

Editor

Christine Hawkins

Art Director: **Rick Reed**

Conceptual Artist/Illustrator: Shannon Barnes

Principal Designer: Holly Julien

Assistant Editor:
Althea Cabarrão



Contributing Writers:
Nathan Benson
Althea Cabarrão
Noreen Clough
Ken Duke
James Hall
Christine Hawkins
Chris Horton

Tyler Wade Reed

Senior Designer:
Laurie Tisdale

Editorial Assistants:

Cheryl Giordano
lessica Wade

Certificate Illustration:
Lenny McPherson

Photographer:
Gerald Crawford



Director, BASS Publications:

Dave Precht

Director, BASS Conservation:
Noreen Clough

Associate Director, BASS Conservation: Chris Horton

Director, BASS Federation Gary Jones

BASS Youth Manager: Stacy Twiggs



Published by BASS, LLC 509 Oliver Road Montgomery, AL 36117

Mailing Address: BASS Publications, P.O. Box 10000, Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

Web Site: www.bassmaster.com E-Mail: editorial@bassmaster.com Customer Service E-Mail: customerservice@bassmaster.com

Copyright ESPN Inc. 2006 All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without the permission of BASS Publications is prohibited. PRINTED IN THE USA

Dear Kids

Have you ever been fishing? Did you say, "Yes"? Well, this book is for you. But wait! Don't worry if you've never been fishing. This book is for YOU, too. At BASS, we know that fishing is fun, and we made this book to tell you all about our favorite sport. But we also know what's most important ... your SAFETY. We want you to be safe AND have FUN! This is where grown-ups come in. Always go fishing and boating with grown-ups. And always ask a grown-up to help you with your fishing gear.

Our friend Gil asked us to let him guide you through our book. More than anything, he wants to teach you about fishing, boating and clean, healthy waters.

Look for Gil inside. Along the way, he'll tell you what to do. And he'll share BASS Fishing Fun & Facts, too!

When you're finished with the activities in your book, be sure to fill out the certificate on the last page. Have a grown-up sign the bottom to make your award official. Then, ask a grown-up to help you cut it out, so you can hang it up in a favorite place.



Remember:
GO with Gil! He puts the
FUN in FISHING.

All our best,
Your BASS Fishin' Pals

Dear Grown-Ups:

There is nothing quite as special or rewarding as spending time with a child in the outdoors. Add water and the adventure of fishing, and it only gets better.

BASS Fishing Fun & Facts has been created to stimulate young minds and their love of things wild, as well as to introduce them (and you) to the basics of fishing and boating, natural resource conservation, and safety.

Wander through the pages with children as they learn about bass, types of fishing gear, and the importance of protecting

our waters and aquatic resources. Once children see how easy and how much fun fishing can be, they'll be hooked.

Learn along with them and when they have completed all the activities in **BASS Fishing Fun & Facts**, help them cut out and complete the "Official Certificate" on the last page.

Then, take a child fishing — and remember Fishing is Fun!

Sincerely, Noreen Clough BASS Conservation Director

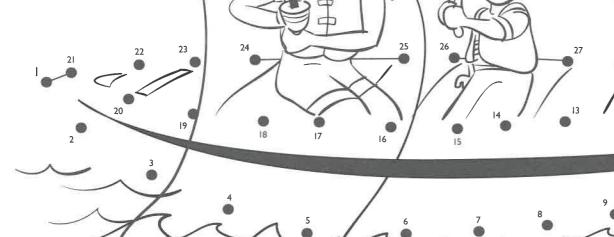
Thank you Madison Hall — for helping Gil find his name.



Fishing
and boating
are fun. But
remember, safety
always comes
first!

Kevin and his mom are having tons of fun fishing for bass.

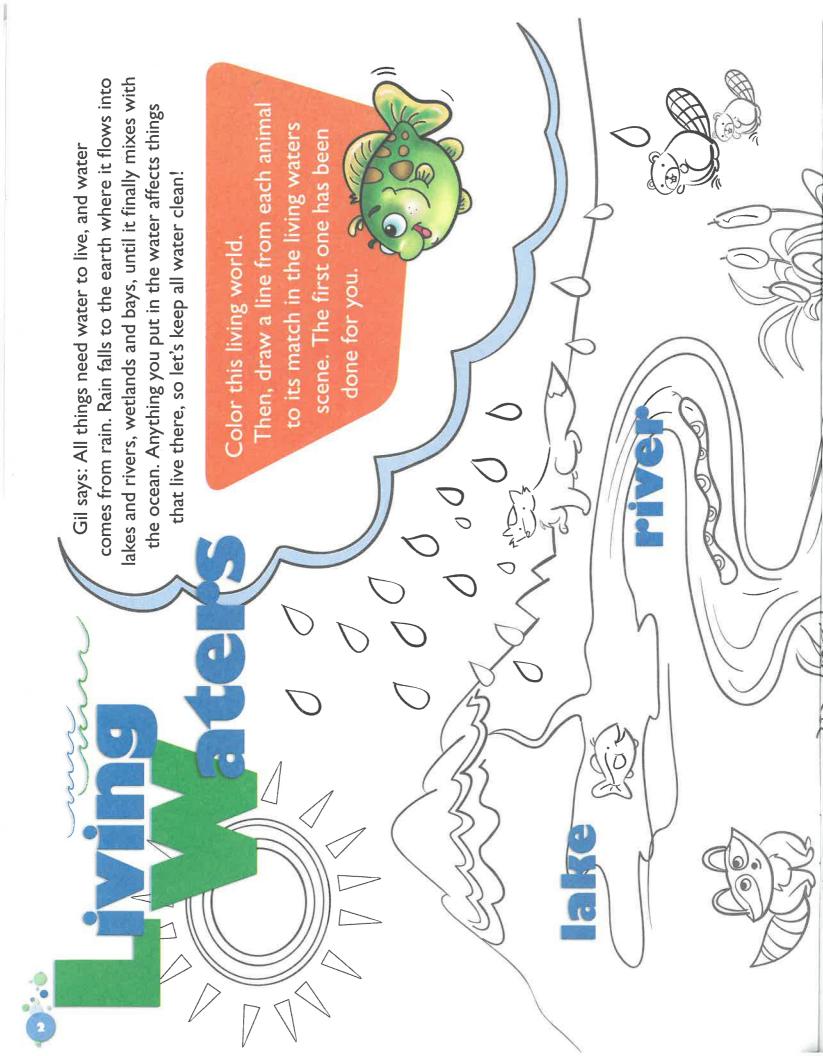
They're
wearing life
jackets, so they
don't need to
worry because
they're very
safe.



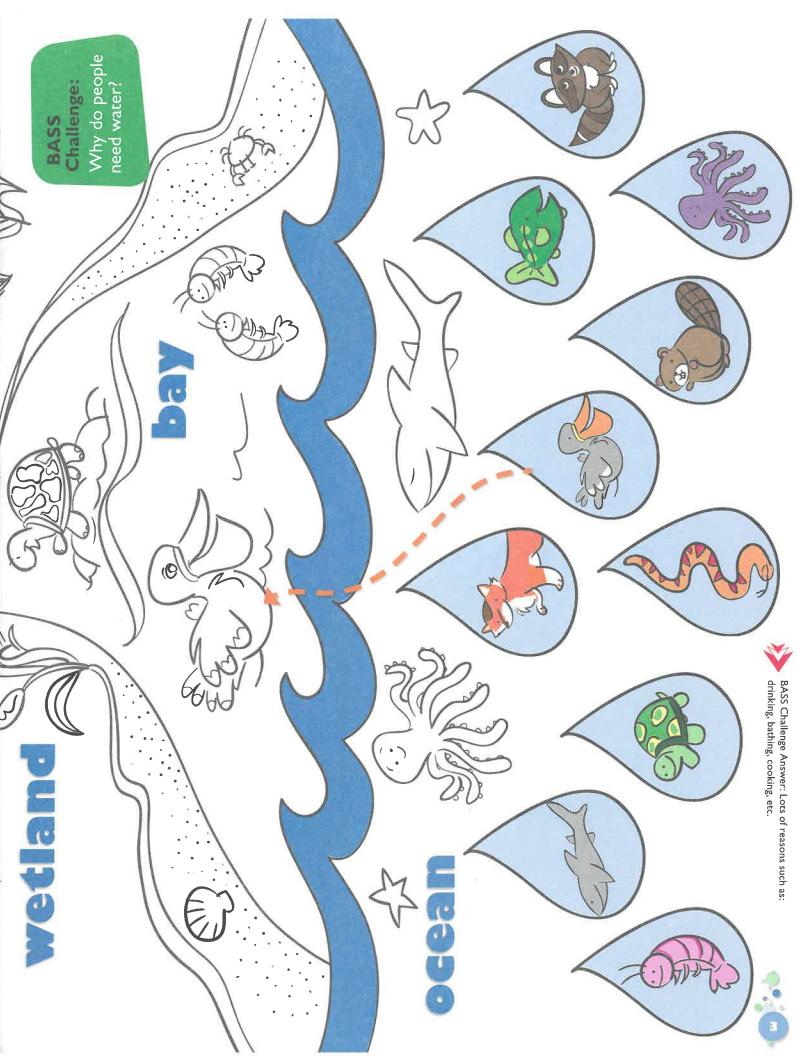
When
in a boat,
always wear
a life
jacket — and

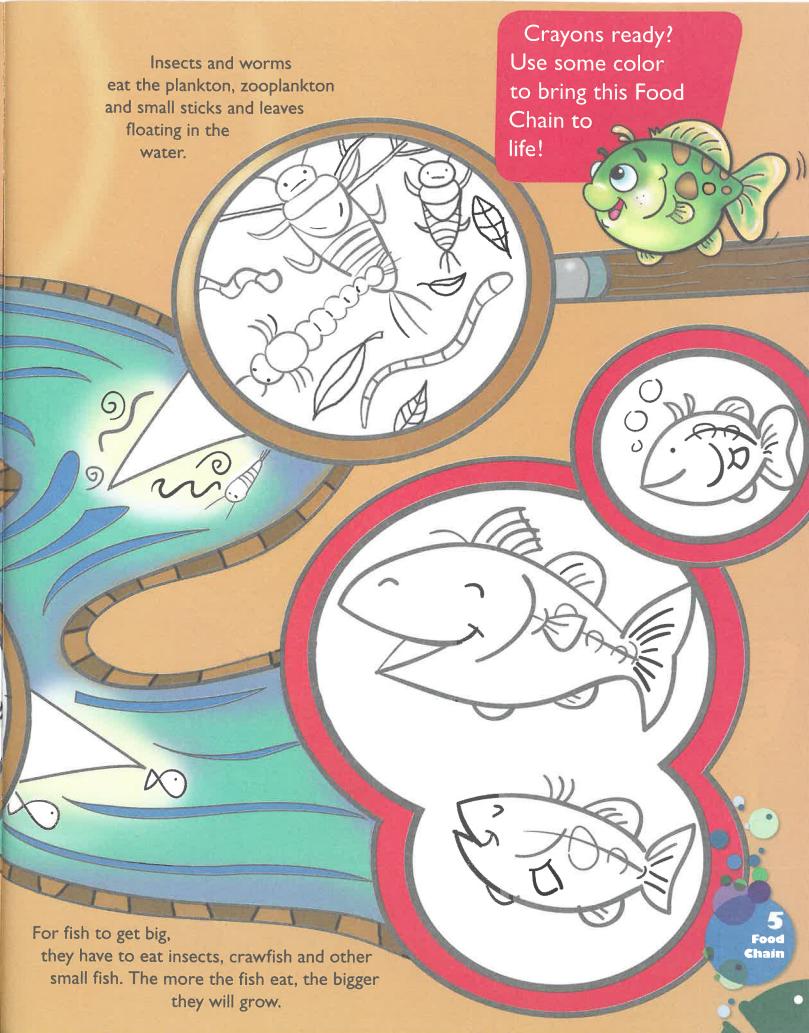
 and never go boating alone! Connect
the dots. Then, color
the picture of Kevin
and his mom
fishing. Will they
catch a giant
bass? You decide!











Learning About Largemouth

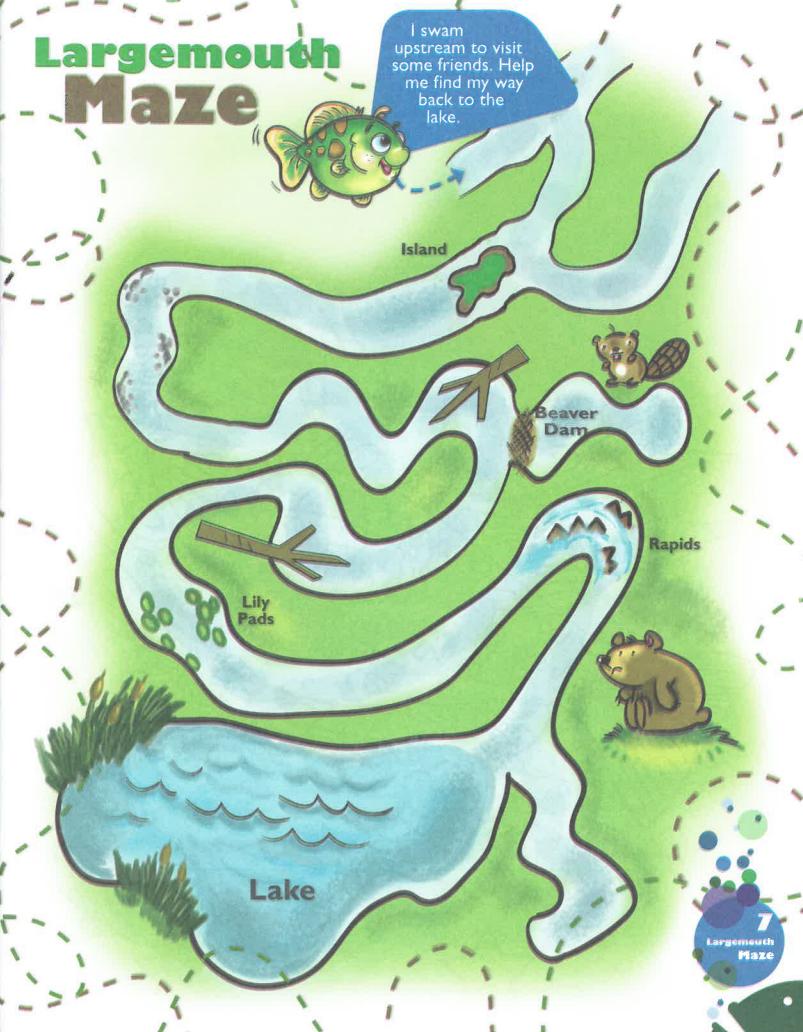
BASS Challenge: How long can

bass live?

Color
by number
and learn why
some people call
the largemouth a
"green bass."

The largemouth is the biggest of all the bass. They live in every state except Alaska. Largemouth bass like to live around weeds and stumps under water.

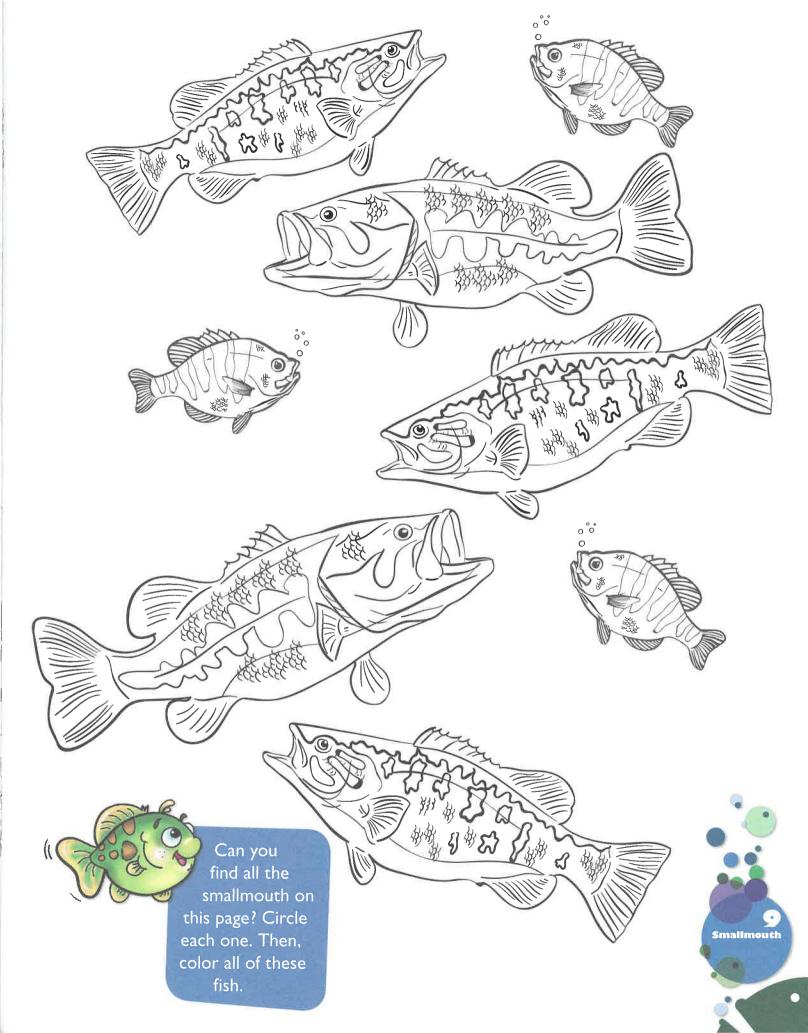




All About Smallmouth

Smallmouth bass live in lakes and rivers. They can be found in most states, but not as many places as largemouth bass because smallmouth like cooler water. Smallmouth bass like to hide behind rocks, logs and around plants. They will eat small fish and insects, but crawfish are their favorite food.







Gil says: Look who lives

next door to me! My friends and I live in or around the lake. We all need the lake's clean water because this is where we find our food. Some of us drink from the lake. Some of us swim in the lake. Some of us spend all day in the lake, but some of us like to walk on land too.



How many

tracks do you see?



tracks do you see?



Help my friends find their true colors. Crayons ready? GO!

I don't leave footprints, but some of my neighbors do.
Follow the tracks and count the footprints.
Look closely. Some of the tracks may look alike.



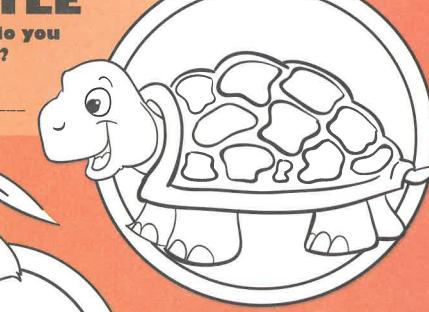
see?



How many

TURTLE

tracks do you see?



BASS Challenge:

Point to the animal that can fly over the lake.



tracks do you see?

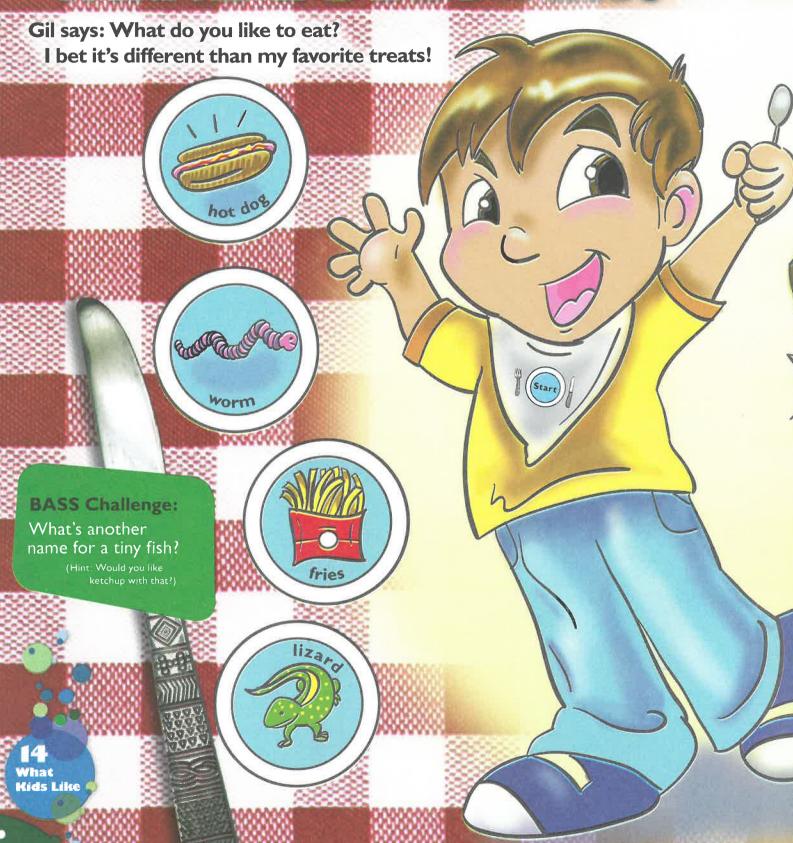


BASS Challenge Answer: Heron

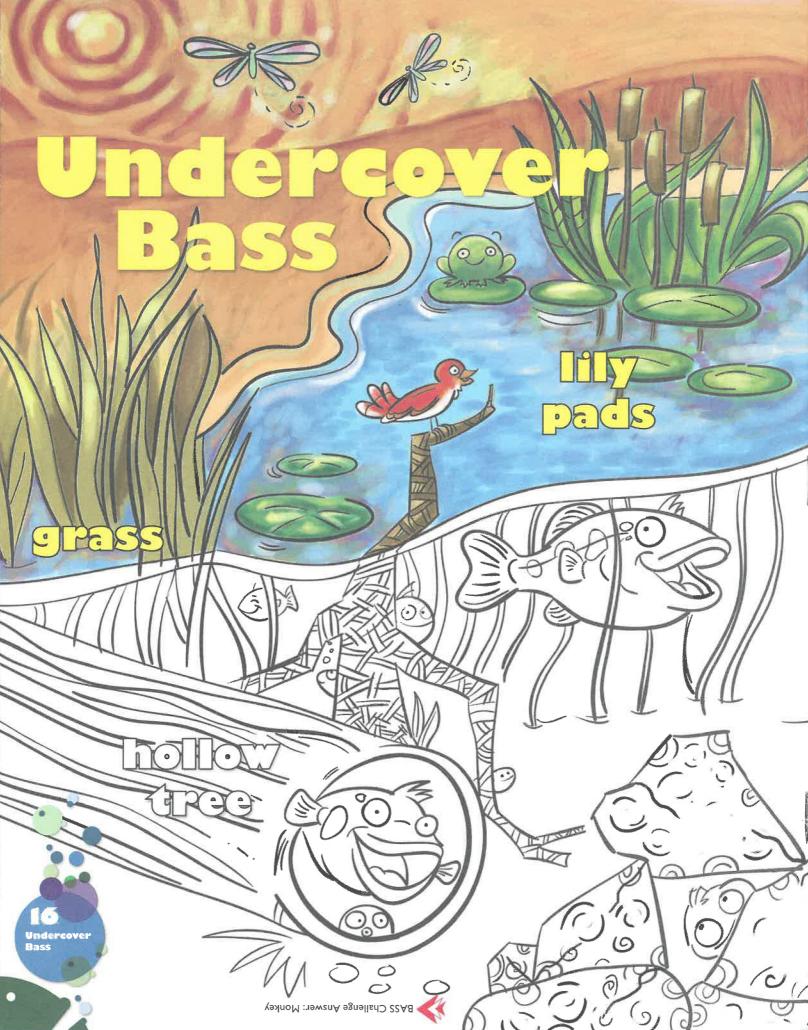


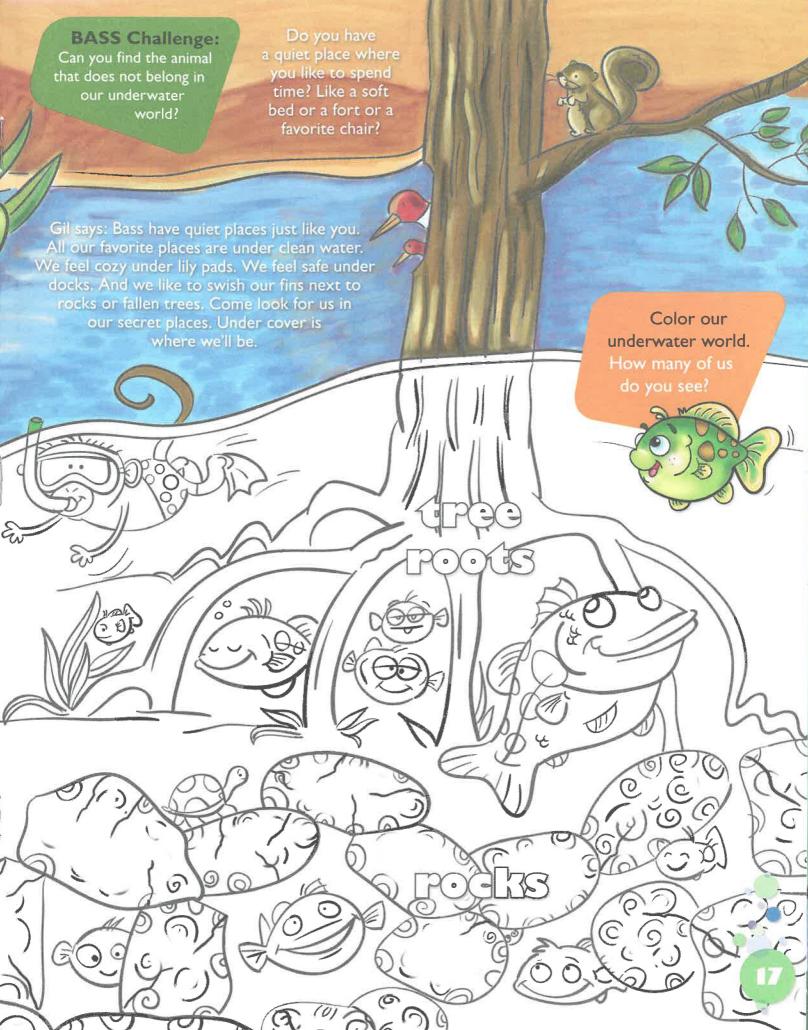


What Slike, What Strike

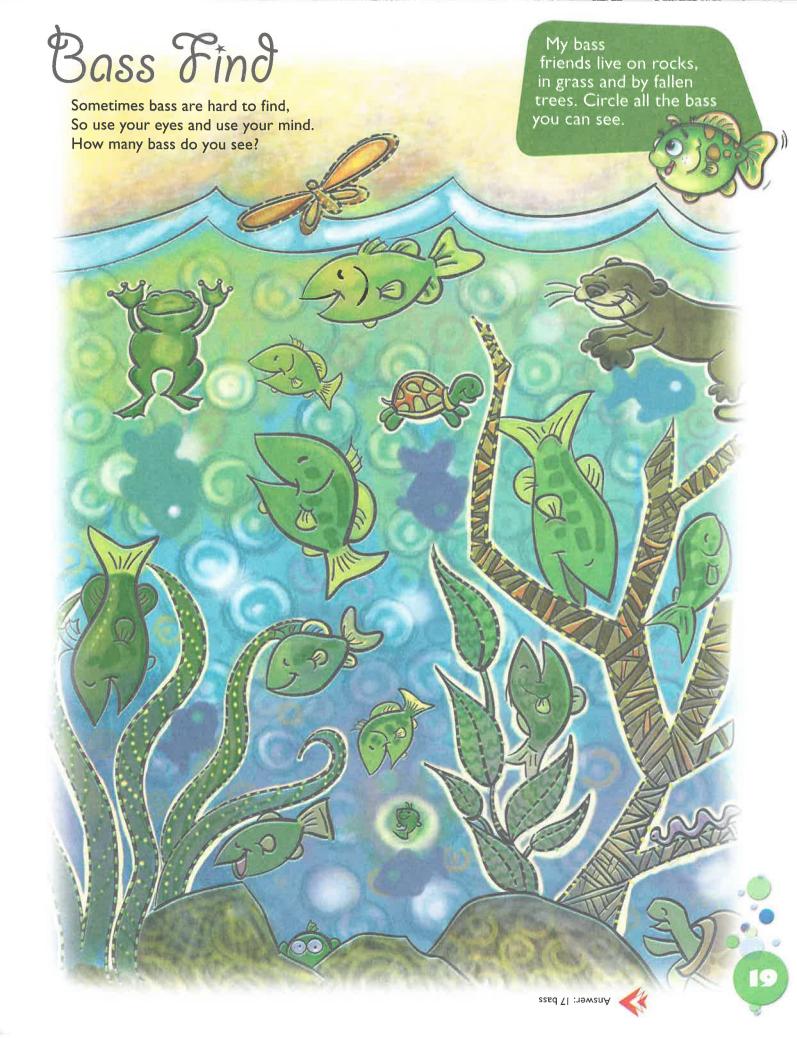


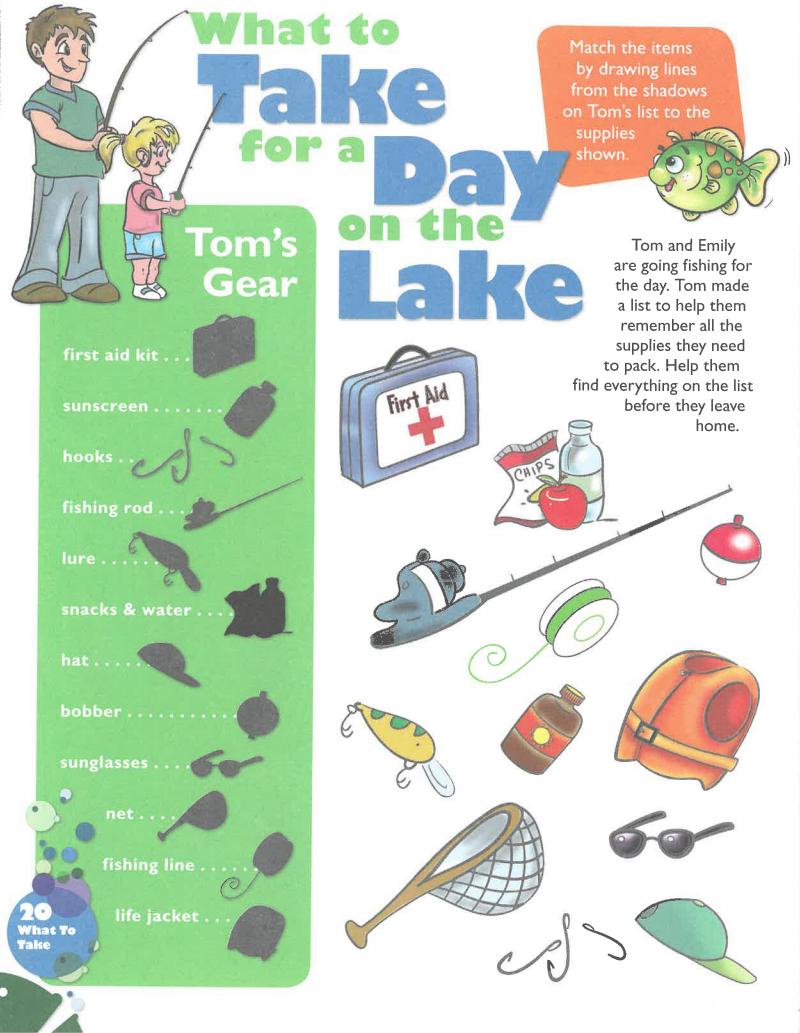


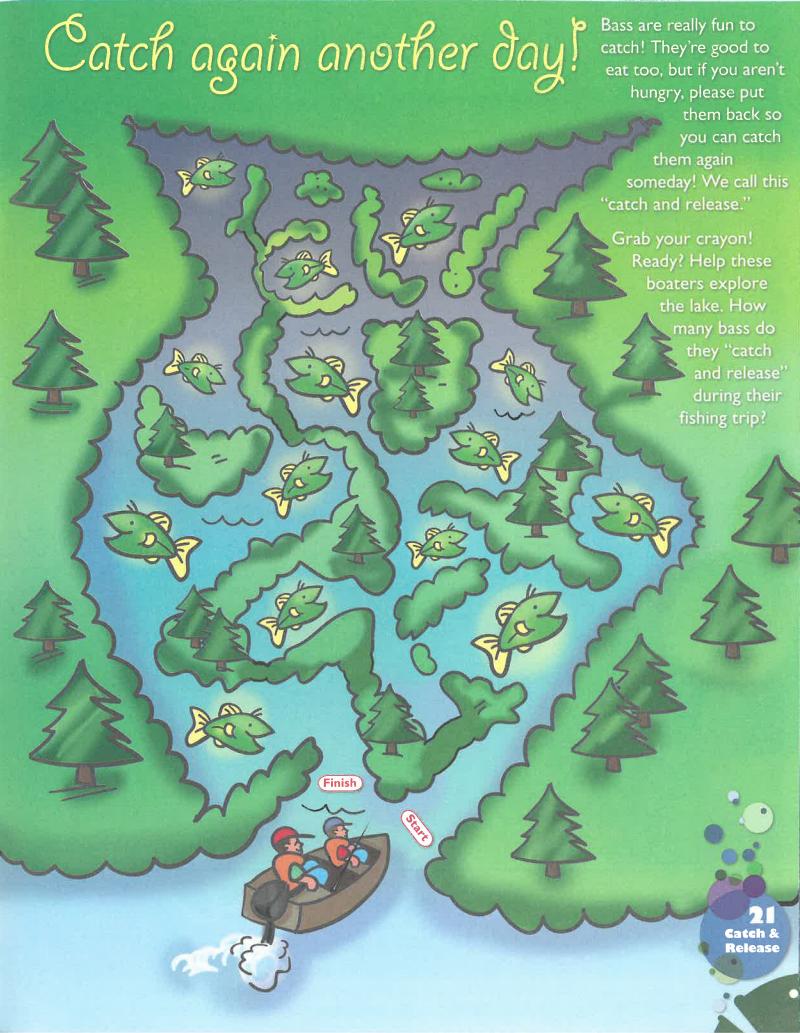












Fake 'Em Out!

Tons of fish are caught every year on fake tiny fish or fake worms or fake bugs. These are called lures. They don't get your hands all slimy and you can use them over and over, unlike real fish and worms

and bugs.

Worms are some of the best lures you can use to catch fish. They are made of plastic and come in all sorts of crazy colors.

Topwater

lures are fun to use because you get to watch fish eat them on top of the water. Some pop, some glide, some spin and some gurgle, and they can be almost any shape.

Spinnerbaits

have one or two blades on them (that kinda look like spoons), a wiggly skirt and one big hook. In the water, a spinnerbait looks like several tiny fish swimming together.

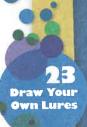
a tiny fish with a big, fat lip. The lip helps the bait swim deep in the water. These lures wiggle and have a bunch of hooks to help catch the fish.

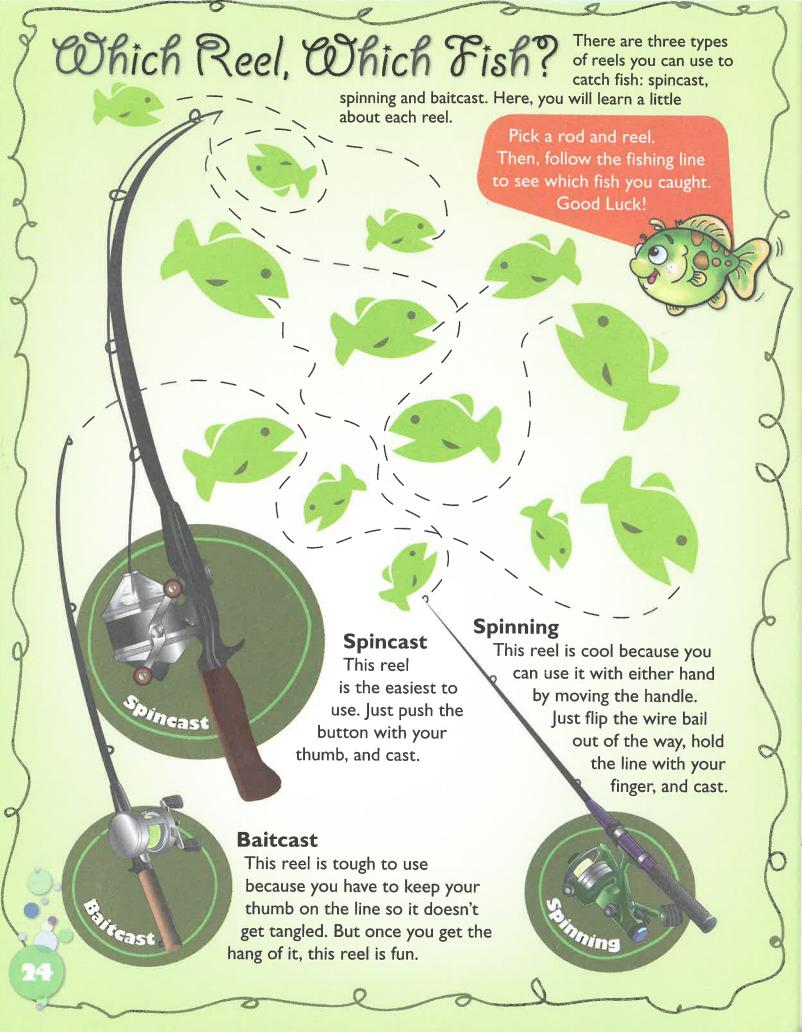
BASS Challenge:

Which of these lures ALWAYS floats on the water?

72 Fake 'Em Out!

There are four favorite types of lures for catching fish. Below, draw and color your very own lure of each type.





Get The Lure Out!



The only way to catch a fish is to get a lure in the water, where fish live. There are three ways to do this. Funny thing is, the words used to describe these ways to get your lure in the water also mean other things.

Can you figure out where each word goes?

CAST FLIP PITCH

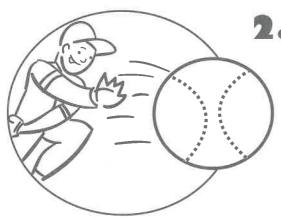
Color the matching meanings, and fill in the missing letters.



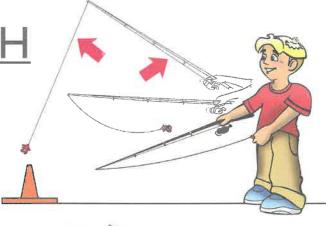
1. L

Do this when you want to send your lure only 3 to 5 feet from the boat.





Do this when you want to send your lure 5 to 15 feet from the boat.





3. S

Do this when you want to send your lure farther than 15 feet from the boat.





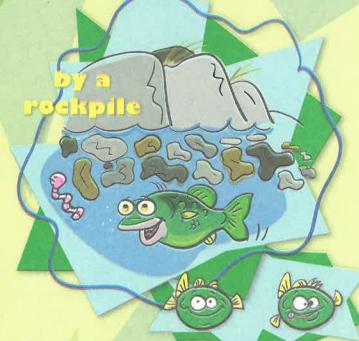
Home For Bass

Gil says: I can find you at home, on a playground or in school. Where can you find me?

Can bass be found here? If they can, circle the happy face.

Circle the silly face if you see a bass in a funny place.





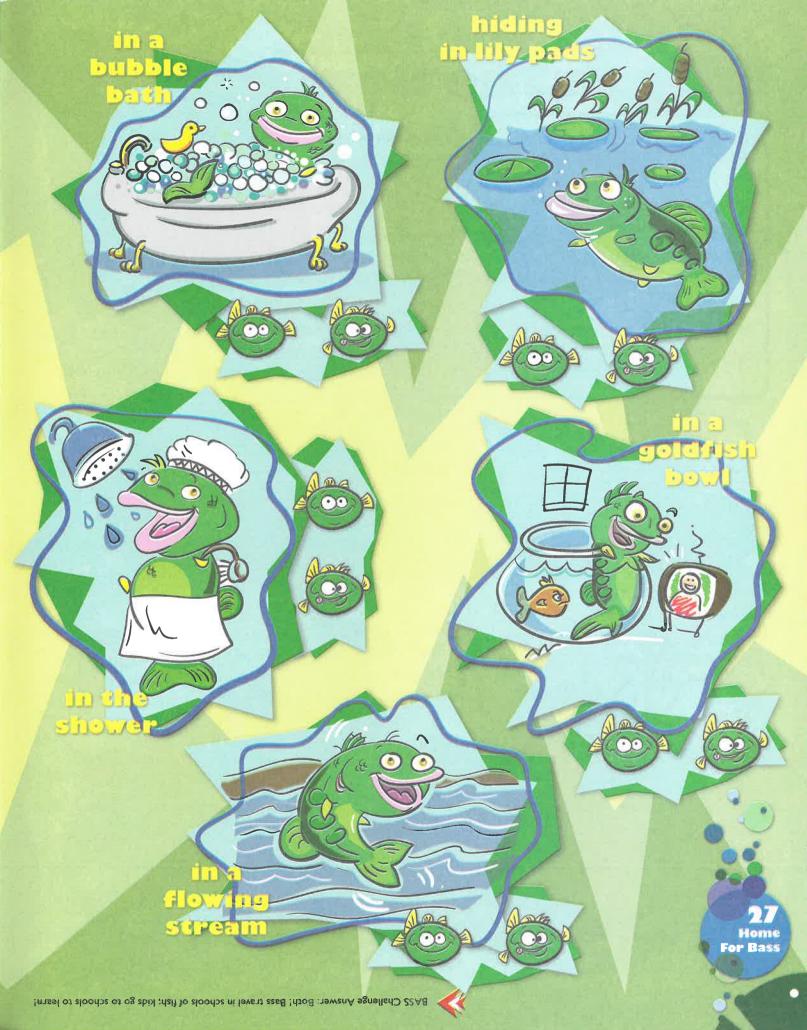




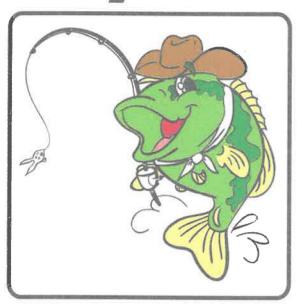
26 Home For Bass

BASS Challenge:

Which can be found in schools: kids or bass?



Just For Fun, Billy In The Box



Gil says: Wow!
By now you've learned so much about fishing and about me, it's time to do something JUST FOR FUN.

good look at Billy in the Box. Then, look at the other pictures and see if you can circle what's different. There may be many things to circle in each new picture. Keep your eye on Uncle Billy. He sure IS TRICKY.

I'd like you to meet someone new, my uncle, Billy Bass.
Uncle Billy is always playing tricks on me.
And on this page, he is trying to play tricks on you too!



A Boatful of Friends



Gil says: You don't live in the water, but I do, and so do other fish and animals.

The water is our home. It makes us sad when people visit our home

and leave a mess behind. Wouldn't you be sad and angry if people visited your home and left it messy? We don't like to be sad or angry, so help us keep our waters clean.

This dirty
water hurts my gills.
It's hard for me to breathe
and swim. Please help
me. I'm so afraid!

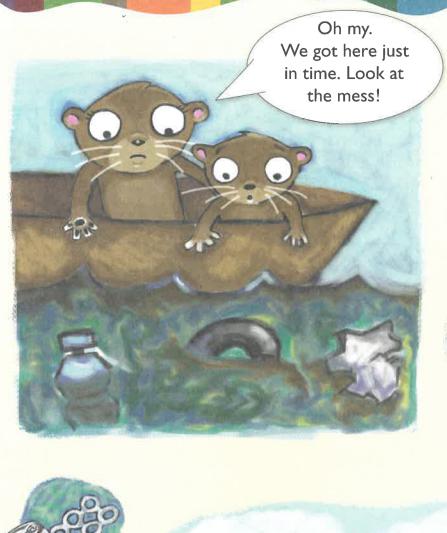


If our lake gets dirty, we can go to a new one. But our friend can't leave the water.

He's trapped.

I have a good idea! Let's work as a team. We can clean up the lake and make it a healthy home.





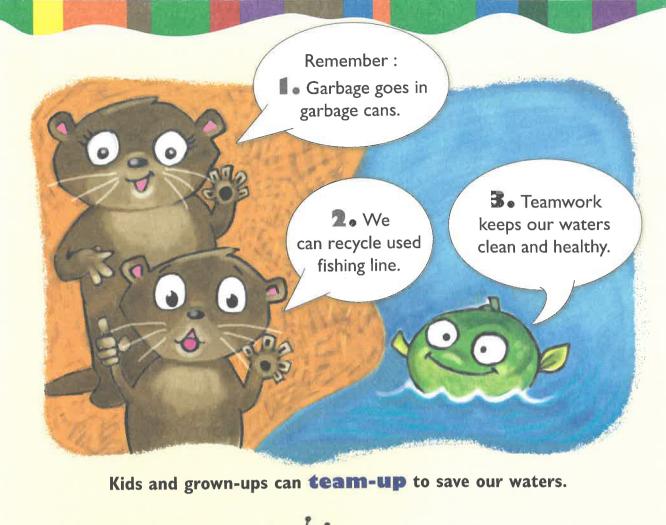
We can
recycle used
fishing line and cans.
Will you help me find a
recycling bin?

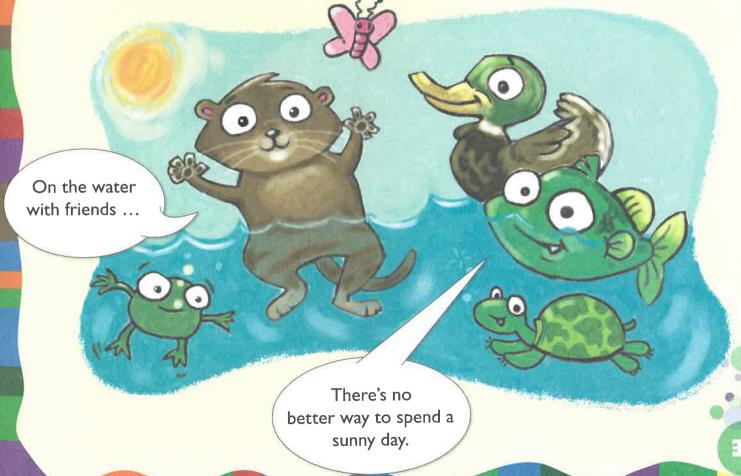


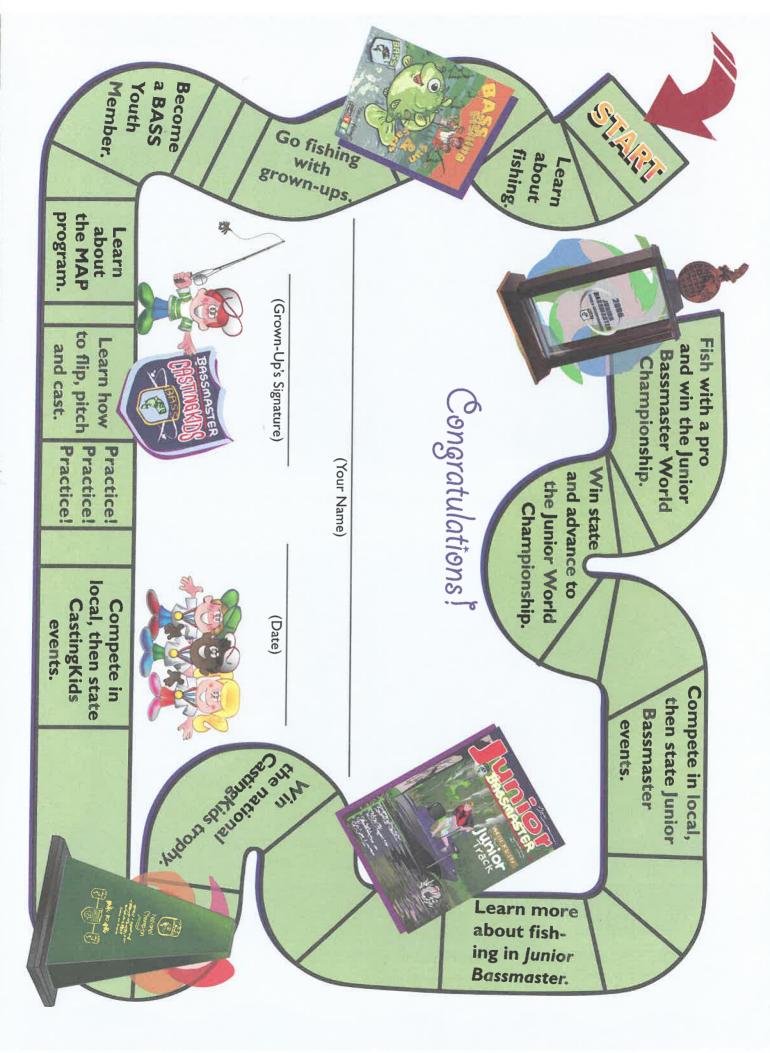
Our
home will
be clean again
in no time.

Look how much we can do as a team!

Why are people so careless? Garbage does NOT belong in the water.







Dear Grown-Ups:

What's keeping your family from enjoying a day of fun on the water? Perhaps it takes too much time to find ways to involve the entire family or discover the perfect spot for fishing or boating. If so, it's time to visit TakeMeFishing.org and rediscover how special time on the water can be!

For fishing tips, TakeMeFish ing.org gives you all you need to know — from complete information on how to fish and what types of fish to catch, to fishing regulations and license information from all 50 states. Print free resources, such as fishing instruction sheets and towing guides, directly from the site.

At TakeMeFishing.org you'll discover friendly and helpful information about buying and operating a boat — including how to select the one that's right for you — as well as boating safety and educational resources.

Let TakeMeFishing.org help you make your next boating or fishing trip a safe, fun and memorable family adventure.

Sincerely,

Your friends at the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation TakeMeFishing.org

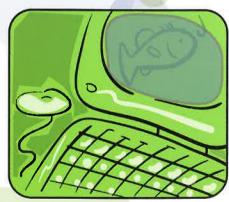
The Last Cast



Hurry! Go tell all your friends. It's a great day to go fishing!

Remember:

- I. GO with GIL. He puts the FUN in FISHING.
- 2. GROWN-UPS make fishing and boating SAFE.
- 3. YOU can help keep our waters CLEAN and HEALTHY.



For more information visit www.bassmaster.com/kids



