



Carpet Python by Ann Christy and Ruby Wyatt-Carter

Loving Moirira's Natives

A colouring book featuring artwork by

**Ann Christy, Mel Freeman, Joan Harding,
Aunty Rochelle Patten and Ruby Wyatt-Carter.**

The G.R.A.I.N. Store, in collaboration with the Moira Shire acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this nation. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which our organisations are located and where we conduct our business.

We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present. The G.R.A.I.N. Store and the Moira Shire are committed to honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and their rich contribution to society.

The team behind this publication would also like to thank and acknowledge the Yorta Yorta Nations Aboriginal Corporation for their support and assistance with the Yorta Yorta language words used.

We hope that this book can be used as a resource to support the incredible work already done and continuing to be done in the area of Yorta Yorta language.

The G.R.A.I.N. Store and the Moira Shire would also like to acknowledge the outstanding work of the contributing artists and designers who have made the publication possible:

Ann Christy, Mel Feeman, Joan Harding, Aunty Rochelle Patten, Kristen Retallick and Ruby Wyatt-Carter.



Ann Christy

Calling Picola home, Ann takes most of her inspiration from the outdoors, whether it be a leaf on the ground or a bird in flight. She has enjoyed sketching and painting since her teenage years and with watercolour being Ann's preferred medium, she also enjoys working with graphite, charcoal and coloured pencils. Ann is an active member of the Nathalia Art Group.



Joan Harding

Having grown up around Nathalia, Joan has been creating art for the past 30 years. Her energetic paintings communicate a visual connection to her environment. Predominantly working with watercolours, Joan also explores the use of pencil in her intricately detailed botanical work. Her love of animals is clear in the passionate and playful way she shares stories about her 'family of antechinus' and other creatures she has 'known' over the years.



Kristen Retallick

After growing up in Katunga, Kristen studied Graphic Design at the University of Ballarat then worked in Australia and the UK. She taught art at secondary level before returning to the Goulburn Valley region in 2017 and starting as Manager and Curator at The G.R.A.I.N. Store. Kristen designed and managed this project, but her arts practice, which is predominantly painting, explores various aspects of her surrounding environment.



Mel Freeman

Based in Nathalia, art has always been a part of Mel's life. Using her surrounding environment and close observation of nature, the bush and the Murray River are her favourite areas for inspiration. With pencil her favoured medium, Mel also enjoys experimenting with different mediums such as biros and various paints.



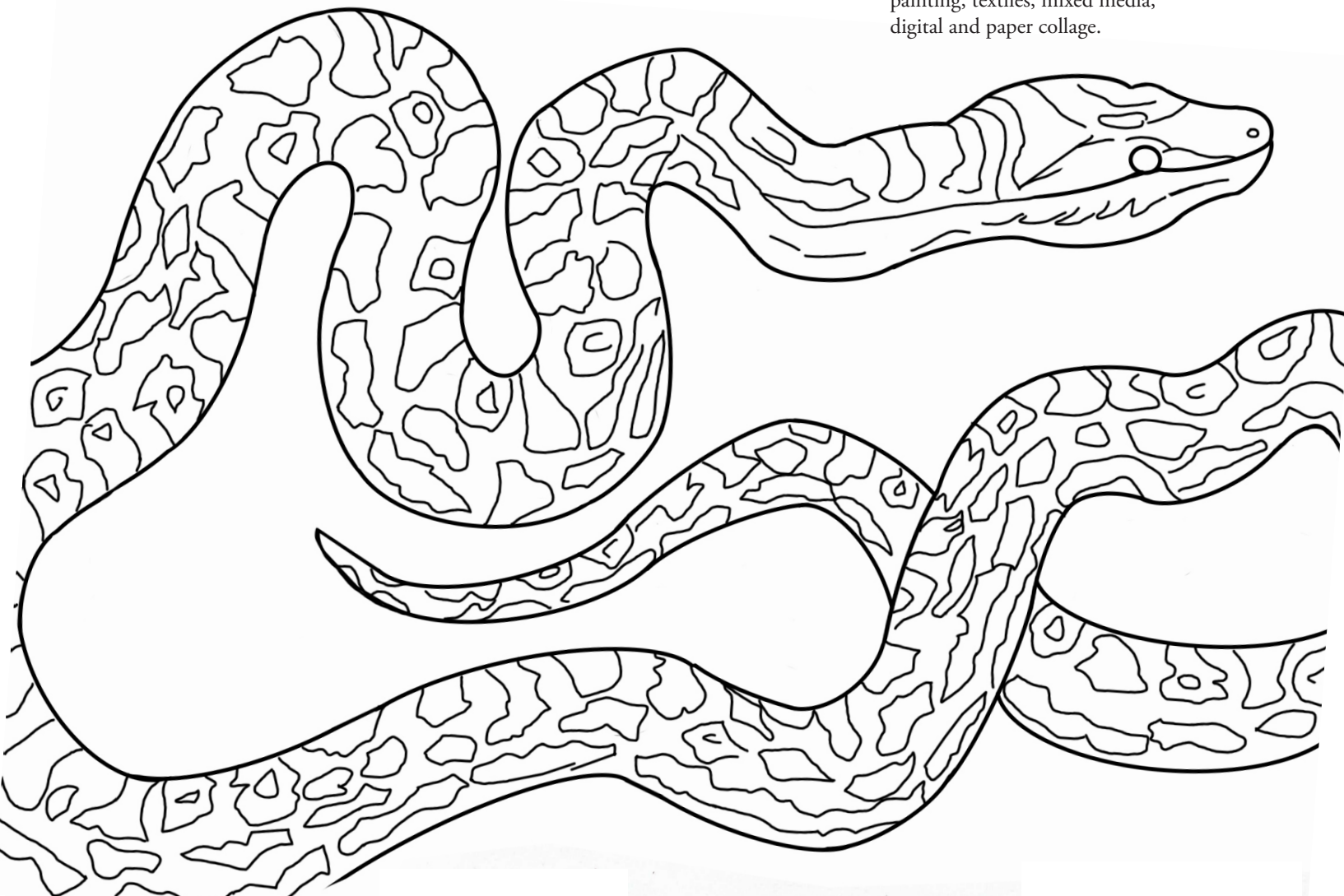
Aunty Rochelle Patten

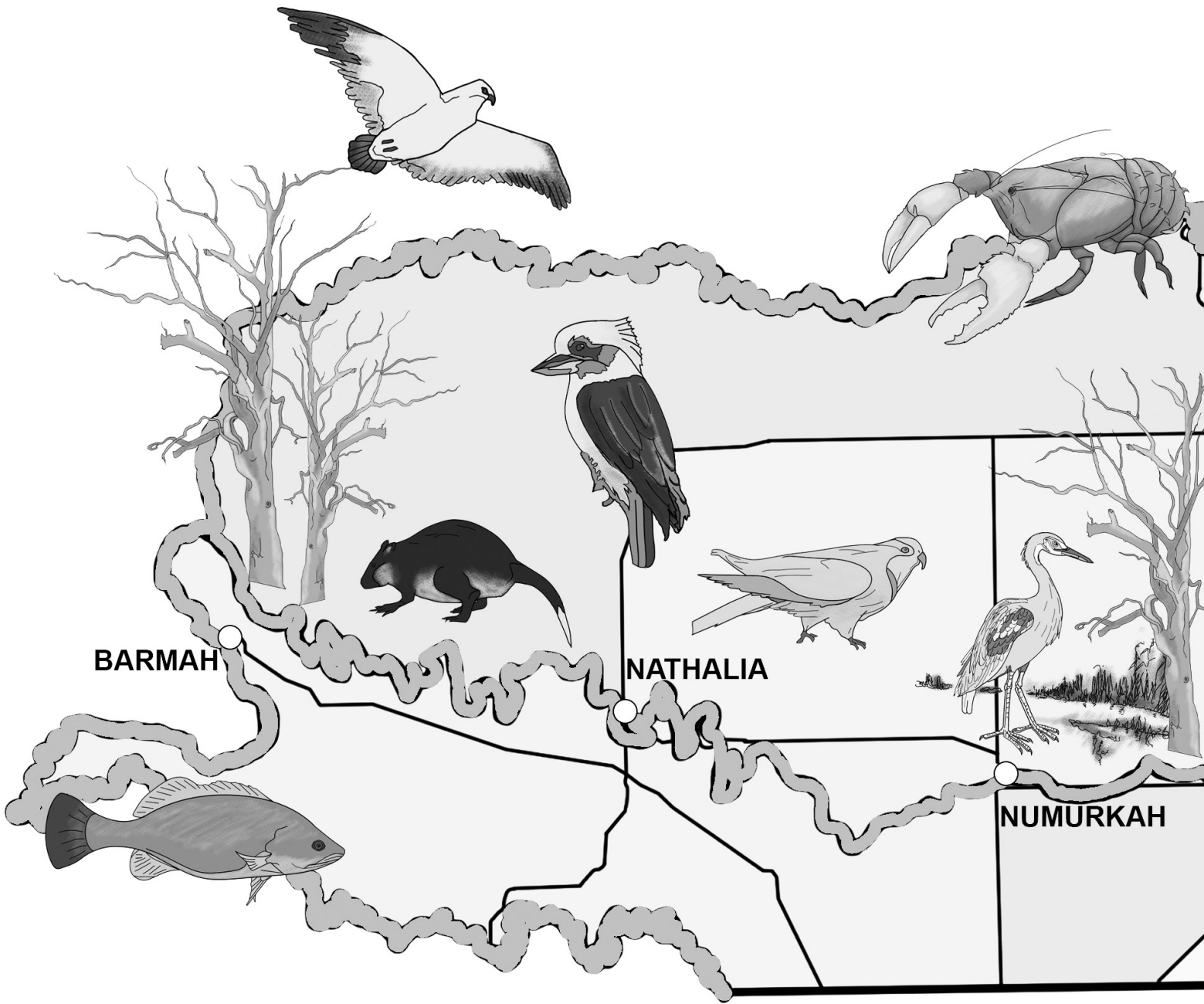
A Yorta Yorta and Wemba Wemba Elder from Mooroopna, Rochelle's artwork shows a deep connection to country, culture and family. Nominated for the prestigious Ros Bower Memorial Award, Rochelle's work has been exhibited nationally. It is through their art and love of nature that Rochelle and Joan Harding share a long friendship.

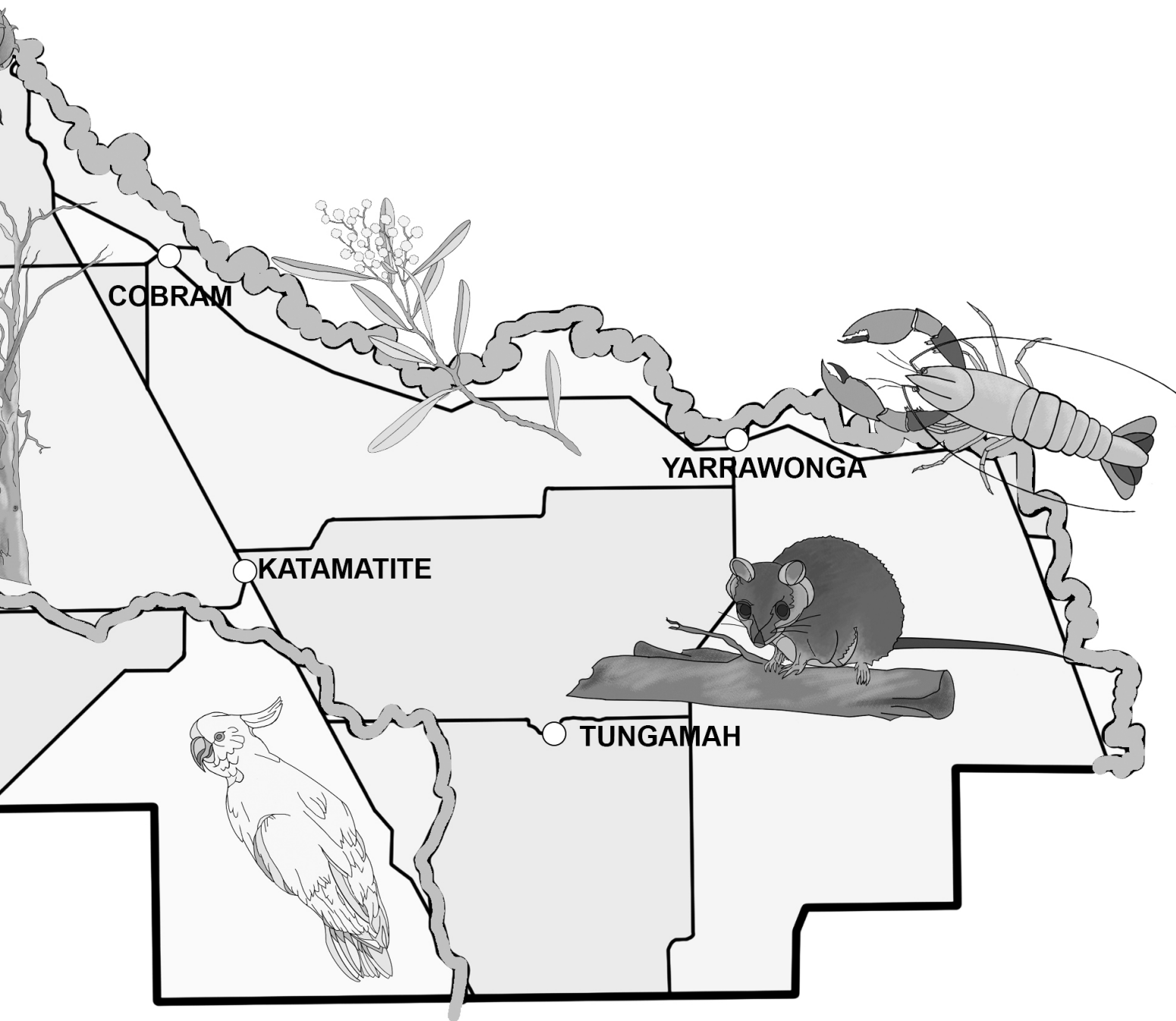


Ruby Wyatt-Carter

Now living in Shepparton, but growing up both in Melbourne and Numurkah, Ruby has been making art for as long as she can remember. From the moment she could pick up a pencil, she has enjoyed drawing. Ruby is inspired by musicians, movies, mythology, animals and herself. Although drawing is her main medium, she has also experimented with oil and acrylic painting, textiles, mixed media, digital and paper collage.







COBRAM

KATAMATITE

YARRAWONGA

TUNGAMAH

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo

Yorta Yorta Djarring



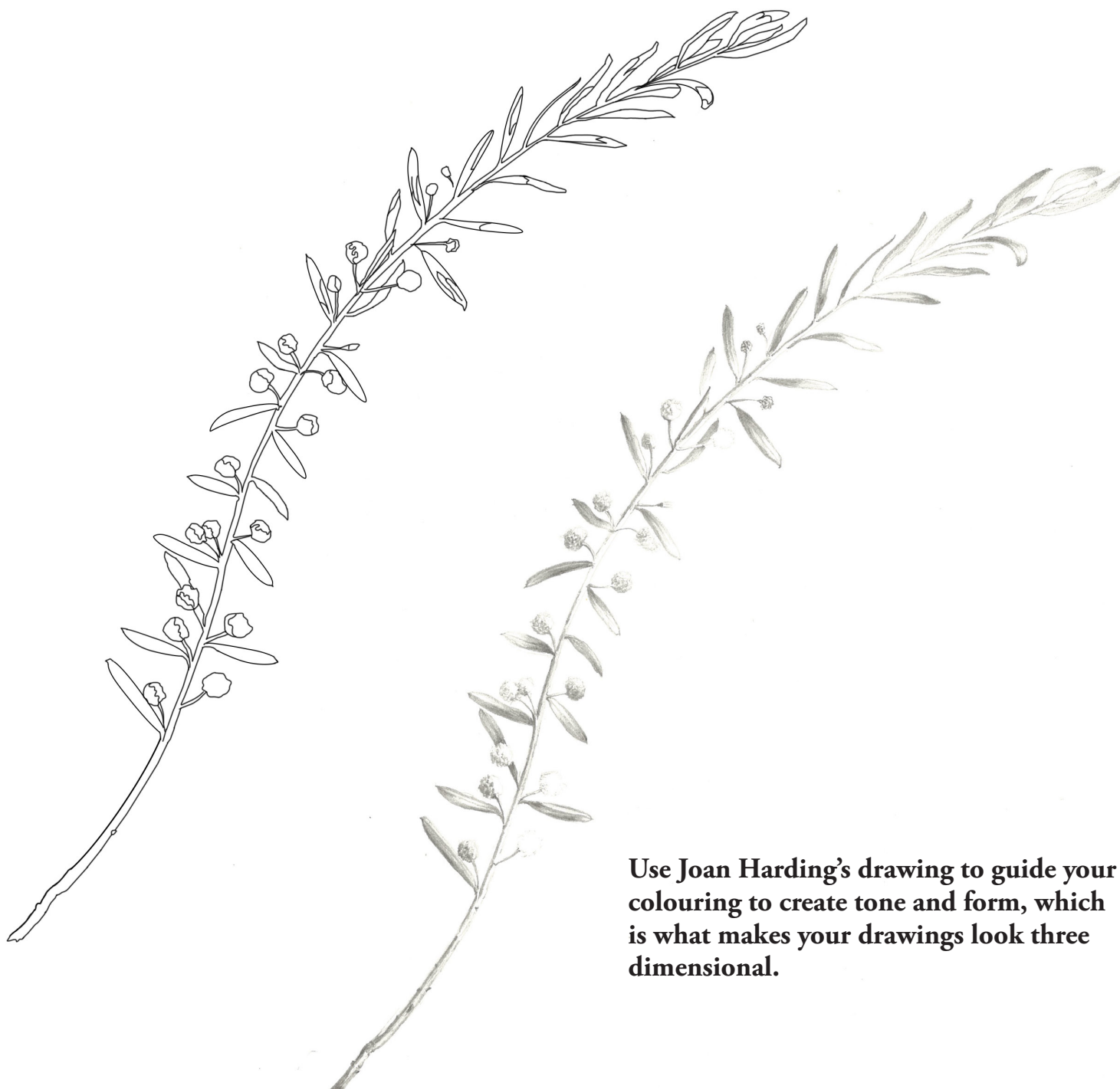
I am covered in white feathers with a yellow crest, grey feet and a _____ bill.

I am highly intelligent and can live up to 40 _____ in the wild.

I am very _____ and have a creaky sounding screech.

match these words to the sentences - | black | years | loud |

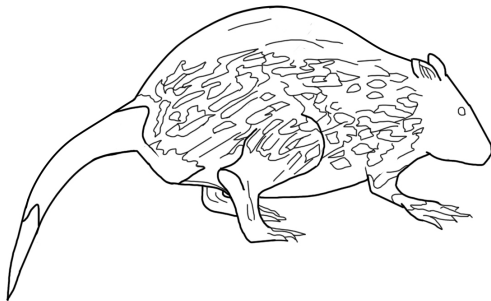
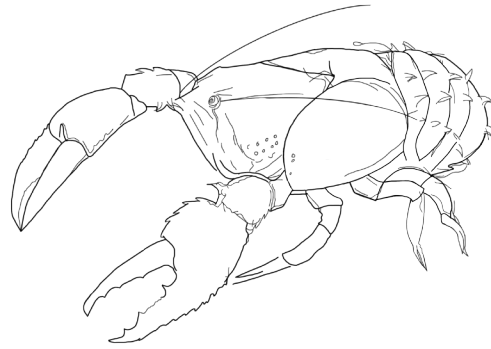
Drawing practice



Use Joan Harding's drawing to guide your colouring to create tone and form, which is what makes your drawings look three dimensional.

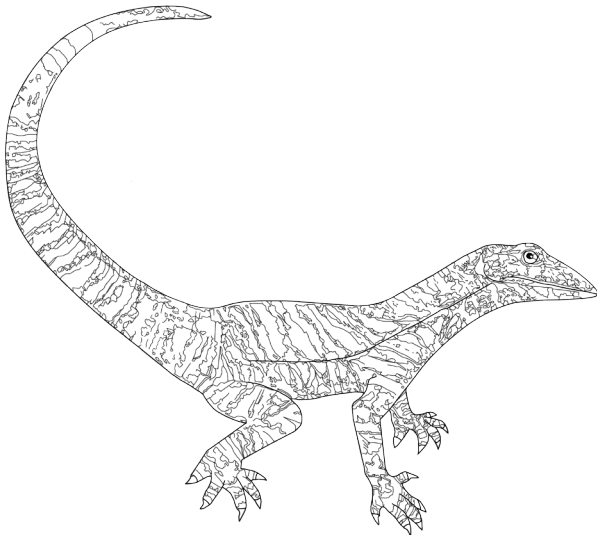
Draw a line to connect the names of the creatures to the correct pictures

Djarring/Cockatoo



Birranga/Sugar Glider

Borpa/Murray Crayfish



Girriwa/Goanna

Wowa/Rakali



River Red Gums



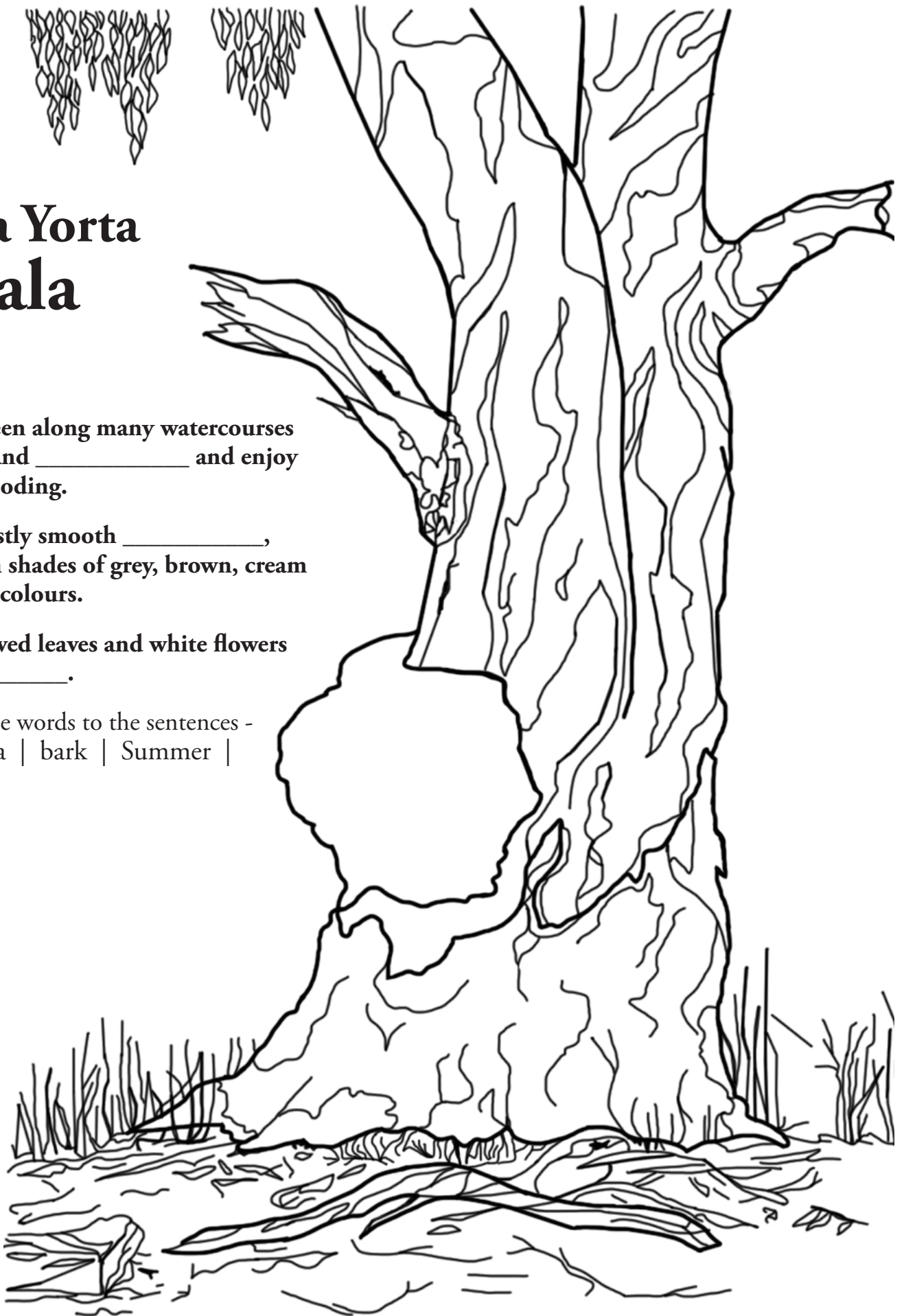
Yorta Yorta Biyala

I can be seen along many watercourses
across inland _____ and enjoy
regular flooding.

I have mostly smooth _____,
mottled in shades of grey, brown, cream
and other colours.

I have curved leaves and white flowers
in _____.

match these words to the sentences -
| Australia | bark | Summer |



Loving Moira's Natives - Word Search

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

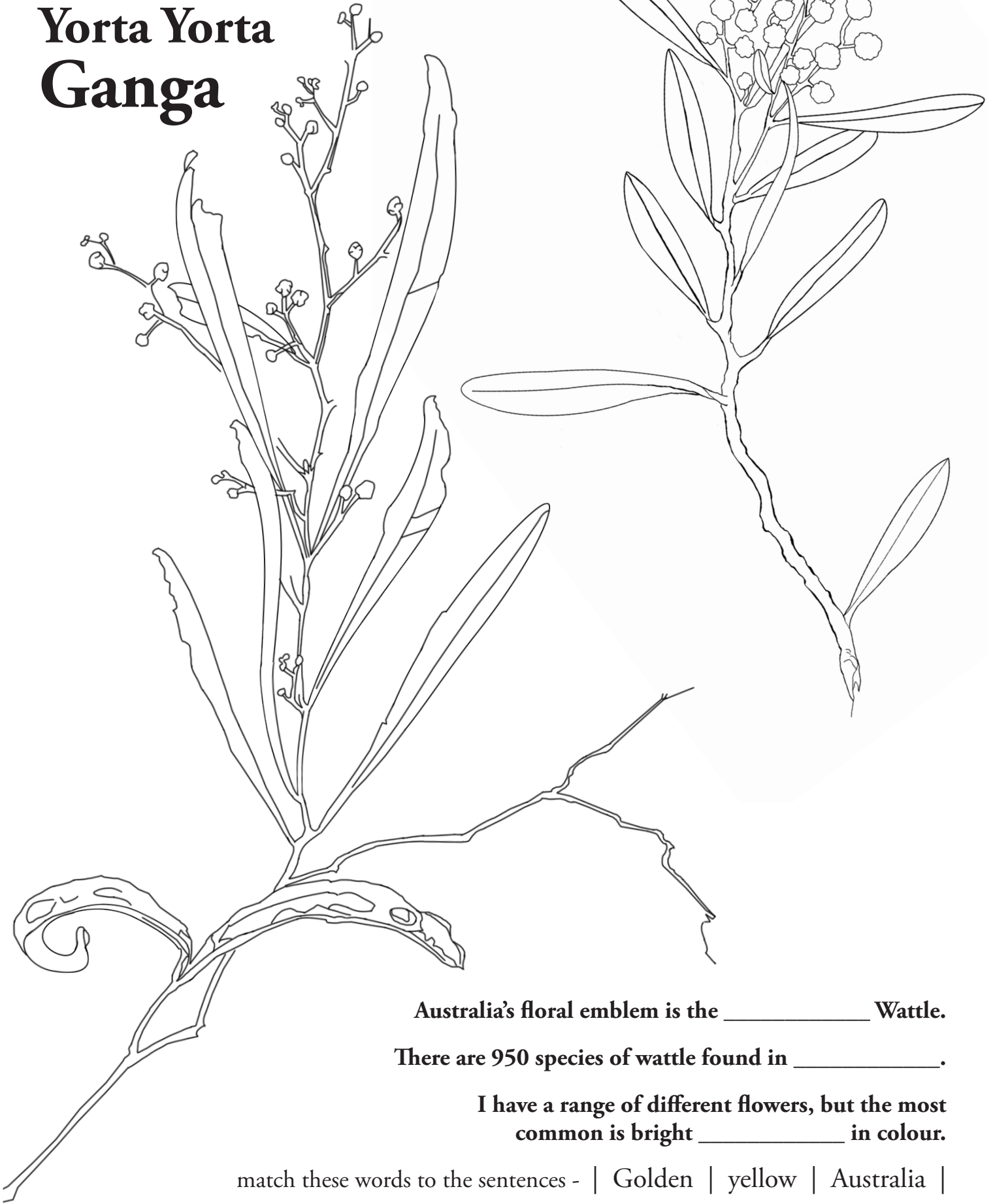
ANTECHINUS
COCKATOO
KOOKABURRA
MURRAY COD
OWL

RIVER RED GUM
TROUT COD
WATTLE
CARPET SNAKE
GOANNA

MICROBAT
MURRAY CRAYFISH
PLATYPUS
SUGAR GLIDER
TURTLE

Wattle

Yorta Yorta Ganga



Australia's floral emblem is the _____ Wattle.

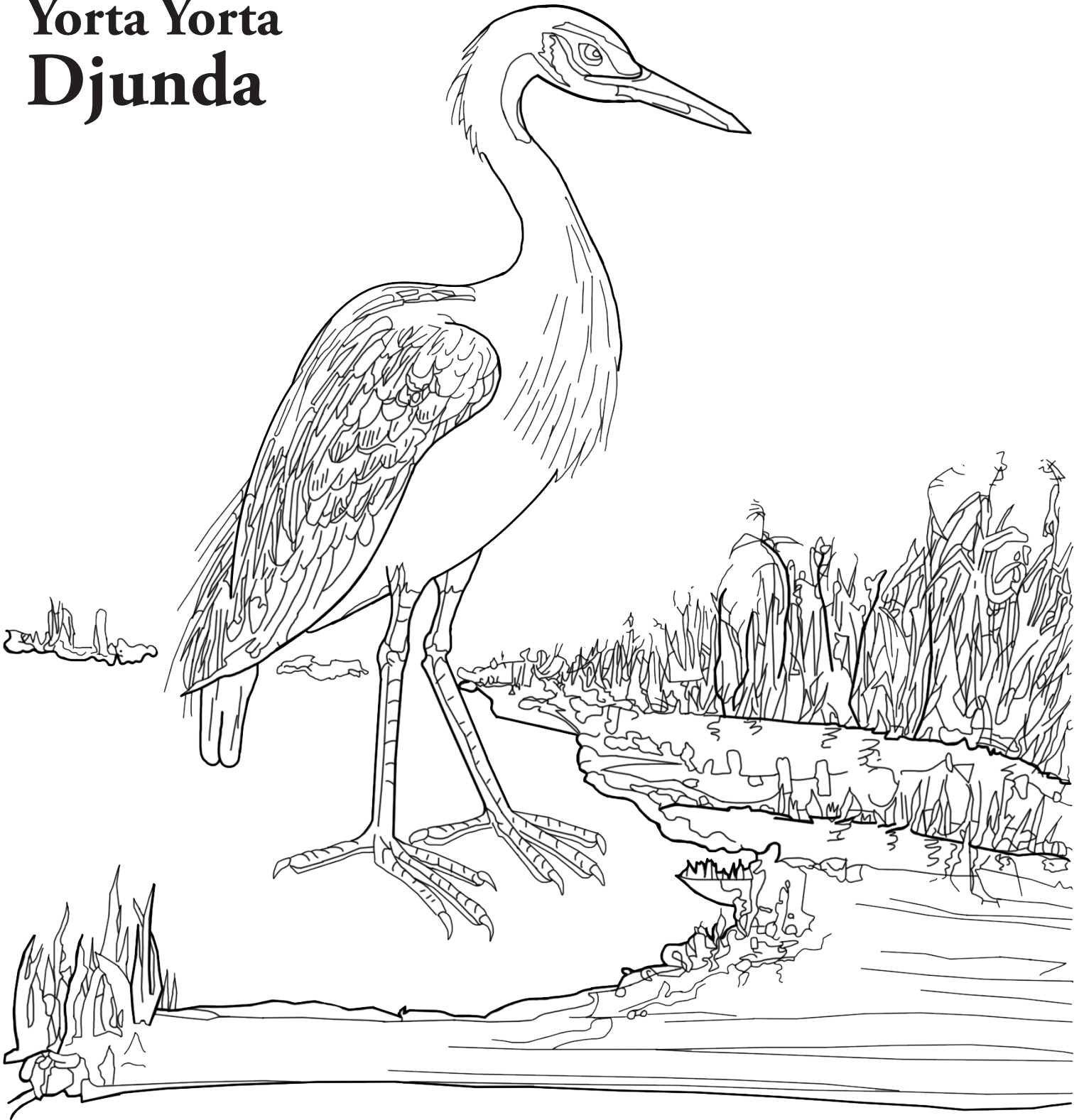
There are 950 species of wattle found in _____.

I have a range of different flowers, but the most common is bright _____ in colour.

match these words to the sentences - | Golden | yellow | Australia |

White-faced Heron

Yorta Yorta Djunda



I am light blue-grey in colour with a white _____.

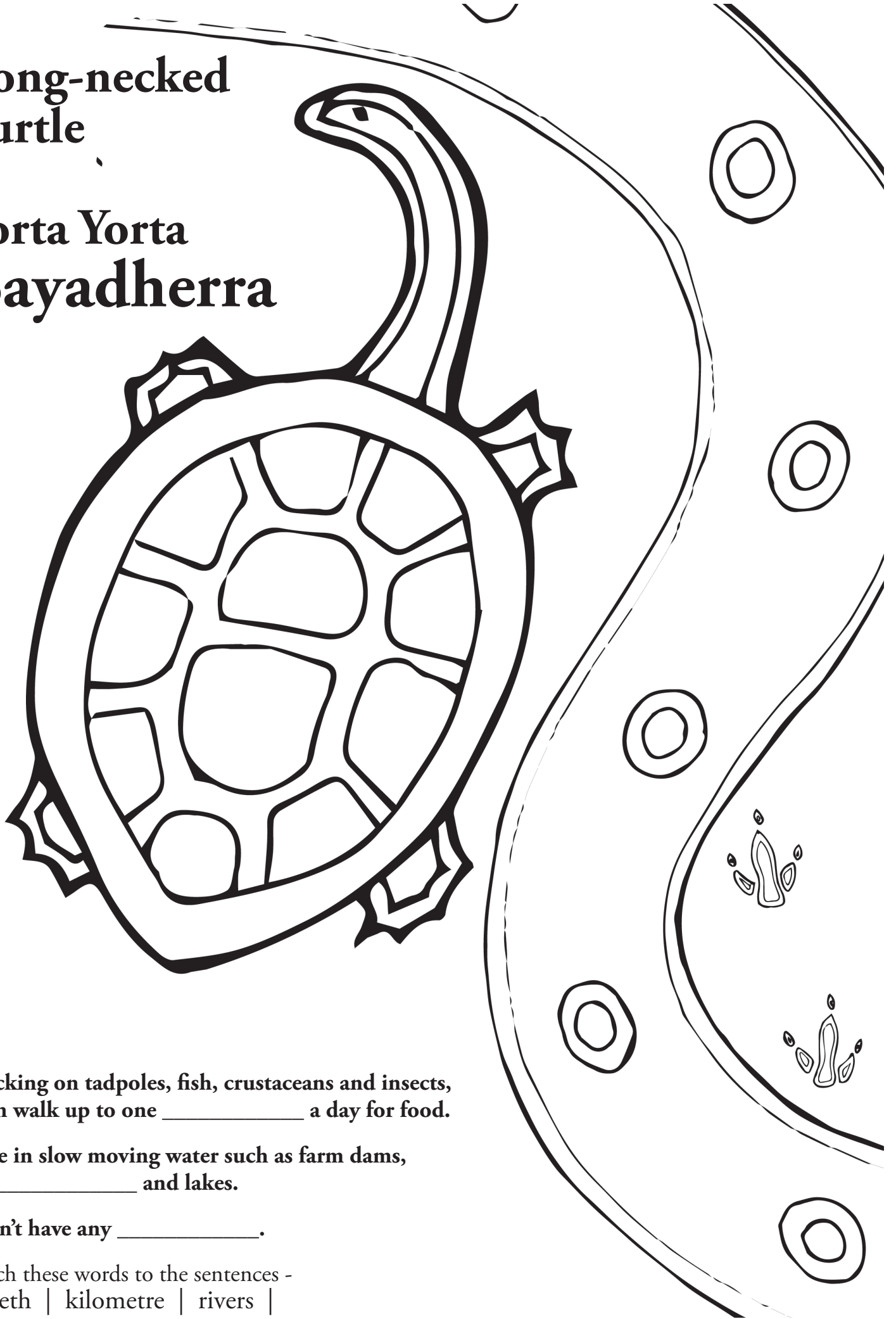
I have a long, slim neck with a _____ grey bill.

My diet includes fish, _____ and amphibians.

match these words to the sentences - | pointed | face | insects |

Long-necked Turtle

Yorta Yorta Bayadherra



Snacking on tadpoles, fish, crustaceans and insects,
I can walk up to one _____ a day for food.

I live in slow moving water such as farm dams,
_____ and lakes.

I don't have any _____.

match these words to the sentences -
| teeth | kilometre | rivers |

Kookaburra

**Yorta Yorta
Wigilupka**

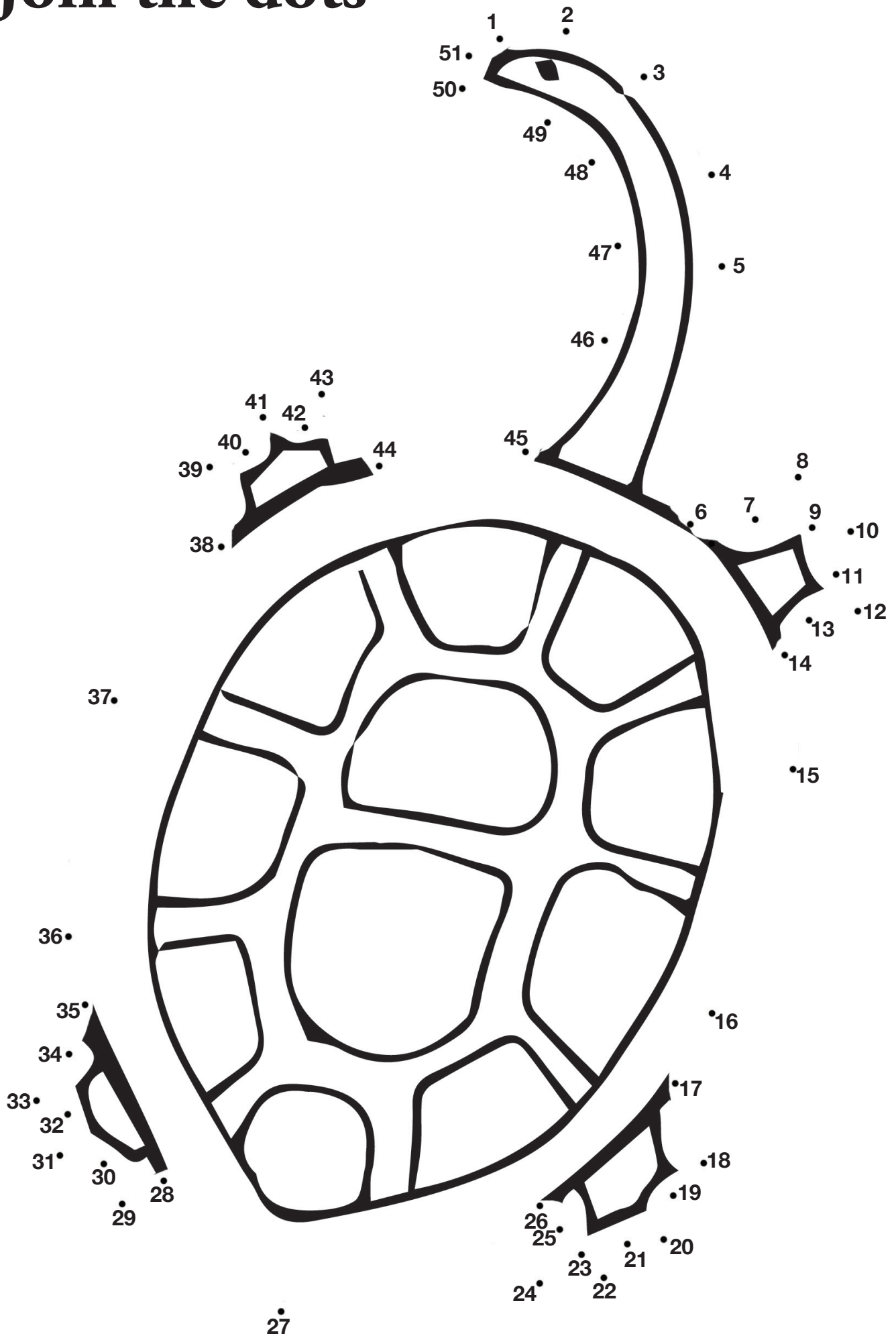


I am one of the largest members of the Kingfisher family and most recognised from my _____ call.

I mostly feed on insects and worms but may also eat small _____, mammals, frogs and reptiles.

match these words to the sentences -
| snakes | laughing |

Join the dots



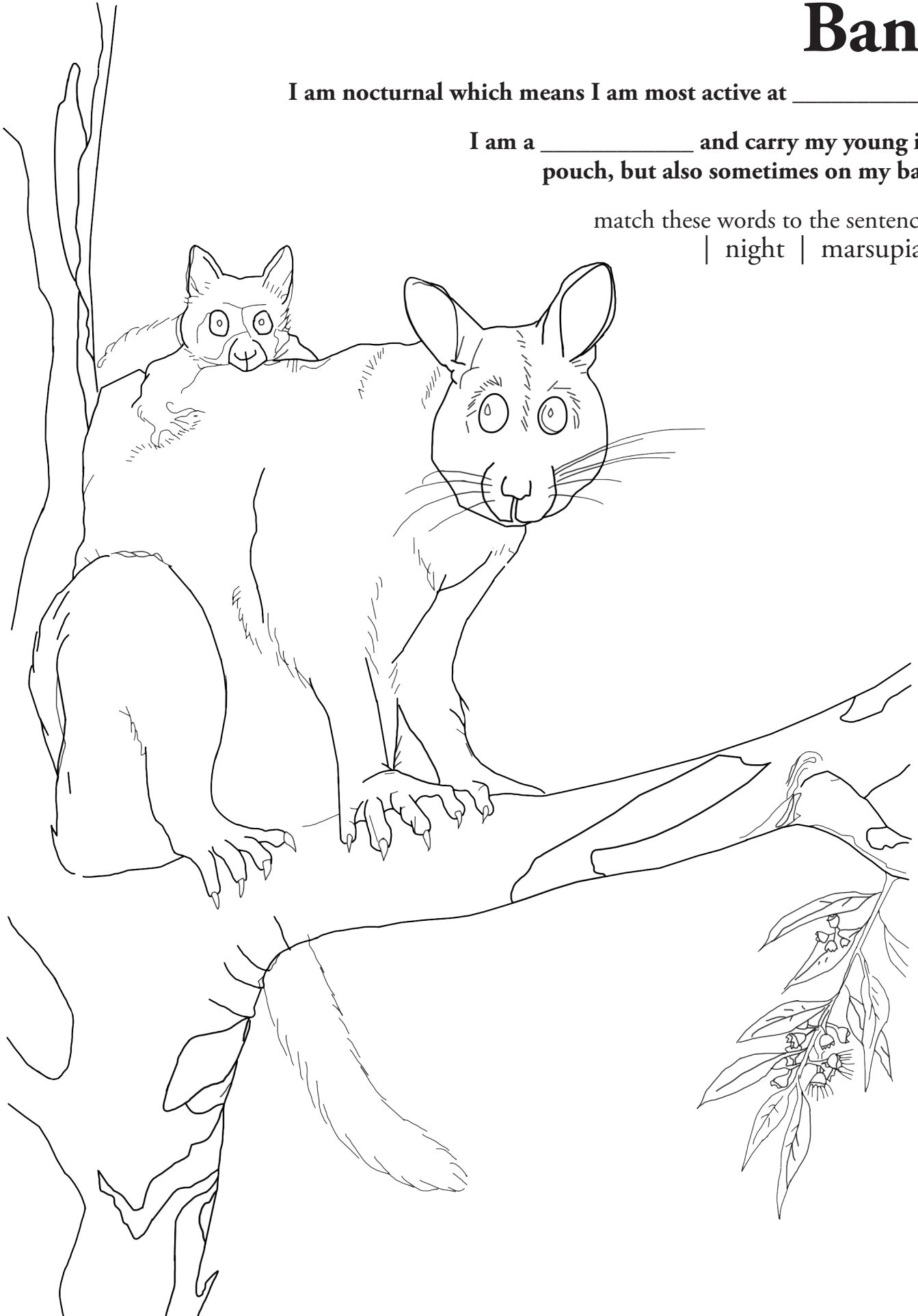
Possum

Yorta Yorta Bana

I am nocturnal which means I am most active at _____.

I am a _____ and carry my young in a pouch, but also sometimes on my back.

match these words to the sentences -
| night | marsupial |



Sea Eagles

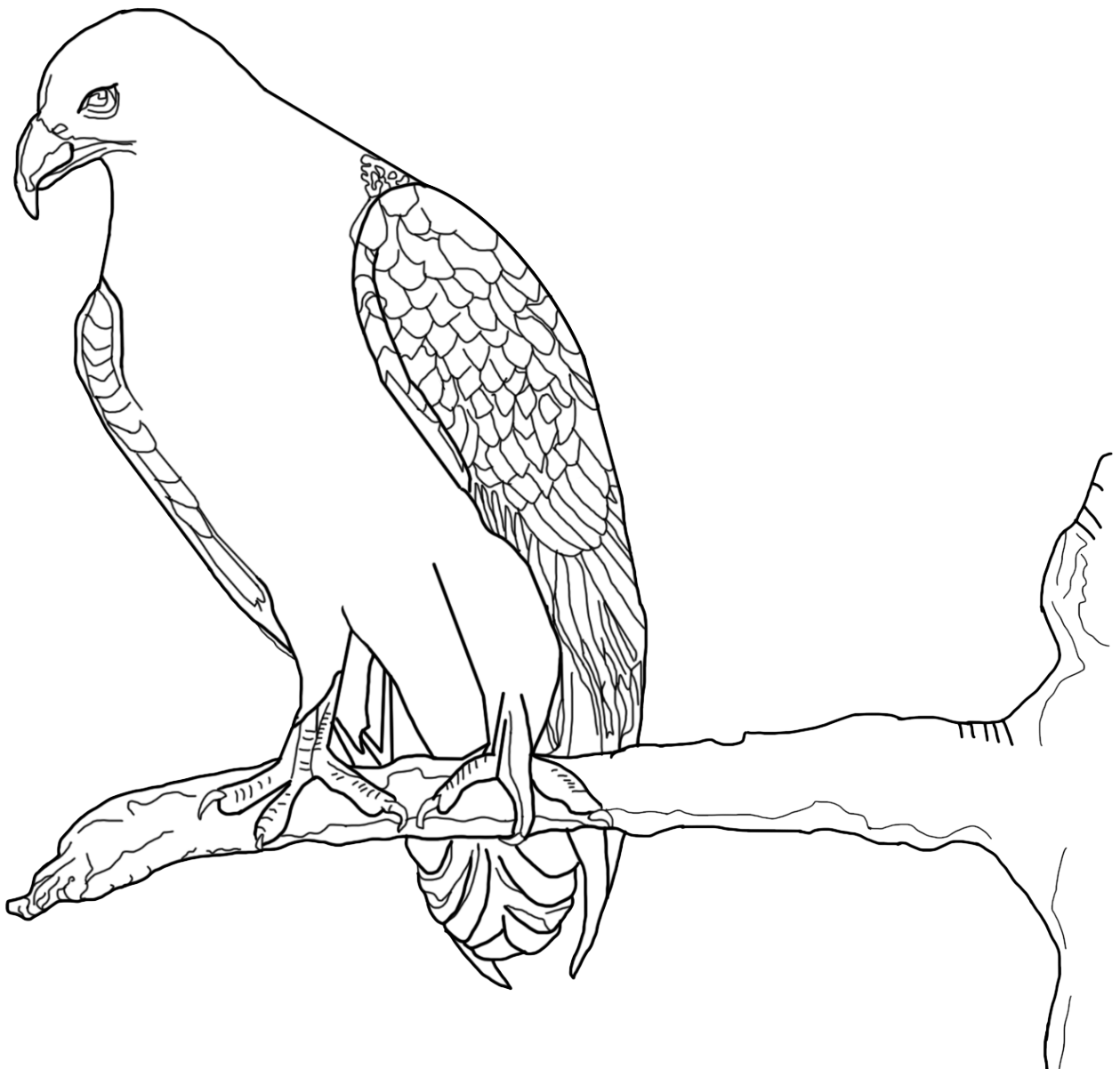
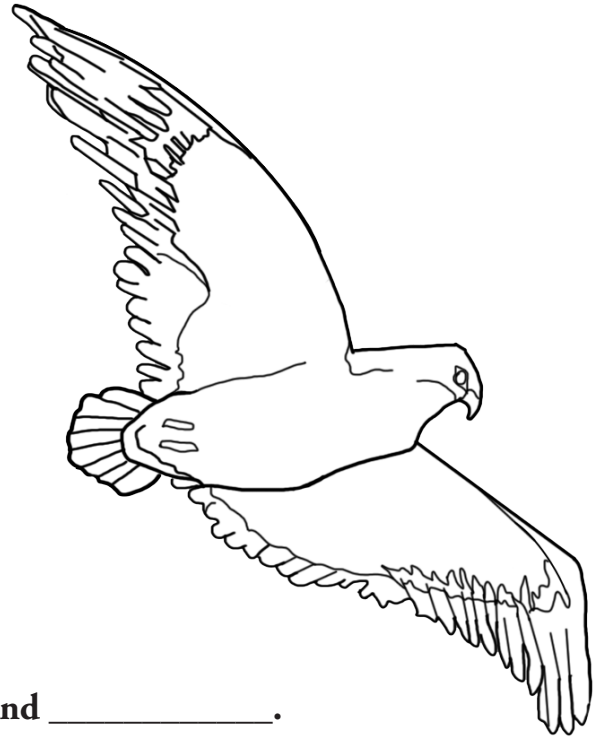
Yorta Yorta Gurranyin

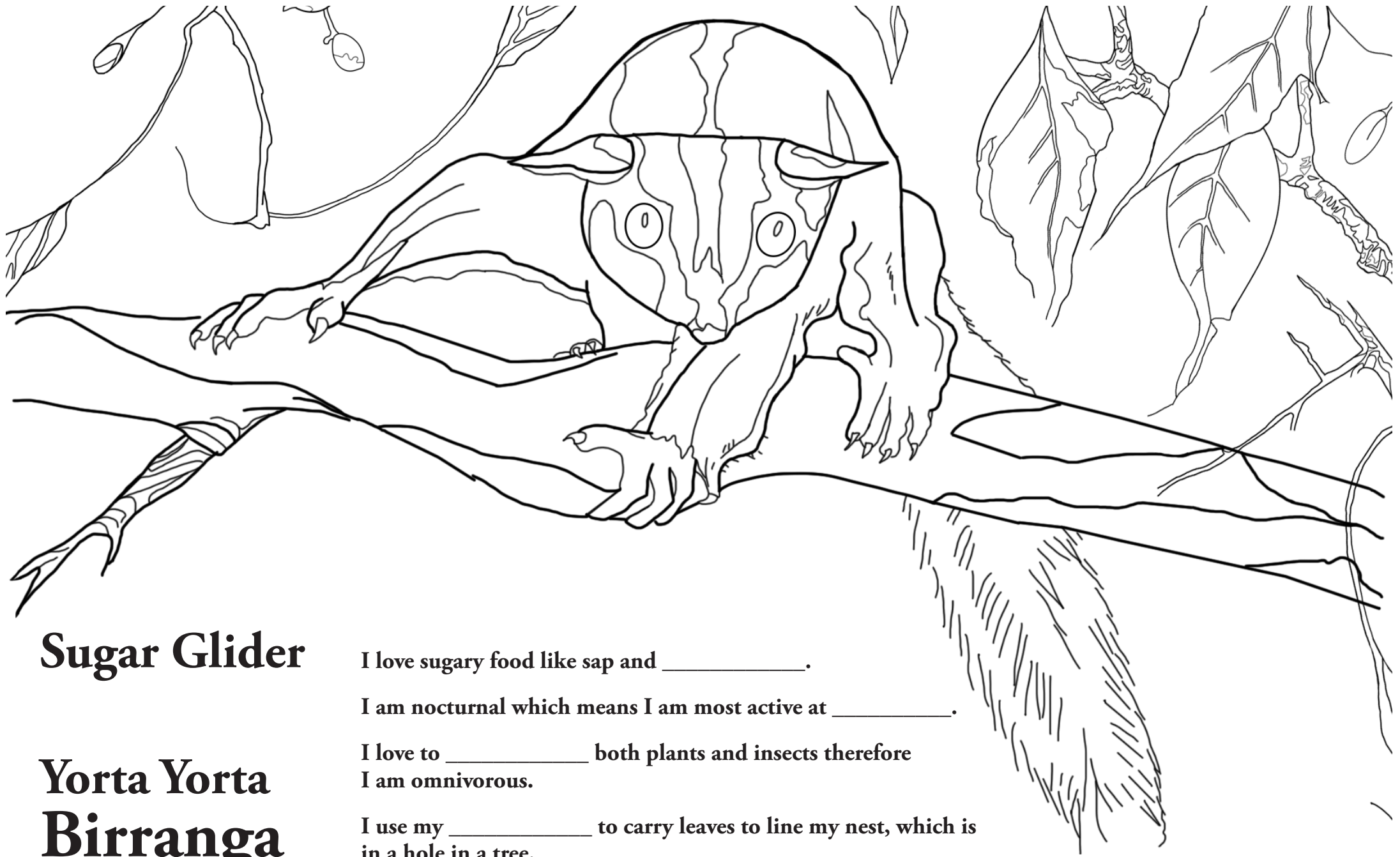
I spend hours on end perched in a tree or
soaring over _____.

I have long, broad wings, feathered legs
and a _____ tail.

I am known to prey on fish, turtles, snakes, birds and _____.

match these words to the sentences -
| short | waterways | mammals |





Sugar Glider

I love sugary food like sap and _____.

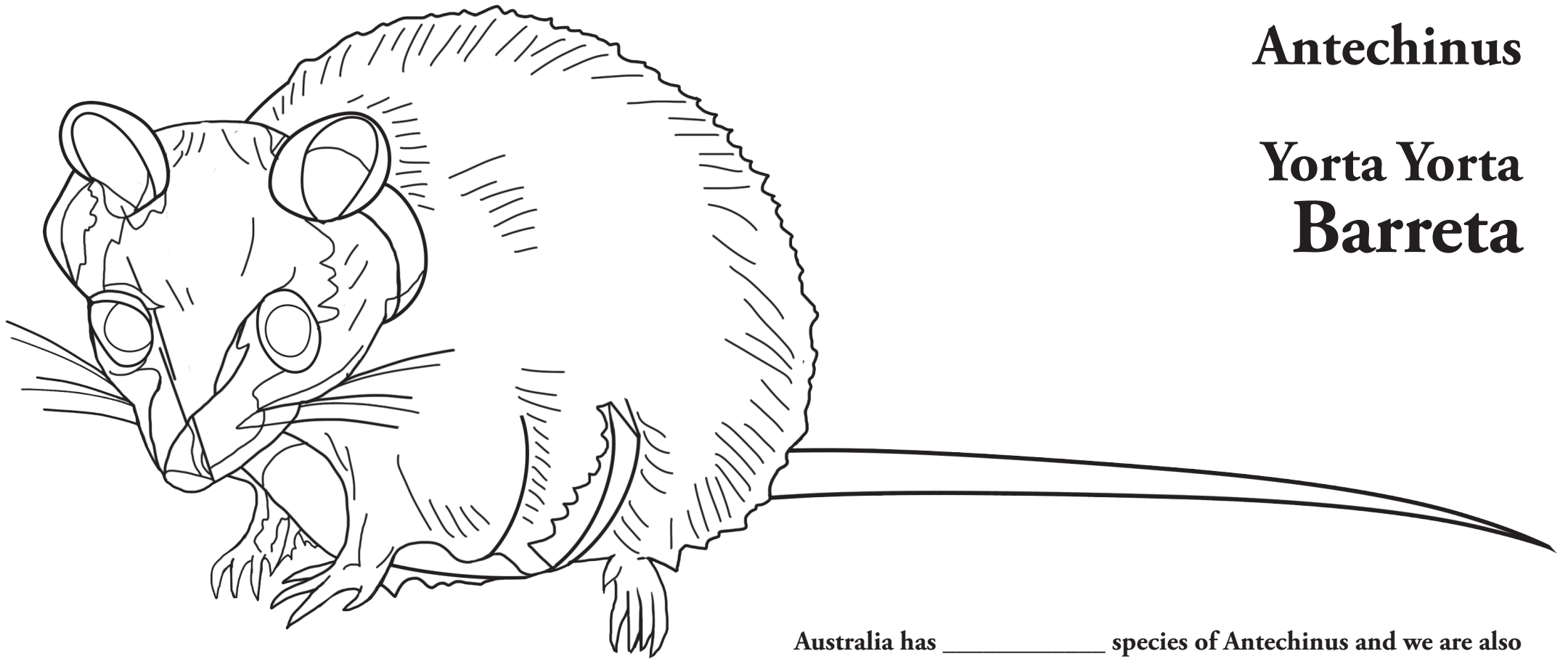
I am nocturnal which means I am most active at _____.

I love to _____ both plants and insects therefore
I am omnivorous.

I use my _____ to carry leaves to line my nest, which is
in a hole in a tree.

match these words to the sentences - | tail | nectar | eat | night |

Yorta Yorta Birranga



Antechinus

**Yorta Yorta
Barreta**

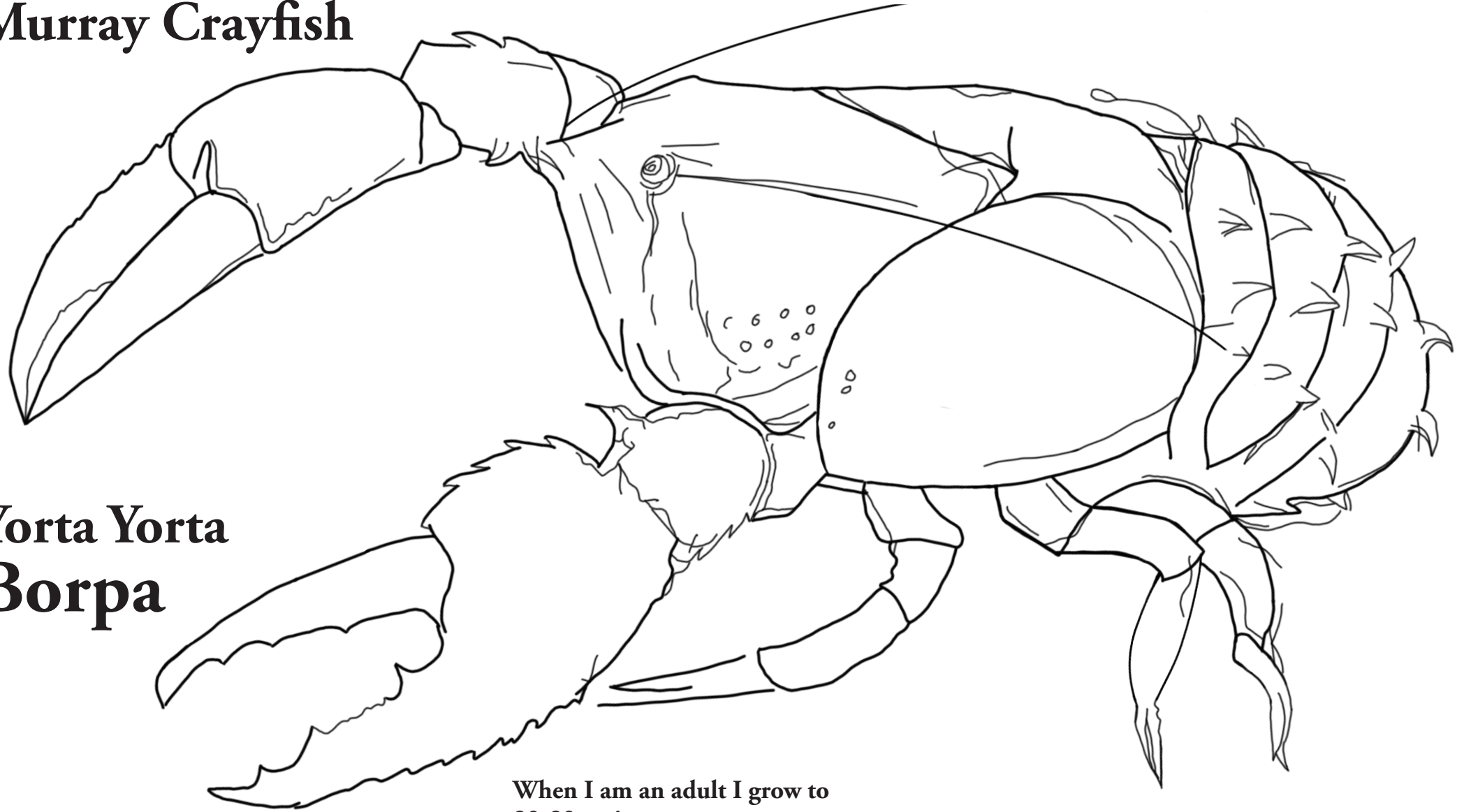
Australia has _____ species of Antechinus and we are also known as marsupial mice.

We love eating spiders, _____ and other insects.

We nest in tree hollows, coming down to the ground to forage in _____ litter but the Dusky and Swamp Antechinus make burrows in the ground and fallen trees.

match these words to the sentences - | cockroaches | ten | leaf |

Murray Crayfish



Yorta Yorta Borpa

When I am an adult I grow to
20-30cm in _____.

I feed on decaying plants but will also eat dead _____.

Females lay 500 to 1000 _____ in late autumn which they carry under their tails.

match these words to the sentences - | length | eggs | animals |

Platypus

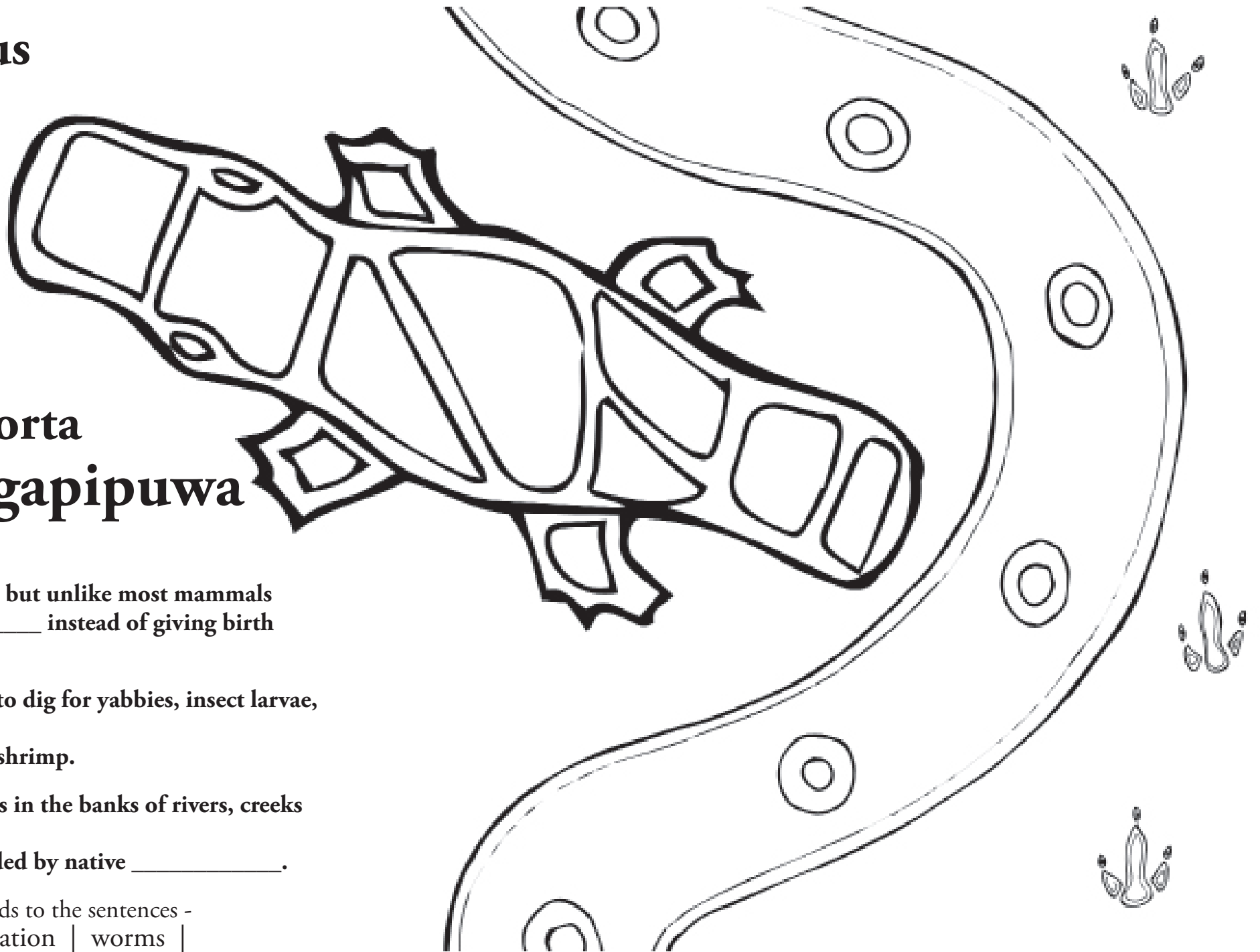
Yorta Yorta Wanagapiwuwa

I am a mammal but unlike most mammals
I lay _____ instead of giving birth
to live young.

I use my snout to dig for yabbies, insect larvae,
_____ and freshwater shrimp.

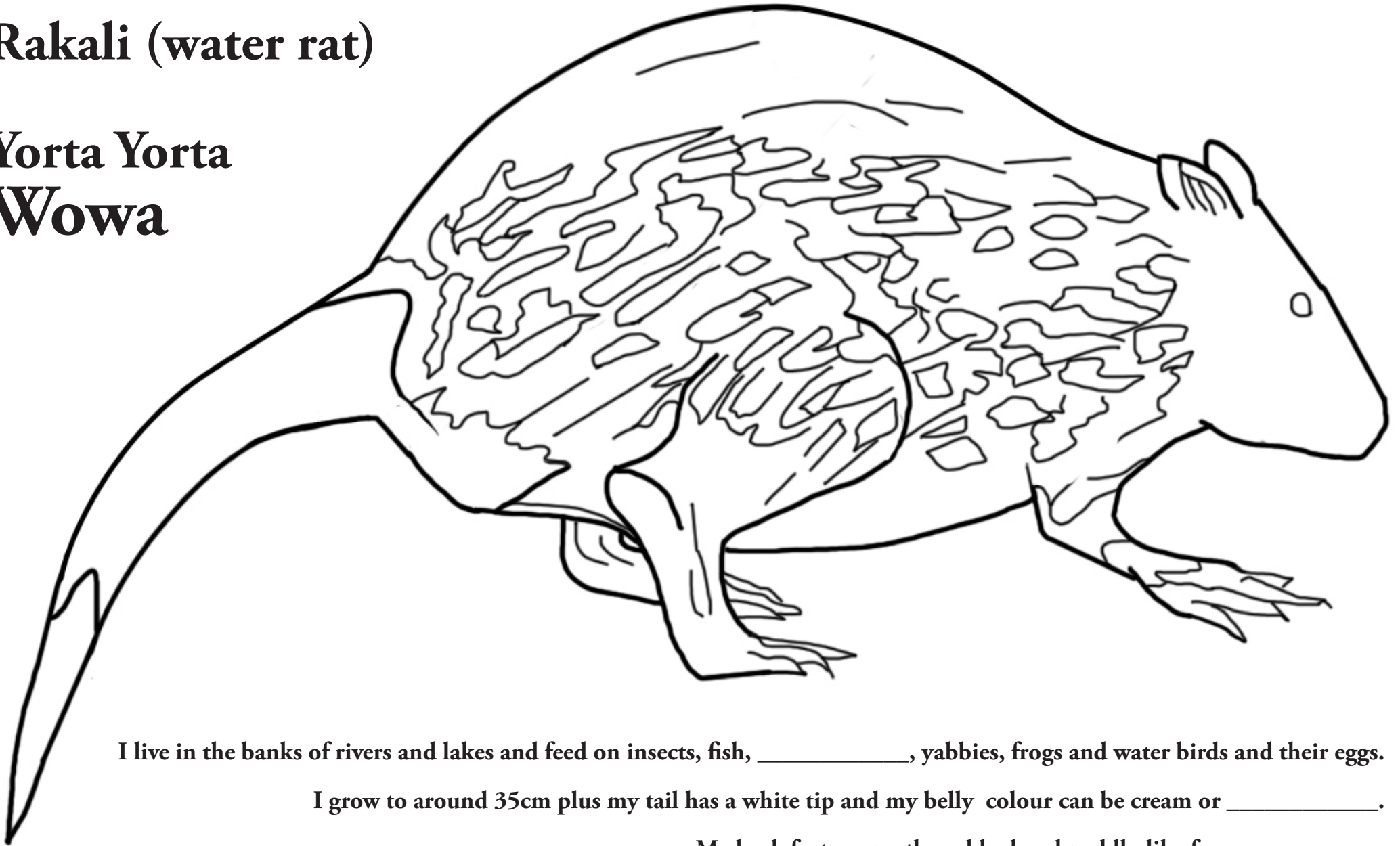
I live in burrows in the banks of rivers, creeks
and
ponds surrounded by native _____.

match these words to the sentences -
| eggs | vegetation | worms |



Rakali (water rat)

Yorta Yorta
Wowa



I live in the banks of rivers and lakes and feed on insects, fish, _____, yabbies, frogs and water birds and their eggs.

I grow to around 35cm plus my tail has a white tip and my belly colour can be cream or _____.

My back feet are partly webbed and paddle-like for _____.

match these words to the sentences - | orange | swimming | mussels |

Goanna

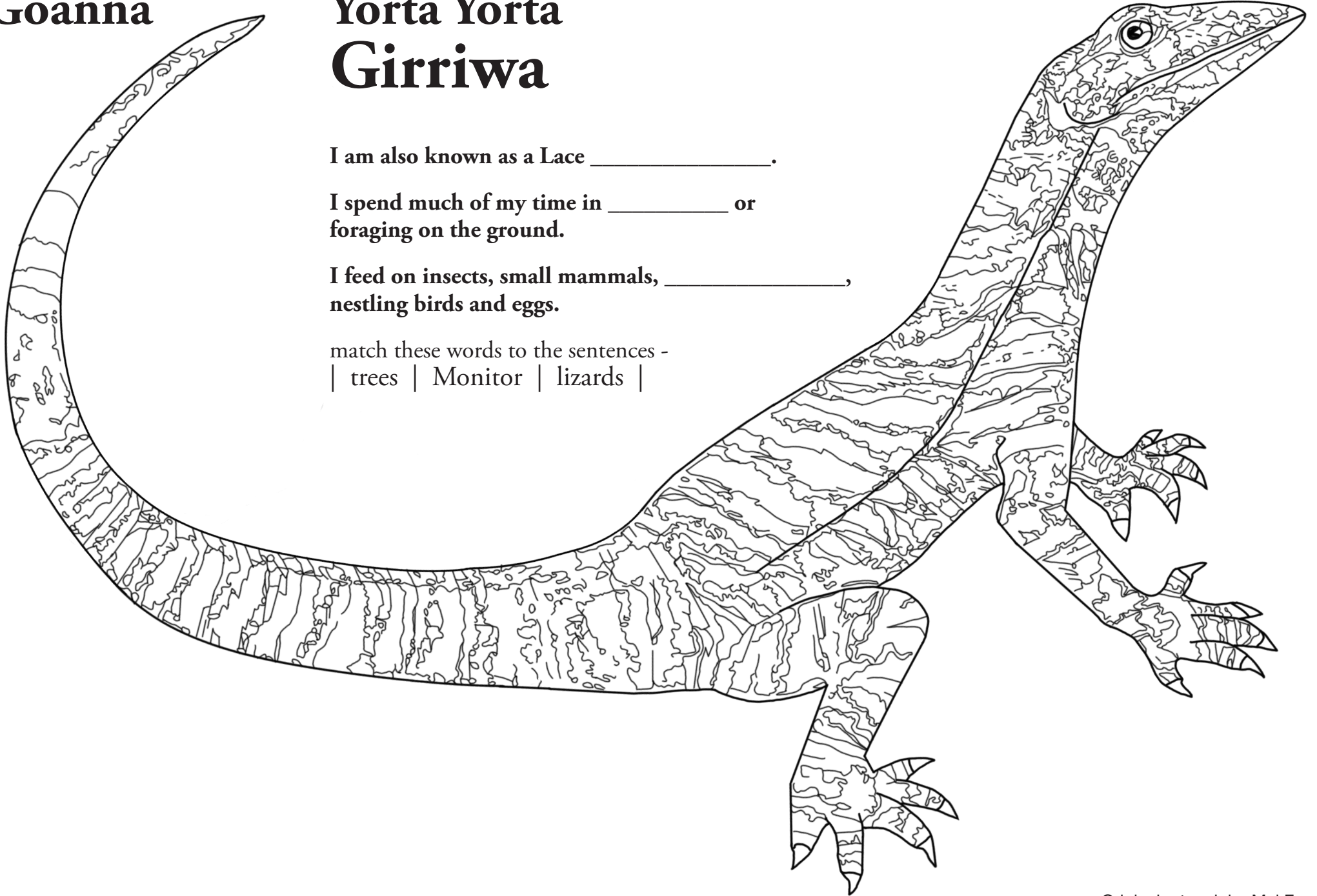
Yorta Yorta Girriwa

I am also known as a Lace _____.

I spend much of my time in _____ or
foraging on the ground.

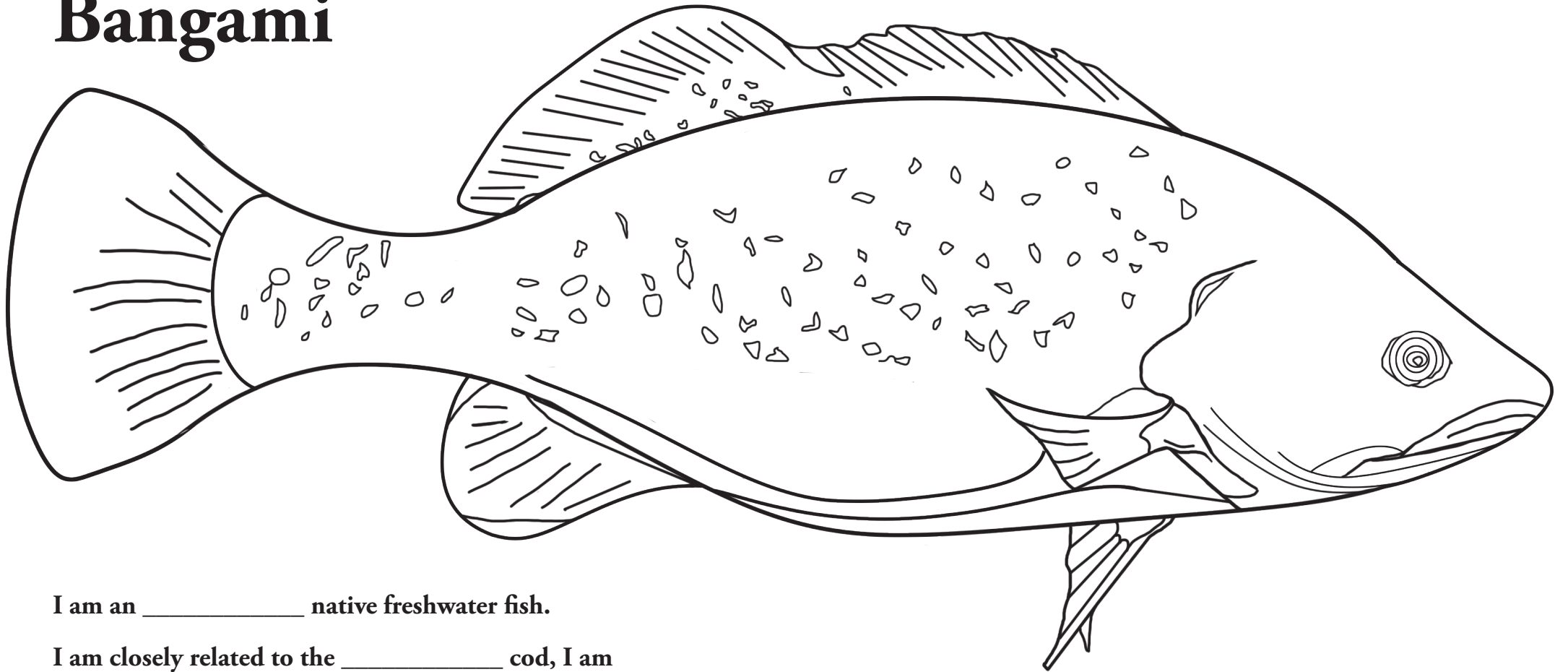
I feed on insects, small mammals, _____,
nestling birds and eggs.

match these words to the sentences -
| trees | Monitor | lizards |



Trout cod

Yorta Yorta Bangami



I am an _____ native freshwater fish.

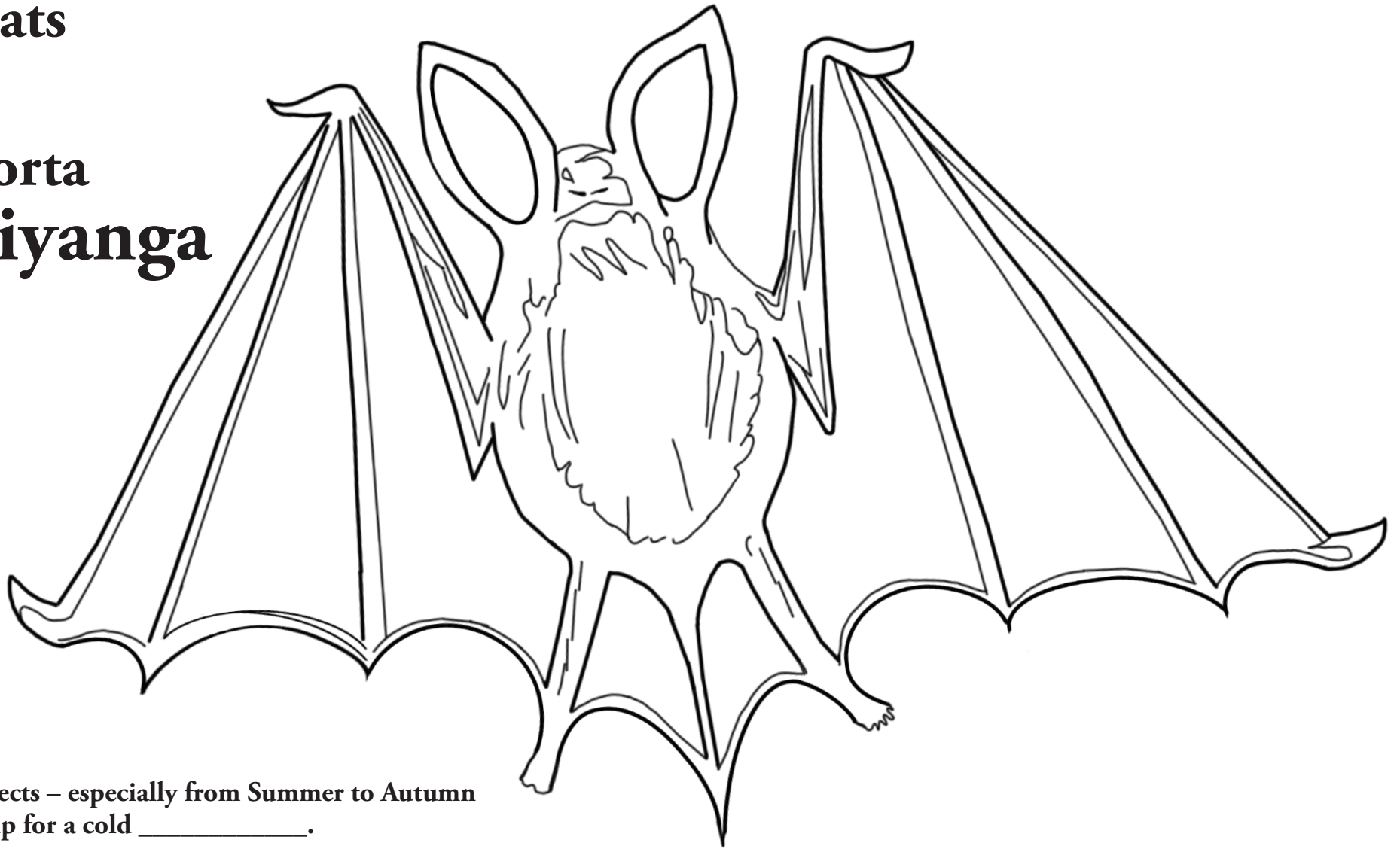
I am closely related to the _____ cod, I am on the endangered species list.

I feed on other fish, yabbies, _____ and freshwater shrimp as well as water insects.

match these words to the sentences - | Murray | crayfish | Australian |

Microbats

Yorta Yorta Mumiyanga



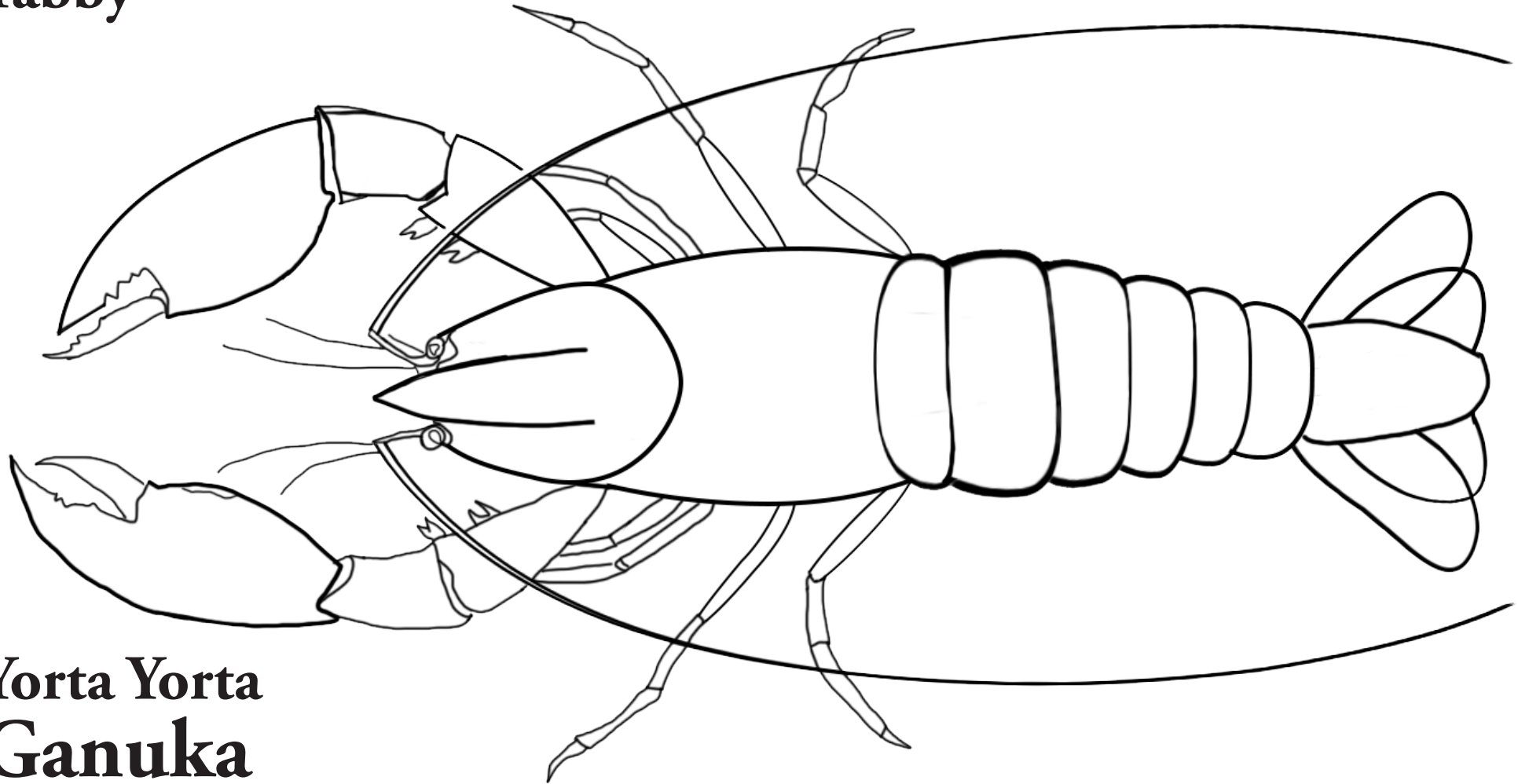
I love eating insects – especially from Summer to Autumn
so I can fatten up for a cold _____.

I use my tail or wings to catch large insects and carry them to my _____ site.

My _____ are used rather than my eyes for seeing. By producing a sound, I listen to see how long
it takes to bounce back from my surrounds – telling me how _____ the object is.

match these words to the sentences - | feeding | Winter | close | ears |

Yabby



Yorta Yorta Ganuka

I live in swamps, streams, rivers, reservoirs and farm _____.

I am an important food for _____ Cod.

match these words to the sentences - | Murray | dams |

Yorta Yorta

Bana
Bangami
Barreta
Bayadherra
Birranga
Biyala
Borpa
Djarring
Djunda
Ganga
Ganuka
Girriwa
Gurranyin
Mamel
Mumiyanga
Nadjirr
Ngarring
Wanagapipuwa
Wigilupka
Wowa

English

Possum
Trout Cod
Antechinus
Long Necked Turtle
Sugar Glider
Red Gum Tree
Crayfish
White Cockatoo
Heron
Wattle
Crayfish (small)
Kookaburra
Goanna
Carpet Snake
Bat
Heron (young)
Black Cockatoo
Platypus
Eagle
Water Rat

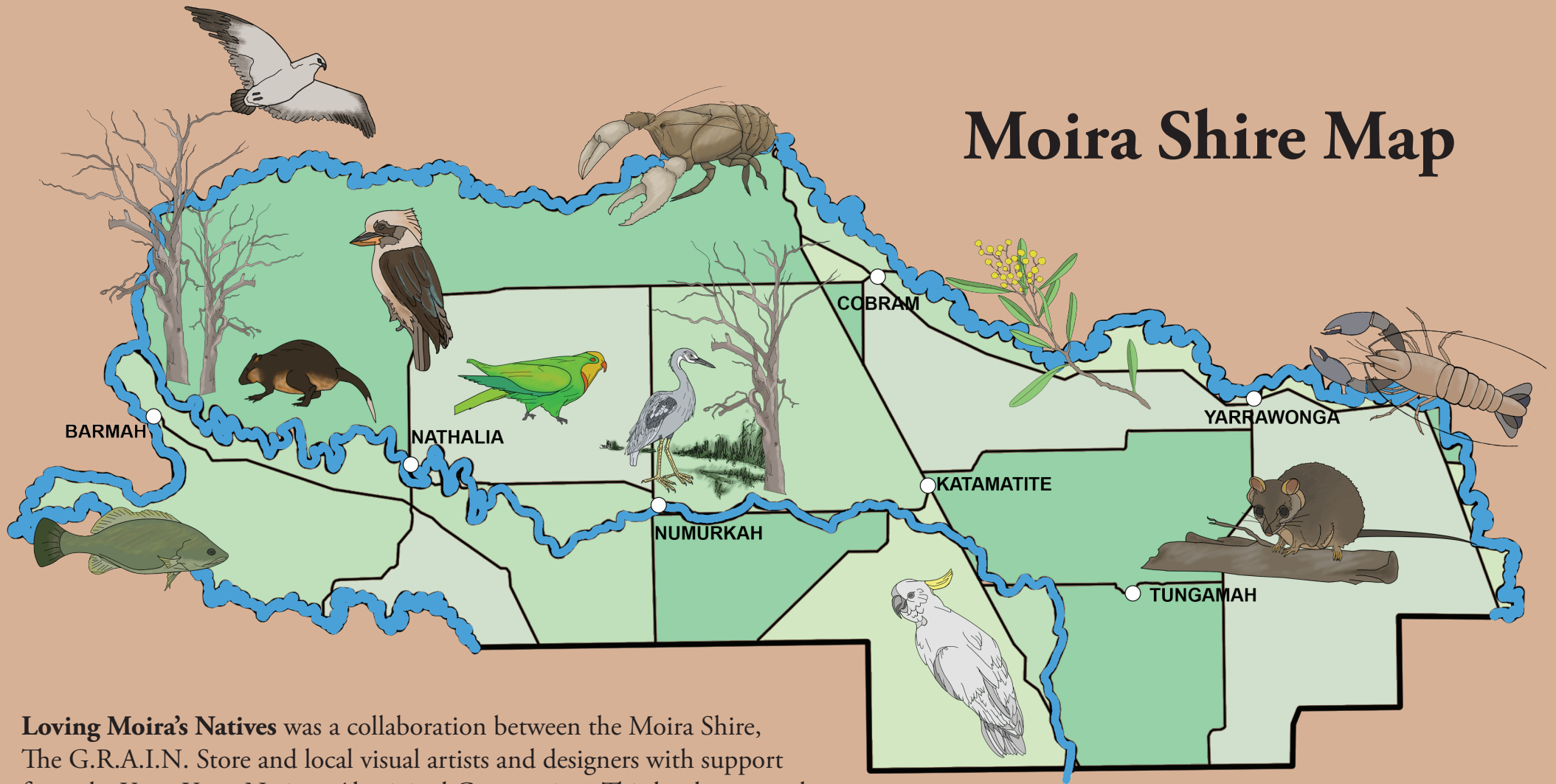
English

Antechinus
Bat
Black Cockatoo
Carpet Snake
Crayfish
Crayfish (small)
Eagle
Goanna
Heron
Heron (young)
Kookaburra
Long Necked Turtle
Platypus
Possum
Red Gum Tree
Sugar Glider
Trout Cod
Water Rat
Wattle
White Cockatoo

Yorta Yorta

Barreta
Mumiyanga
Ngarring
Mamel
Borpa
Ganuka
Wigilupka
Gurranyin
Djunda
Nadjirr
Girriwa
Bayadherra
Wanagapipuwa
Bana
Biyala
Birranga
Bangami
Wowa
Ganga
Djarring

Moira Shire Map



Loving Moira's Natives was a collaboration between the Moira Shire, The G.R.A.I.N. Store and local visual artists and designers with support from the Yorta Yorta Nations Aboriginal Corporation. This book was made to help young people of the Moira Shire learn more about their local flora and fauna, as well as the role of artists in their community. The accompanying exhibition ran at The G.R.A.I.N. Store in 2020 and was an opportunity for the contributing artists to exhibit some of their original artworks that were adapted for the colouring pages in this book. The team behind this project worked together to create a high quality publication.

