment. This coloring book is part of a newly initiated educational effort aimed at elementary aged children. We believe that educating our children is the first step in protecting our environment.

For additional information on any of the environmental programs at Port Canaveral, please contact:



Canaveral
PORT AUTHORITY

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Children's Coloring Book

*Cover Photos: Sea Oats—Jim Angy, Least Tern—Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission,
Right Whale—Center for Coastal Studies, Manatee—Pat Rose*

*The Canaveral Port Authority wishes to express their appreciation for the use of all photos and
illustrations contained in this book.*