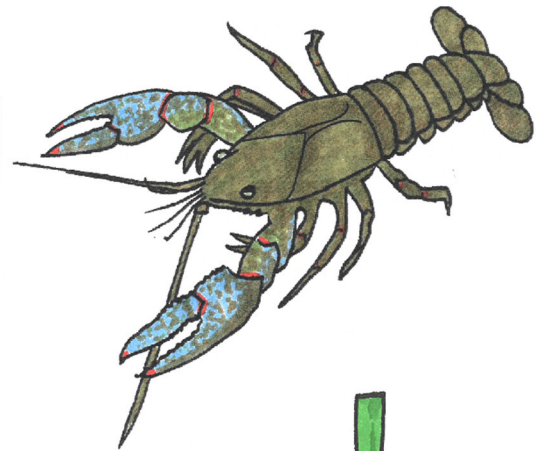


The Locals'

# Nature Guide

to the

# Richford



# Playground



by  
the campers  
at the  
Richford NOTCH  
Day Camp  
in 2017 and 2018



with help from  
Jeannie Bartlett  
from the  
Franklin Co.  
Conservation District

# + Safety +

Safety isn't something to think about only in nature. There are risks in everything we do. But here are some ways to help keep yourself safe outside.

Carry a first aid kit. Band-aids, sterile gauze pads, medical tape, anti-itch cream nitrile gloves, and tweezers are a good place to start. If anyone relies on prescribed allergy medications such as an epi-pen, bring it. Know how to use what you bring.

Look out for plants that can give you a rash. Nettles (p. ) stings as soon as you touch it, but usually stops within an hour. Poison ivy (p. ) and poison parsnip (p. ) will give you a seriously itchy rash or painful burn. The rash won't show up until a day or two after you touched it, but it can last for weeks. If you think you've touched one of them, wash the area thoroughly with cold water and strong dish soap.

Don't eat something unless you have triple checked that you know what it is and it is safe to eat. Good resources for checking your identification are in-person experts, published field guides, and online resources like GoBotany, Wikipedia, and iNaturalist.

Check your whole body for ticks every day from early spring through late fall, especially after playing outside. Have someone help you check hard-to-see places like your back.

Wear appropriate shoes and be thoughtful about where you go barefoot. Glass, metal, pokey sticks and sharp rocks can be hiding under water or leaves.

Bring a long-sleeved layer. It can help keep off bugs, the sun, and scratchy plants. Bring water.

It is easy to trip and fall, hard, if you run down hills. Running up hills is less risky.

Throwing or skipping rocks is fun, but do it away from people!

If you're moving or carrying a stick, think about where both ends are so you don't hit someone.

If you're climbing on a tree or shaking its trunk, look up first to see if there are weak branches that might break under your weight or loose sticks that might fall on you.

Go together! Stay within sight of an adult.

"If you keep walking and don't stand still in the water, leeches won't get you." -Natasha

## Respecting Nature

"The only way you can pick up animals is if you're nice to them." -Anthony

"Crayfish want to stay with their family in the water. That's why they might pinch you if you bother them." -TJ

"Ticks are really beautiful animals even if they do hurt people." -Madison

"I thought that crayfish was dead and I said, 'Please don't be dead.' I don't like dead nature." -Kaden

What else might you want to think about so you can keep exploring nature?



# The Locals' Nature Guide to the Richford Playground

This nature guide was created by and for the kids and their families who would like to explore the Richford Playground or other natural areas around their homes.

We made the guide by asking campers at the Richford NOTCH Summer Day Camp to go find "cool stuff" in nature around the Playground and tell us what makes that thing so cool. Adults helped with enthusiasm for every discovery and by asking questions like, "How would you describe it to a friend when we go back to camp?" or, "If you wanted to learn more about this on the internet, what would you type in to Google to look it up?"

Even in this second edition, there is so much more awesome nature that we found than what we could fit in this guide. We just could not record everything. So write and draw your own observations right into this book or in your own notebook! We would love to see what you find. Email your drawings or notes to [info@franklincountynrcd.org](mailto:info@franklincountynrcd.org)

The nature walks at Day Camp and the creation of this guide were supported by many partners. A River Community Grant from the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic Grants Program in 2017 and again in 2018 made this financially possible. Many thanks to Kerrie Ross, Lianne Trombley, Melanie Gross, and all the excellent staff at the Richford NOTCH Summer Day Camp for welcoming me to their camp and making time for Nature Walks in their already fun-filled days. We relied on the excellent *Field Guide to the Crayfish of the White River Watershed, East-Central Vermont* for learning about crayfish and especially learning to identify the different species. Thanks to the White River Partnership and the creators of that crayfish guide for sharing their guide with us and allowing us to base our most detailed crayfish drawings on theirs. And finally, thanks to the campers for their sharp observations, their compelling descriptions, their knowledge and their curiosity.

Happy exploring, *Jeannie*

© 2020 by Jeannie Bartlett



Upper Missisquoi  
and Trout Rivers  
Wild & Scenic  
Committee



Franklin County  
Natural Resources  
Conservation District

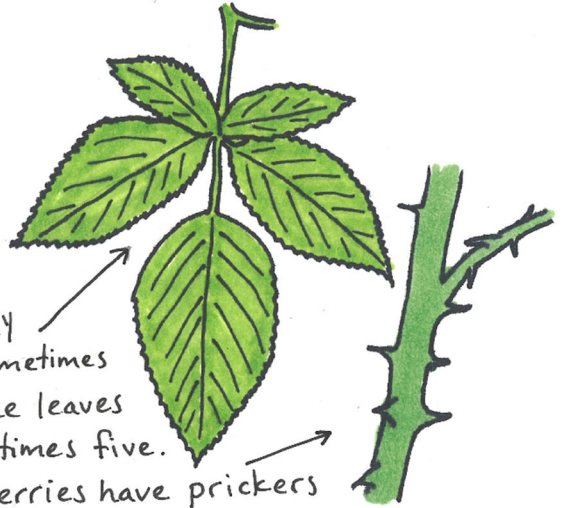


Richford Health Center

# Friendly plants that might look like poison ivy but aren't



Poison ivy has three leaves, not five like this Virginia creeper. But they like to grow together on the sides of roads.



Raspberry plants sometimes have three leaves and sometimes five. But raspberries have pricklers on their leaves and stems, and poison ivy never has thorns.



Strawberry plants have three leaves, but unlike poison ivy they have serrated (bumpy) edges all the way around. It looks like they were cut out with zigzag scissors.

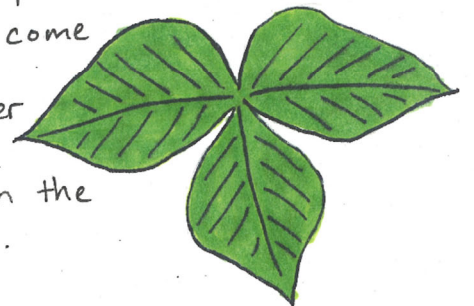


Goutweed or Bishop's Weed  
"Each of them has three leaves, like poison ivy. But there's sharp edges all around, and no red." - Ava & Katelyn



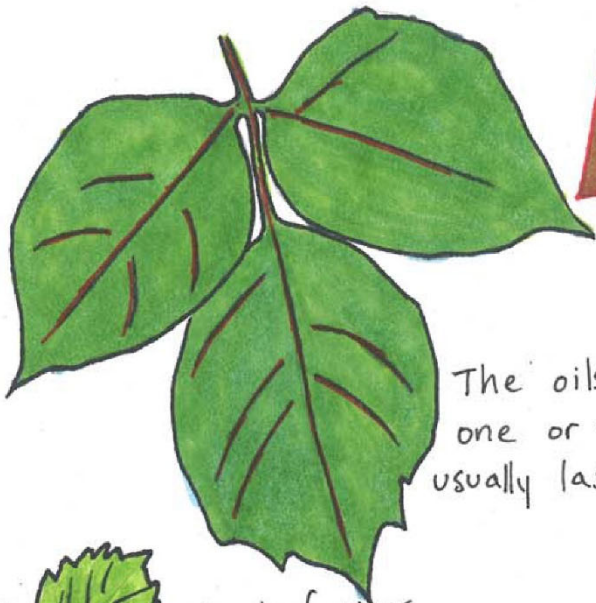
Trillium is a wonderful woodland flower with three leaves. Unlike poison ivy, it is radially symmetrical: all three leaves look the same and are equally spaced in a circle.

Jack-in-the-pulpit is a special woodland wildflower. You can tell it from poison ivy because the leaf edges are completely smooth, and because the three leaves come right together at the stem in the middle.





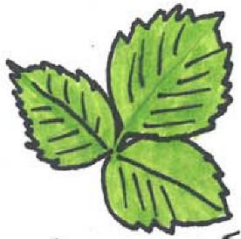
# Poison Ivy



"Watch out for red stems and three leaves." - Carly

The oils in poison ivy will cause an itchy rash one or two days after you touch it. The rash usually lasts about a week.

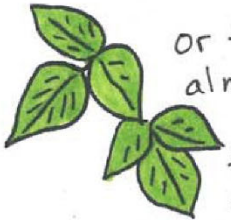
Young, new leaves are usually very shiny and reddish.



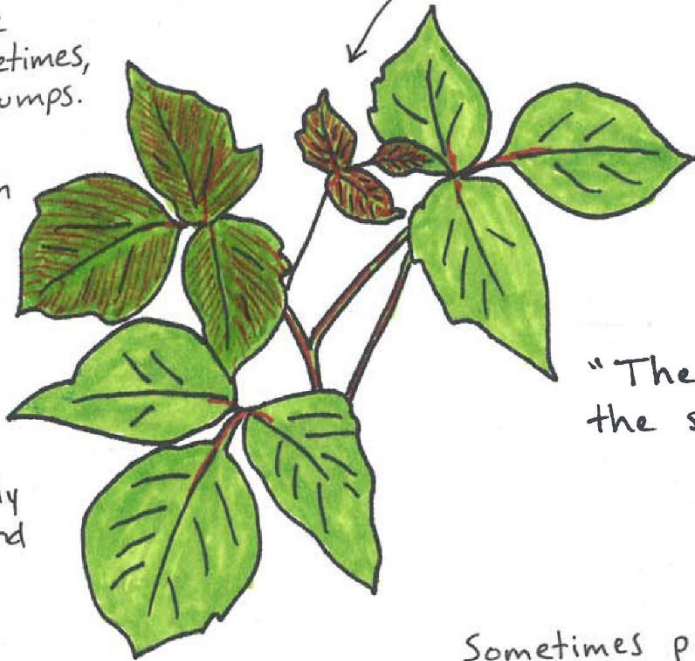
The leaf edges can be more serrated sometimes, with lots of bumps.



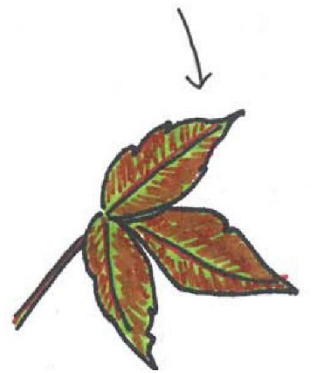
Or they can have just a couple jagged edges.



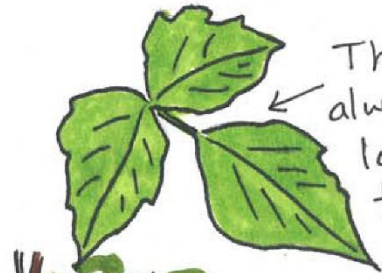
Or they can be almost completely smooth around the edges.



"The bottom of the stem is red." - Carly



Sometimes poison ivy grows as a vine on trees or fences.



The middle leaf always hangs off of a longer stem than the top two.



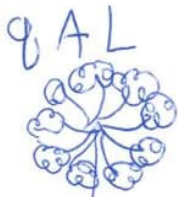
"We saw it before we got into the woods." - Carly

← Poison ivy really likes to grow along roadsides and along the edge of woods and fields.





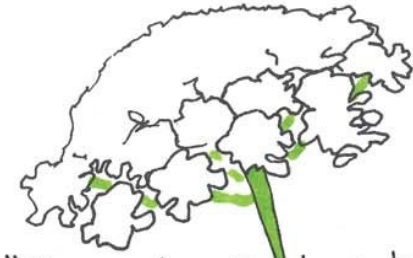
Parsnip



QAL

Michelle Moffatt

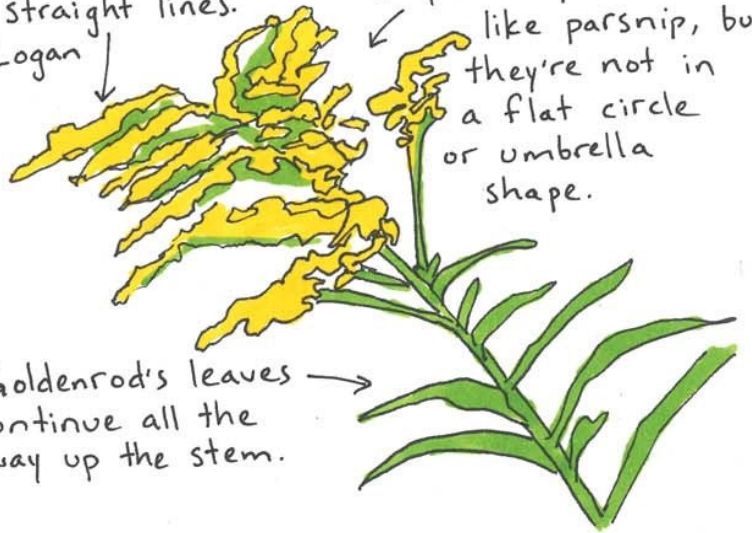
# Friendly plants that might look like poison parsnip but aren't



"Queen Anne's lace has the same shape as poison parsnip, but it is white."

- Marshall

"Goldenrod's flowers go in straight lines."  
- Logan



Goldenrod has many tiny little yellow flowers, like parsnip, but they're not in a flat circle or umbrella shape.

Goldenrod's leaves continue all the way up the stem.

Dandelions and cat's-ear are yellow like parsnip, but they just have one flower on one stem. You probably recognize them anyway, from lawns!



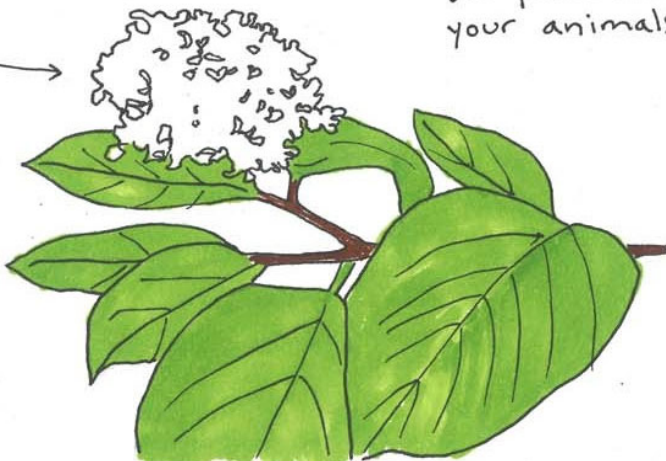
"The one yellow flower is a buttercup."  
- Natasha



Buttercups are yellow like parsnip, but they have bigger flowers with five nice, flat petals.

They are okay to touch, but poisonous for you or your animals to eat!

Dogwood flowers grow in a big cluster of tiny flowers, like parsnip, but they are white and they grow on a tree or shrub.





# Poison Parsnip

"If you touch it, it will burn your skin off." - Logan

"You shouldn't touch it because it will give you a bad rash that will last a long time." - Natasha

Poison parsnip is actually the same plant you might grow in your garden for vegetables, but it escaped! If its sap gets on your skin it will react with sunlight to give you a nasty burn. It might not show up for a day or more, but it can last for weeks.



"It looks like Queen Anne's lace but yellow." - Marshall

Poison parsnip is most obvious in July, when it has flowers. It's good to learn to recognize the leaves in spring and the brown seed-heads in late summer, too!

Poison parsnip has almost no leaves up on the stem near the flowers.

The fancy name for this burn is:

phytophodermatitis

"FIE-toe" "FOE-toe" "DER-ma-TIE-tis"  
 ↓ ↓ ↓  
 plant light skin reaction



The leaves are pretty big, with lots of little sections.



In its first year, parsnip just grows leaves right out of the ground, like lettuce. The second year it grows its tall stalk and flowers.

Poison parsnip likes growing in fields, highway medians, pastures and roadsides. We didn't find any at the Richford Playground. Hooray!

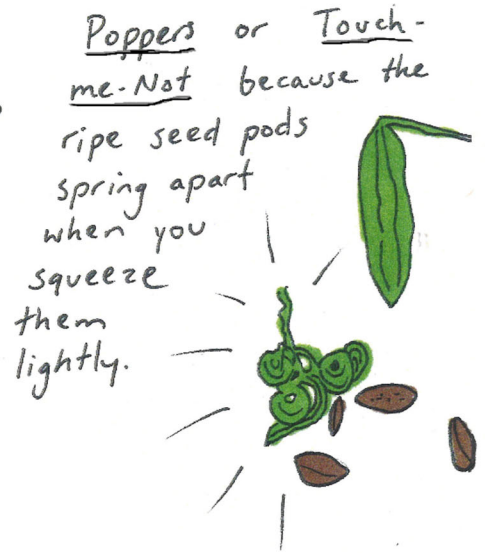
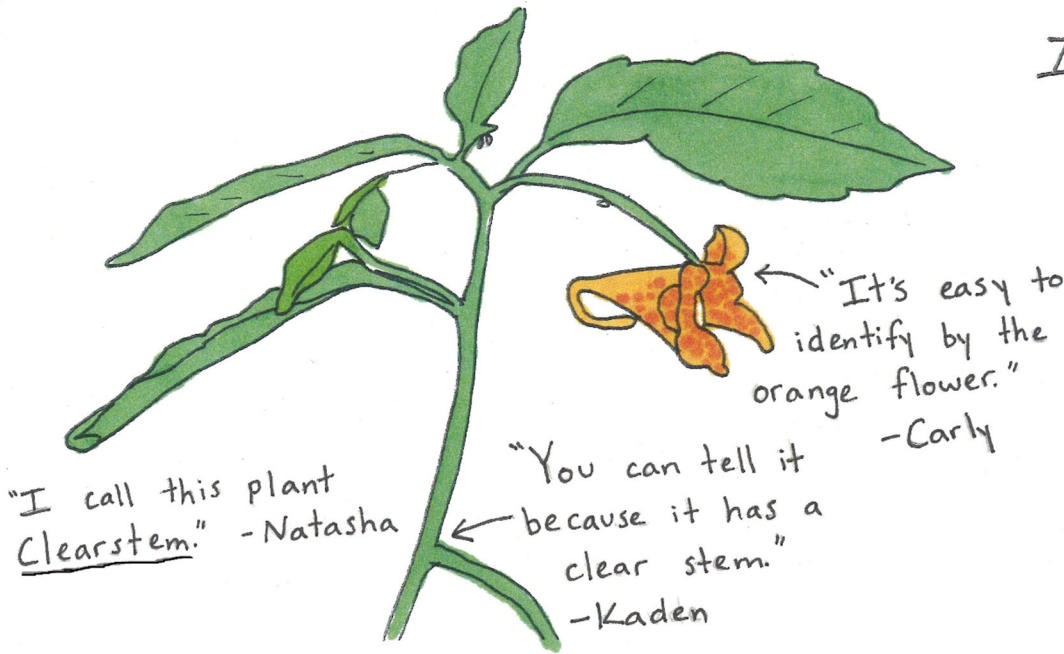
"It grows a lot along bike trails." - Marshall



# Jewelweed

A fun, common and useful plant that goes by many names.

*Impatiens capensis*



"You rub it on your bug bites and it won't itch anymore." -Kaden

"I have like 20,000 bug bites so I took four of these things. Good thing I have this pouch in my overalls to carry them." -Hannah

"If you get a bug bite you go and twist it up and wipe all the wet stuff on you." -Brooklynn

"Yeah, this is slimy." -Karston

"It worked!" -Mackenzie

We could call it New England Aloe, because the slime is soothing like aloe and it grows in New England.

"The roots are red! Let's call it Red-Root!" -Karston

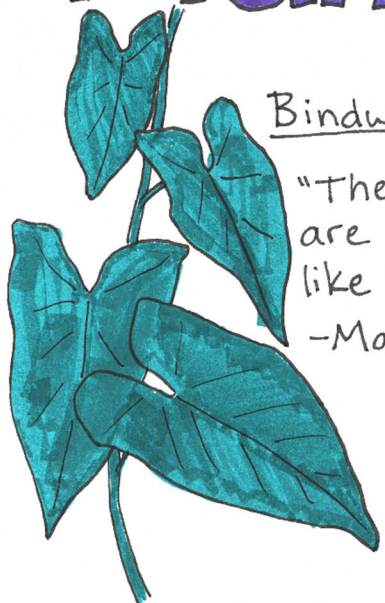
"This one is as tall as me! It's huge!" -Karston

It grows commonly along the edges of streams and woods, often in thick stands 3-5 feet tall.





# Plants that like People



Bindweed

"These leaves are shaped like hearts."

-Marissa

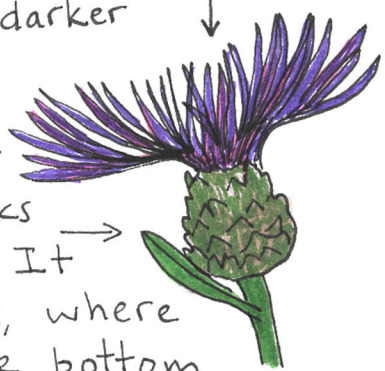
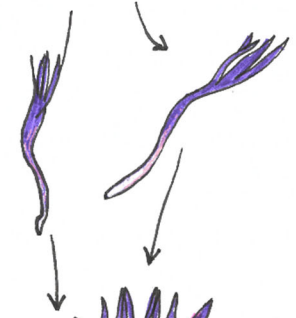
These plants like to grow in people-places, like lawns, roadsides, pastures and gardens.

"They have white on the very bottom."

-Mackenzie

The petals are so skinny it's almost string. In the middle there are some that are darker purple."

-Ava



Brown Knapweed

"The bottom looks like a pineapple. It has broken things, where the leaves on the bottom are all crumpled up."

-Mackenzie

Up Close:

The tall part is made up of tiny purple flowers, which become tiny green seeds.



Common Plantain

"The tall part looks like grass."

-Harley

The leaves are very stringy if you break them.

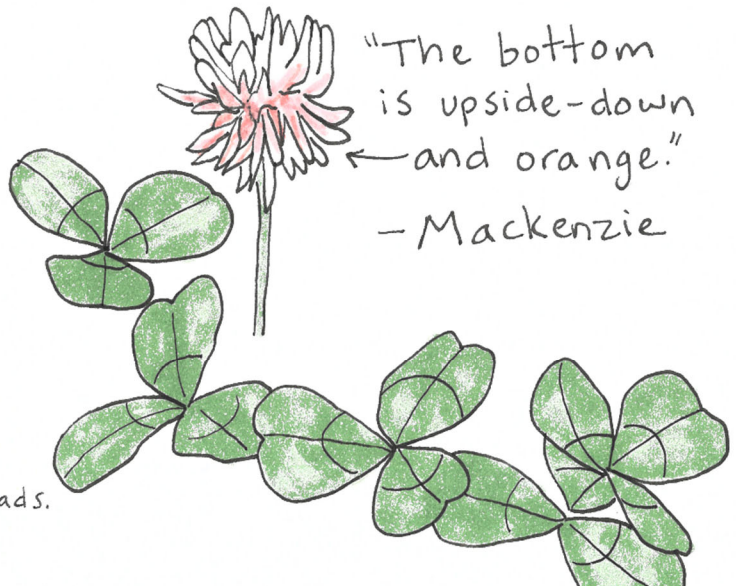


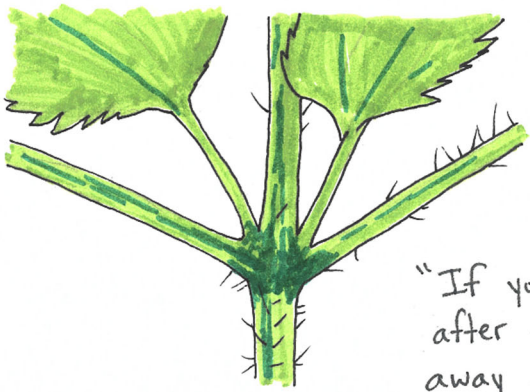
It grows commonly in yards and gravel roads.

White Clover

"The bottom is upside-down and orange."

-Mackenzie





# Nettles

"If you touch it you get very itchy after a few seconds. But it went away after a little bit."

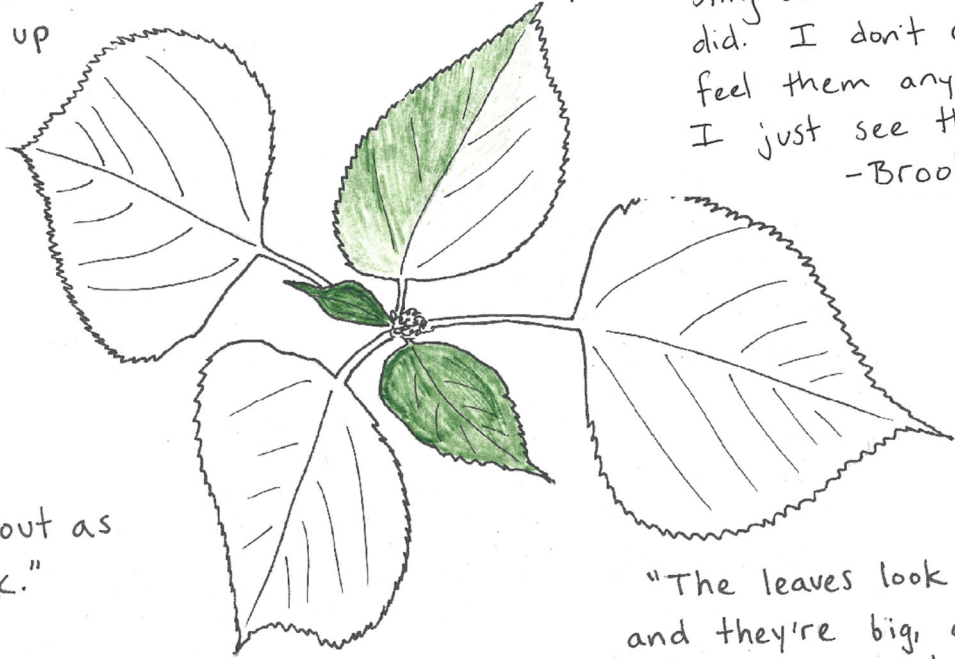
- Carly

"Mine actually doesn't sting as much as it did. I don't even feel them anymore - I just see them."

- Brooklyn

"It's furry on the part that grows up to the leaves."

- Brooklyn

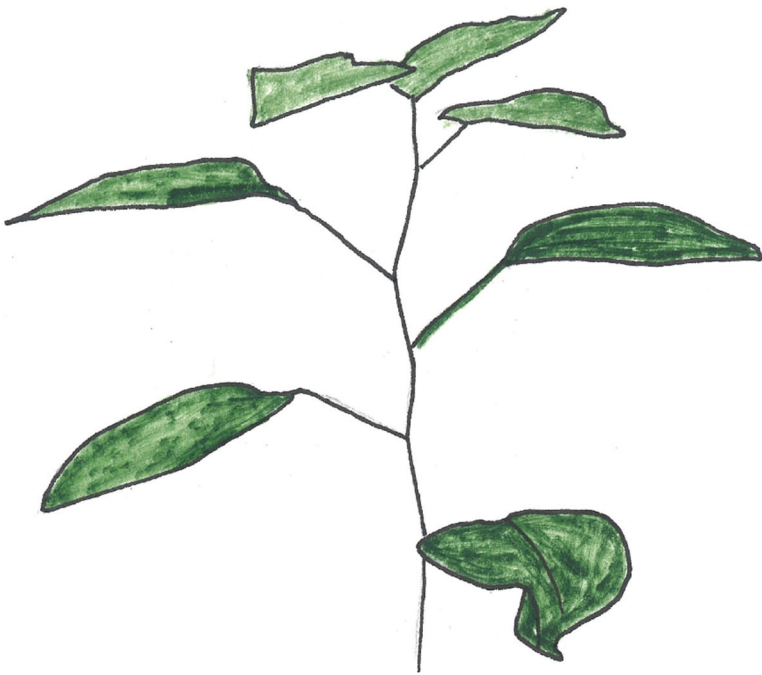


"It was high, about as high as my neck."

- Carly

"The leaves look soft and they're big, about as big as your hand."

- Carly



"It was growing by the stick-fort thing down by the river."

- Carly





# Burdock

"When you pull the pokey things off your dog they are seeds and that's how it spreads."  
-Katelyn

"They're that thing that sticks to your dog. They stick to your shirt. They can stick in your hair. When you put one there and another one there they just stick together."  
-Mariah

The whole plant is the burdock. The pokey things are called "burrs."



"Dude, the purple ones are flowers."

"The burrs on burdocks are really sharp and if you put it to something soft it will stick to it. See? It stuck to my pants."  
-Leighland

"Sometimes they don't look like they have flowers but they do inside."  
-Kaden

"Burdock (burrs) are like art because you can make all kinds of things out of it. I hope I have burdock at my house."

"Now we can't play with burdock because they chopped it all down."  
-Katelyn & Ava

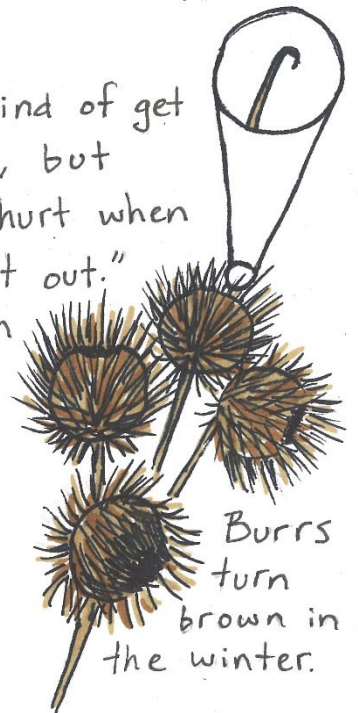
Up close:  
"There are points that are rounded up and it's sticky."  
-Ava



-Katelyn

"It does kind of get in your skin, but it doesn't hurt when you pull it out."  
-Madison

Burdock plants have big leaves that mostly grow out of the ground. They look like rhubarb.



Burrs turn brown in the winter.



# Ferns

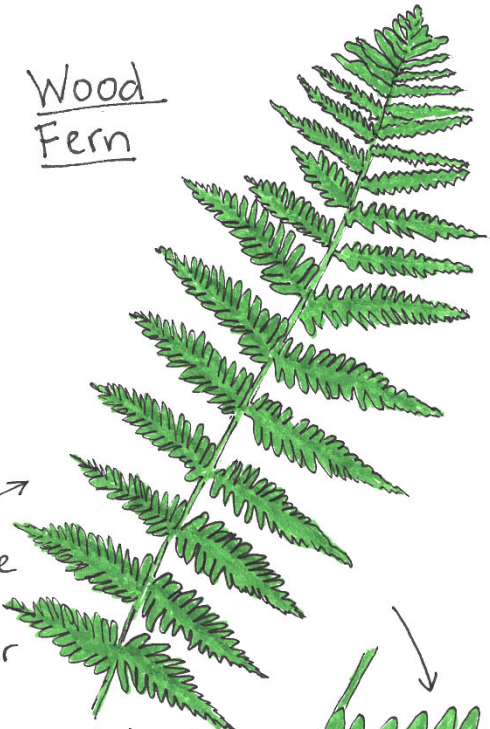


Sensitive Fern



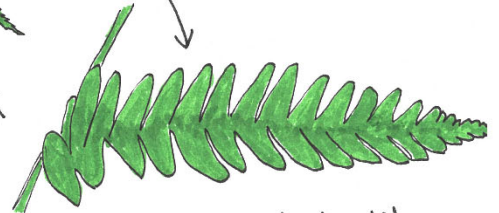
"For this one the leaves just have ruffles."  
-Ava

Wood Fern



One has orange on the back and the other one doesn't.

The one that has orange on the back is taller than the other one."  
-Mackenzie



"The leaves look like little ferns." -Ava

(back)



"On the back there are little dots of orange. They feel rough." -Ava



"Some plants don't grow in the woods, so I'm surprised." -Nate



# Mushrooms

and more

Most mushrooms are harmless and some you can eat, but some are extremely poisonous. To be safe, wash your hands after touching them and don't put any in your mouth.

"I call this spot Mushroom Gorge because we were looking for somewhere to hide playing Man Hunt and we came down here. There were mushrooms everywhere growing out of fallen trees and standing trees... tiny pink cap mushrooms on the ground." - Andre

"Tinder fungus" or "Hoof fungus"

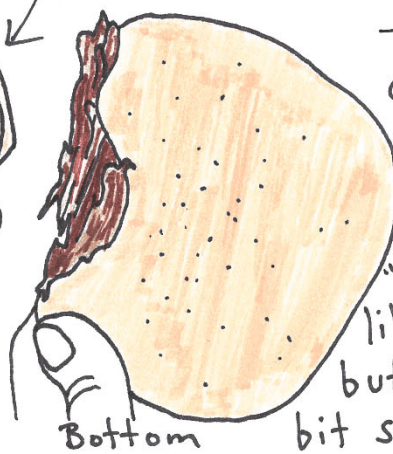
"It's hard on the top and furry on the bottom. When you hit it on the top or bottom it makes different sounds - you can't really hear it on the bottom. You can't really break it except with a saw. A stick can make dents in the bottom, but not the top. The top is bumpy."

- Aiden

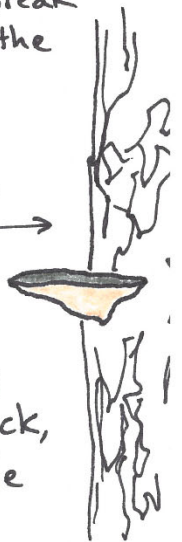
Grows on trees →



"It looks like a horse hoof." →  
- Jeffrey



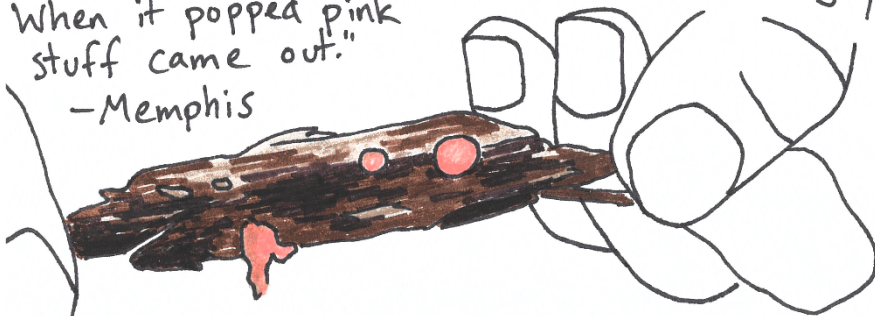
"It feels like a rock, but a little bit squishy."  
- Rian



Pink slime mold, "Wolf's Milk"

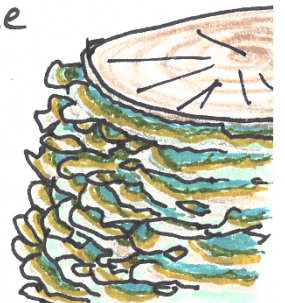
"It looks like pink bubble gum. When it popped pink stuff came out."  
- Memphis

"I found these little ink dots on a tree."  
- Joy



Crust fungus, "False turkey tail"

"They look like green petals, like clovers growing out of trees." - Andre





# Things from Trees

Red Oak



'It has pointy tips on it, and these lines through it.'  
- Lorelai

"Acorns have these tops, and Black walnuts have these ridged edges."



- Chance

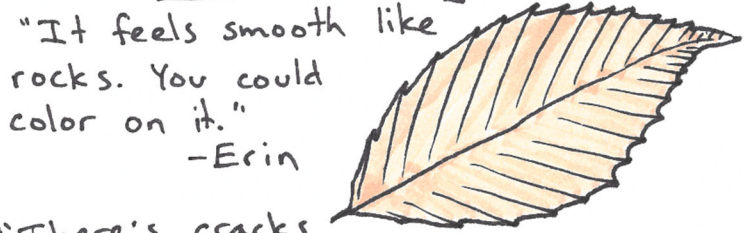
"They come from trees and hit people on the head! Then squirrels eat them." - Davian



"This pinecone is very sticky because of the sap from the tree."



Beech leaf



"It feels smooth like rocks. You could color on it."  
- Erin

"There's cracks in circles and lines and squares. There's bumpy cracks. There's cracks that could be a little bug home. It feels kind of soft, softer than a cloud." And wet. - Lorelai

Pine tree sap

"It was golden and hard and on a tree."  
- Memphis

"It got infested with ants and bugs. It used to be a log before it was a home."  
- Clohee



Rotting log



# More <sup>from</sup> Trees

Baby Pine Tree, or White Pine Seedling

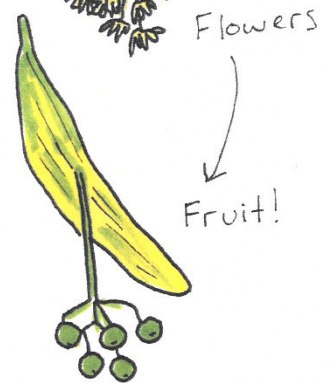


American Basswood

Tree with big, heart-shaped leaves.



"The flowers and fruit dangle off of a narrow leaf-thing."  
-Harley



"The little fruits are about the size of a pea." -Megan

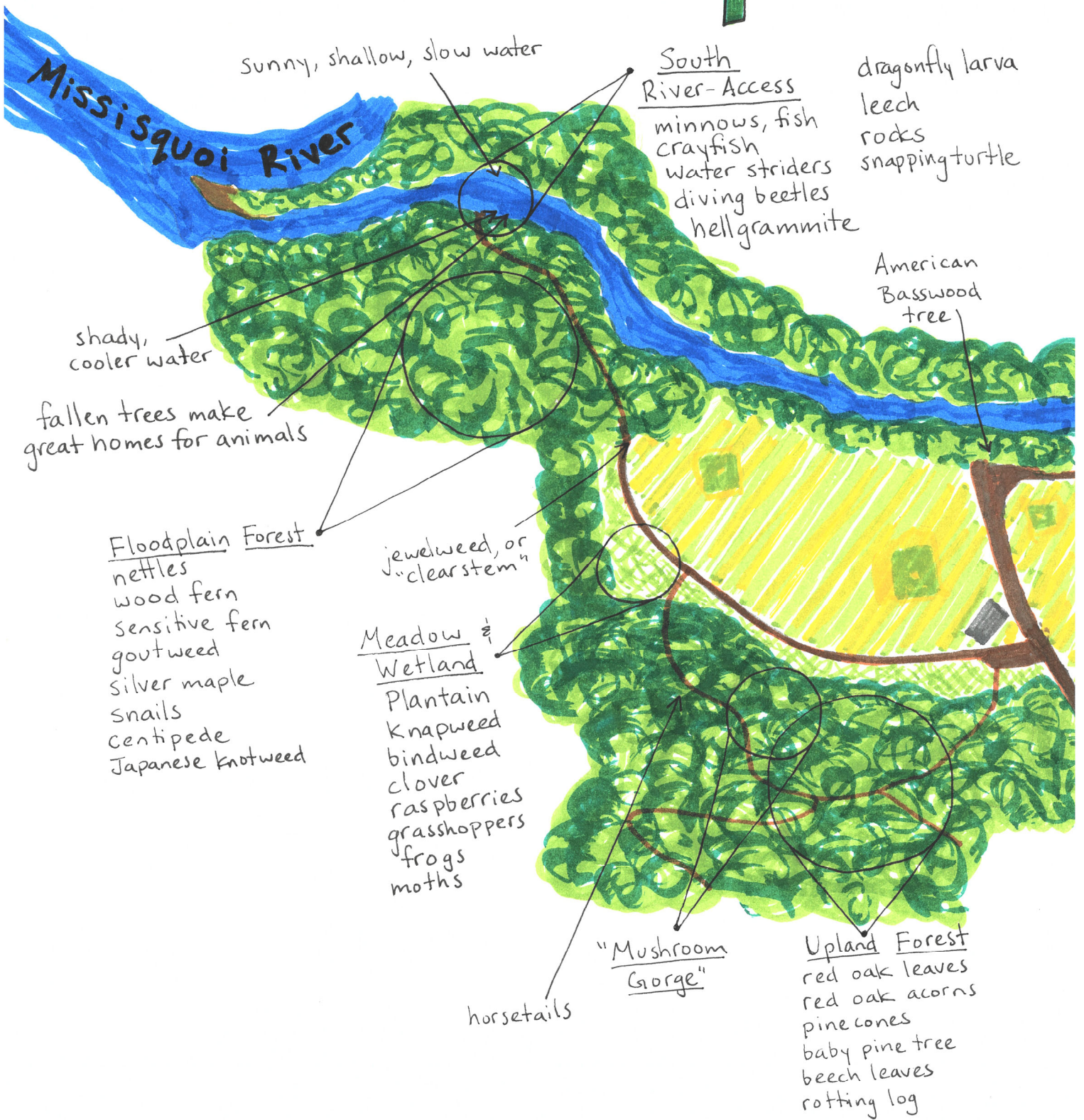
Baby Maple Tree, or Silver Maple Seedling



"It looks like poison ivy because the leaves are red and all different colors. And they're little. They're cute! They live all around here." -Carter

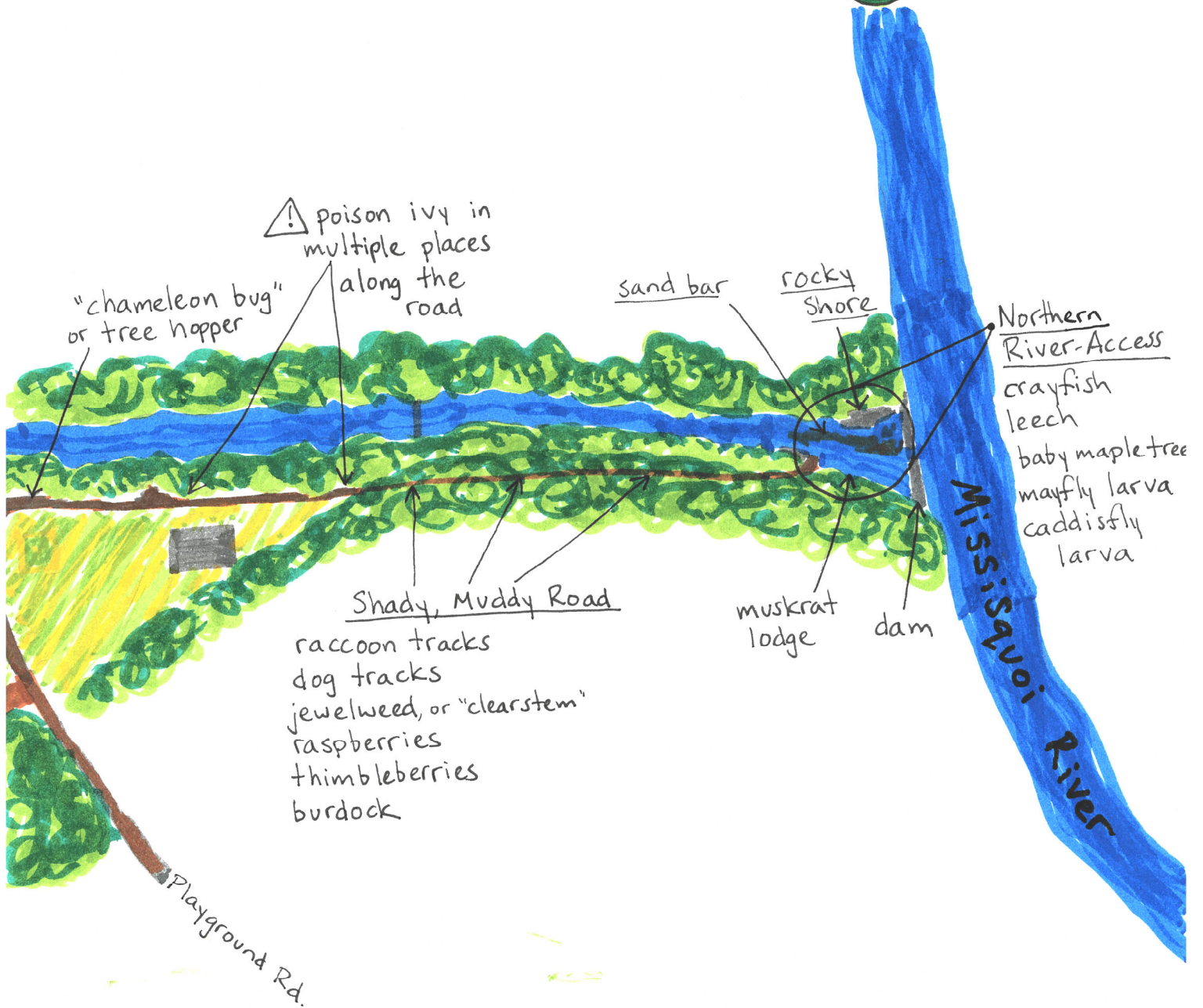


# Map of



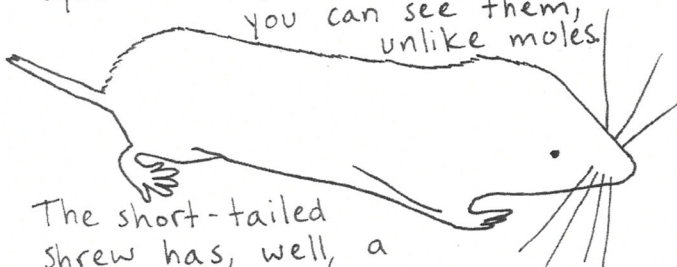


# our Findings



# Forest Animals <sup>and their</sup> Signs

Hayley found a dead short-tailed shrew. Shrews' ears are tiny and hidden under their fur. Their eyes are very small, but usually you can see them, unlike moles.



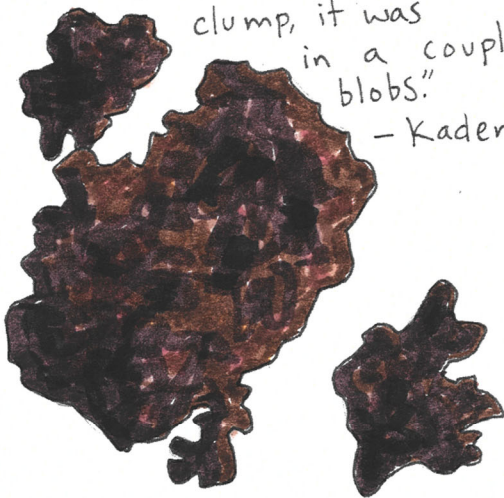
The short-tailed shrew has, well, a short tail! Shrews hunt among the leaves on the forest floor for insects and worms to eat.



We found drowned deer mice a couple of times. You can tell they're mice, not moles, voles, or shrews, because they have big eyes and big ears. Like Mikey Mouse! Deer mice live in lots of places—fields, forests, and houses if they can! Mice love to eat seeds and other parts of plants.

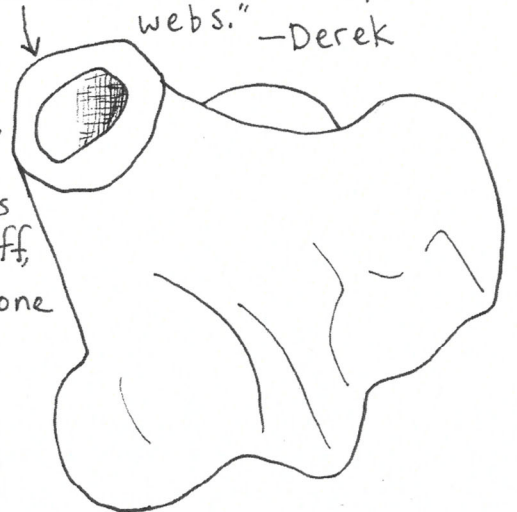
"We found bear poop and it was stinky. It had raspberry seeds in it.

It wasn't in one clump, it was in a couple blobs."  
—Kaden



"This bone looks like it was carved out in the middle. It has all these viney things inside that look like spider webs."  
—Derek

Because we can see it was smoothly cut off, this piece of bone was probably purchased as a dog toy.

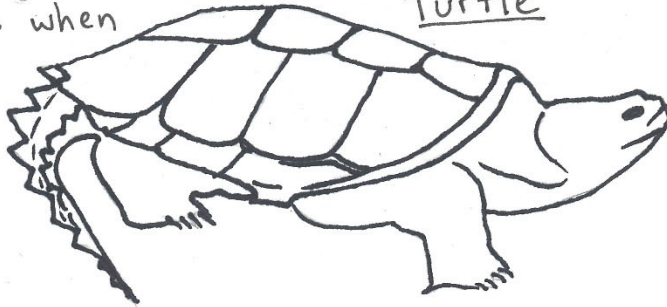




# Bigger Animals <sup>and their</sup> Tracks

"Why do snapping turtles have long tails when most other turtles have short tails?"  
-Khloe

Snapping Turtle



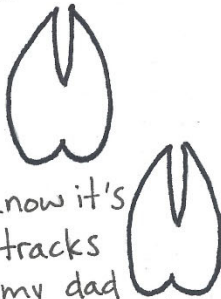
Raccoon Tracks

"On the way to the river I saw these prints in the puddles." -Brooklyn



"They look like our hands but a little smaller."  
-Nikita

Deer Tracks



"I know it's deer tracks because my dad shot one and we brought it home and looked at it."  
-Brooklyn

Dog Tracks



Coyote Tracks

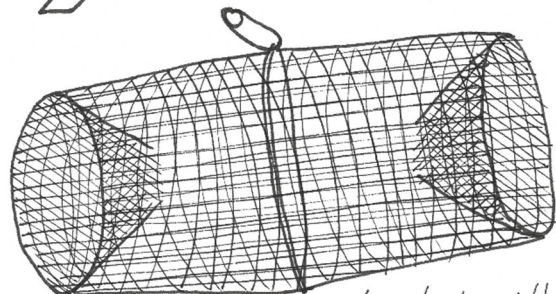


Muskrat tracks and house

"We found muskrat tracks and its house and even its food!"  
-Khloe

# Catching Crayfish

"Crayfish are easy to catch. You move one hand in front of them and keep your other hand behind, so when they get scared of your front hand they swim backwards into the other one!" -Anthony



We used traps baited with cat food to catch both crayfish and minnows. Make sure to release your catch within 24 hours!

"I guess crayfish don't like being held." -Dylan  
We held crayfish only long enough to bring them to a big bucket of water or to observe something closely. We always put them gently back in the river after our hour.



Observing animals through a clear plastic container or without picking them up at all are good ways to treat nature gently.

"Crayfish go under rocks for cover."

-Odin



"Crayfish often like to live under logs."

-Ethan





# Crayfish

"It can grab stuff with its claws." -Rian  
"It pinched me really hard." -Logan

"Some crayfish have one claw that is bigger than the other." -Logan & Kaden

"Its shell is really hard." -Ava

"It has a longer tail than a beetle." -Carly

"It kind of looks like a rattlesnake at the end of its tail." -Sabrina

"He has purple eyes." -Isaac  
"They have popped-out eyes." -Sabrina

"It has two little claws right next to its mouth." -Nicole

The joints of the claws are red. -Devon

Their feet have pinchers on them. -Dylan  
It has eight legs. -Nicole

"They have long whiskers." -Ava & Carly  
(Scientists call these whiskers antennae.)

"I found a tiny crayfish." -Mariah

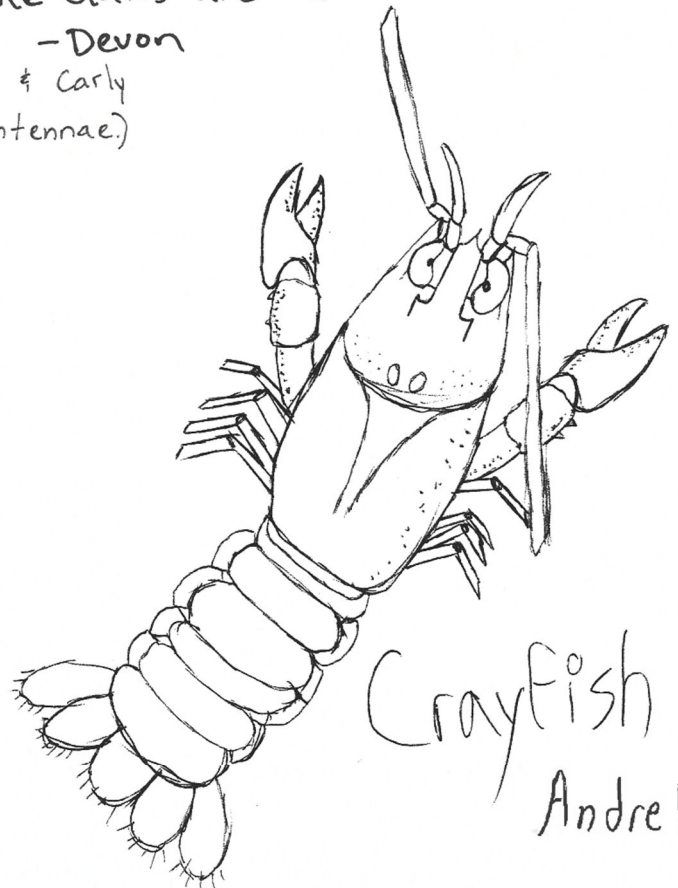
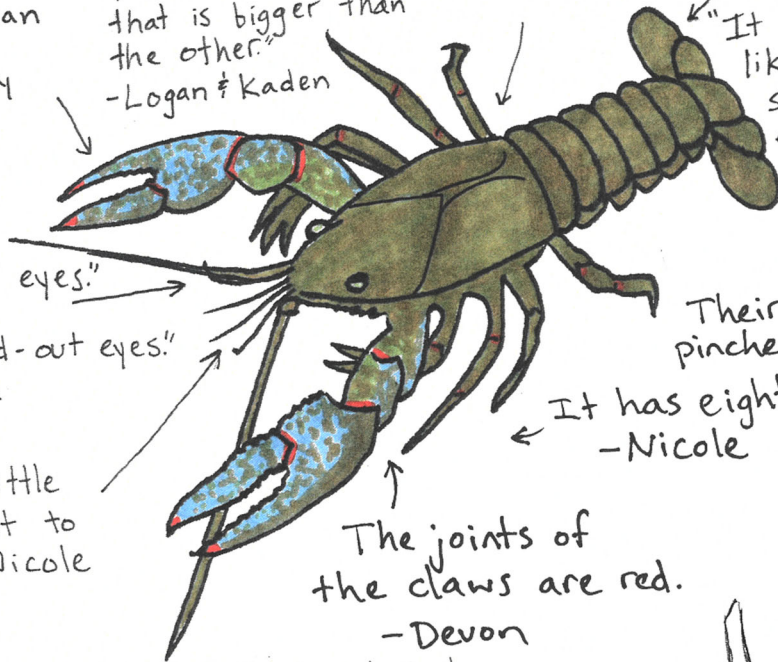
"It's less than an inch." -Trina

We caught it in a yogurt cup.

"Crayfish shed their exoskeleton so they can get bigger and bigger. It gets torn apart." -Odin

"Someone caught a crayfish and its shell was all squishy." -Isaac

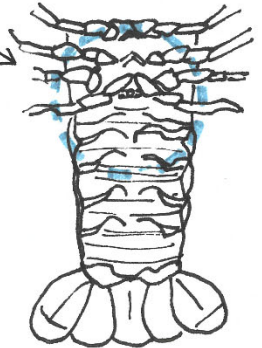
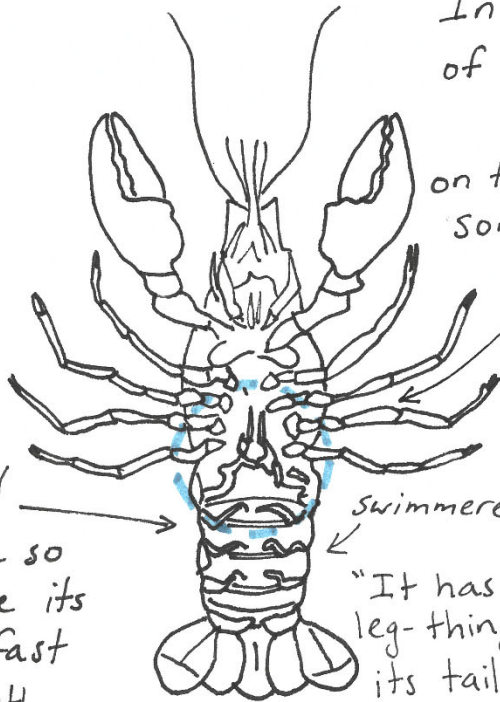
"I think it had just shedded its shell." -Jeffrey



Crayfish  
Andre H.

# Crayfish: <sup>their</sup> Tails <sub>and</sub> Undersides

In all kinds, or "species," of crayfish, some have a gonopore on the underside, and some have gonopods.



"It has abs!  
The abs are so it can move its tail really fast back and forth, back and forth, back and forth." - Katelyn

swimmeret  
"It has little leg-things under its tail."  
-Nicole

One morning Ava and Marissa methodically observed each of the 36 Virile crayfish we caught and found 22 with a gonopore and 14 with gonopods.

Virile Crayfish	
gonopore:	
gonopods:	

"Crayfish swim backwards and they can be very, very fast. The tail acts kind of like a scoop." - Isaac



"They use their back flipper to zoom away from predators." - Chance



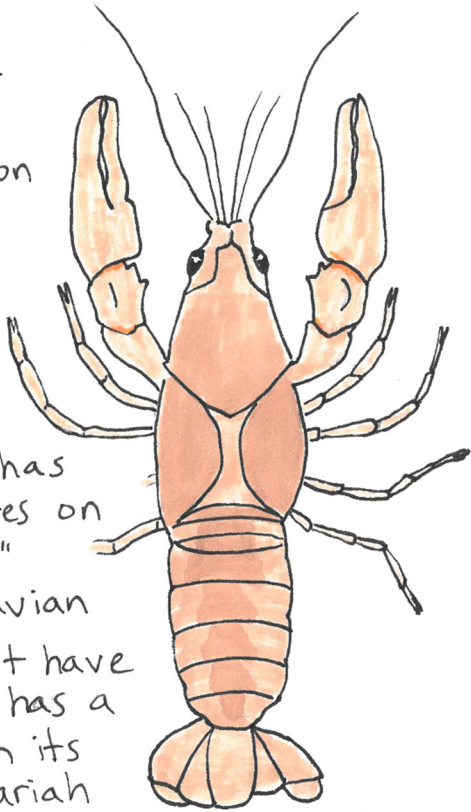
# Different Kinds of Crayfish

"I think we have different kinds because some have green claws and some don't." -Haileigh

"This one is different on its back." -Dylan

## Northern Clearwater

"It doesn't have spots or bumps on its arms." -Mariah

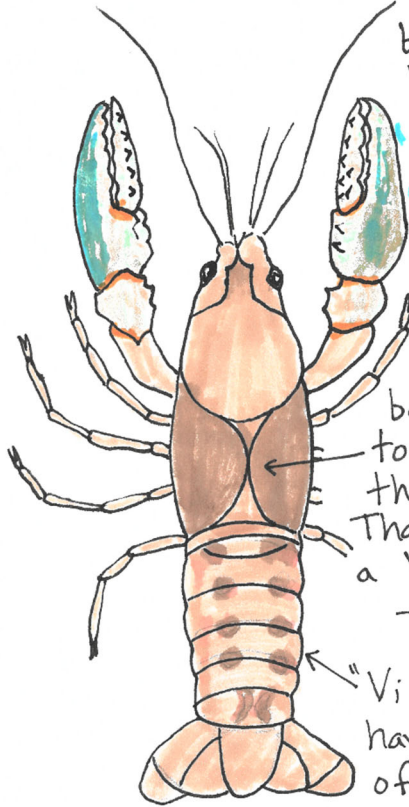


"This one has wide plates on its back." -Davian

"It doesn't have spots. It has a band down its tail." -Mariah

## "This one is a Virile crayfish because

the claw is blue and has lots of white bumps on it." -Logan



"See how the shell on the back comes together and then goes apart? That makes it a Virile." -Anthony

"Virile crayfish have two rows of dark spots on their tails." -Davian

We did not find any Rusty Crayfish, and that is a good thing because they would out-compete and eventually replace the native crayfish.

You can tell a Rusty Crayfish by its



If you find one, take a picture and send it to [franklincountynrcd@gmail.com](mailto:franklincountynrcd@gmail.com).

	By hand	By traps
Virile		
gonopore	10	22
gonopods	3	14
N. Clearwater		
gonopore	6	0
gonopods	15	0
Rusty		
gonopore	0	0
gonopods	0	0

We shared this data with biologists at the State. You can too!

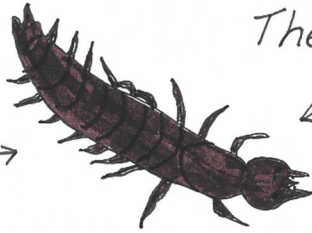
# Aquatic Insects

"It looks like a snake crayfish." →

- Gage

"It looks like a water centipede." →

- Andre



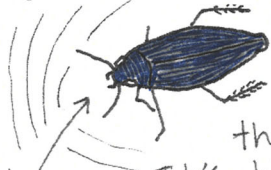
The hellgrammite we

found is an aquatic larva. To mature, it will metamorphose into a dobsonfly.



"They live in groups. They're really shiny and they're really fast, especially in water." - Logan

## Diving Beetle



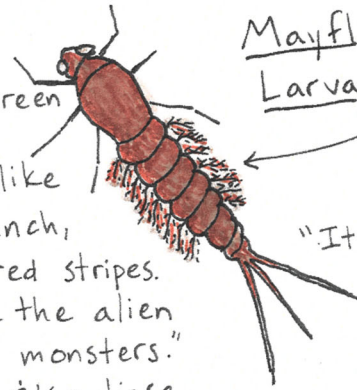
"Beetles fly and this looks like a beetle, but it swims! It keeps bumping at the edges. It's swimming all over the place. It's black and it's legs are on the bottom."

"They have little pinchers. It's making the water move!" - Erin

I wonder if they bite?" - Logan

"It has green eyes. Its tail looks like a tree branch, and it has red stripes. It looks like the alien on aliens vs. monsters." - Madison & Kayliese

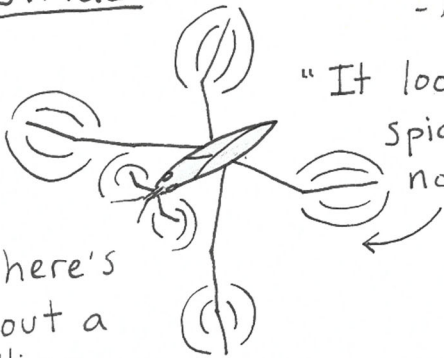
## Mayfly Larva



"It has these wavy things on it." - Lauren

"It has three long string-things for its tail and it likes to move." - Lauren

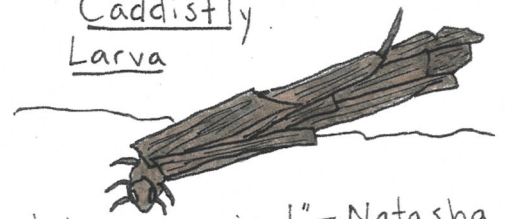
## Water Strider



"It looks like a spider, but it's not." - Tegan

"There's about a million skidders here." - Andre

## Caddisfly Larva



"That stick is moving!" - Natasha  
 "It's coming out! It looks like a spider because its legs are sticking out like a spider." - Mackenzie



# Leeches

or "Bloodsuckers"

"When I caught it, I thought it was an alien!" - Chance

This little creature's body squishes & stretches to move, like a caterpillar. Once it's on, it'll use one mouth to suck blood and another mouth to hold on, Andre H.

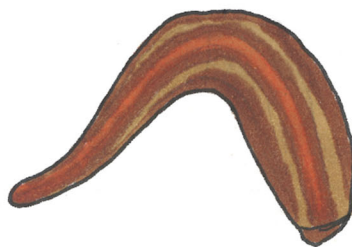
Andre H.





"It has a pointed tail and little teeth in its mouth." - Jeffrey

"It has stripes and it can get really long and then really fat." - Logan

"It has black and yellow lines down through it. It's gross. It's squiggly." - Chance

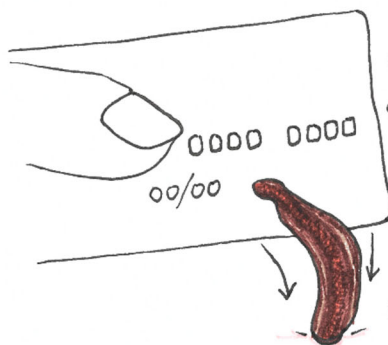


Leeches may gross you out, but they shouldn't be scary! They are harmless.

Leeches are important food for fish  and turtles. 



"It looks like a leaf." - Jeffrey



Leeches in Vermont do not carry disease, so there is no danger in leaving the leech on until it drops off on its own. If you want to remove it, use your fingernail or a thin piece of plastic to gently slide under the leech. Do not rip it off or use fire or salt.

"If you keep walking, leeches won't get you as much!" - Natasha

"Here the water is slower and warmer so the leeches like it." - Clohee




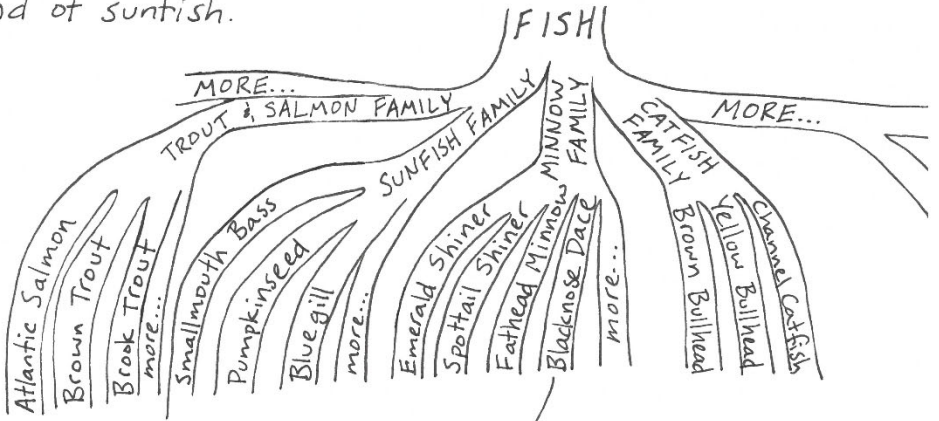
**[To remove]** Andre H.  
**DO NOT USE FIRE/SALT.** (This will make the leech sick.)  
**Instead, use something flat and hard to prise it off.**

# Minnows and other Fish

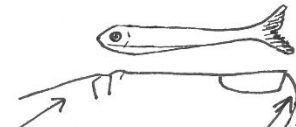
Minnows are not actually baby fish. Baby fish are called "fry." Minnows are a kind, or "family" of fish, just like the perch family or the sunfish family. Shiners and dace, in turn, are a kind of minnow, just like pumpkinseeds are a kind of sunfish.

## Baby fish, or "fry"

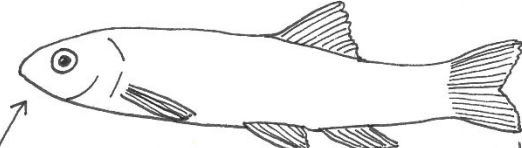
 Fry are tiny, and often their head and eyes are big compared to their body.



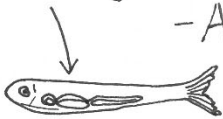
"It has a tail kind of, that makes a vee.) It's kind of skin-color, tan. It's about as long as my pinky from there to there." -Joy



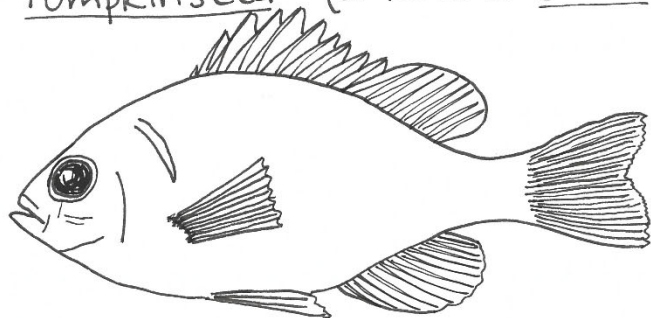
## Blacknose Dace (a kind of minnow)

 "It has a line down the middle of its body." -Mariah (note: many fish have this kind of stripe. On this fish the line continues right over its nose, giving it its name "Blacknose.")

"You can basically see right through its stomach." -Anthony



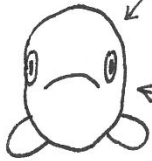
## Pumpkinseed (a kind of sunfish)



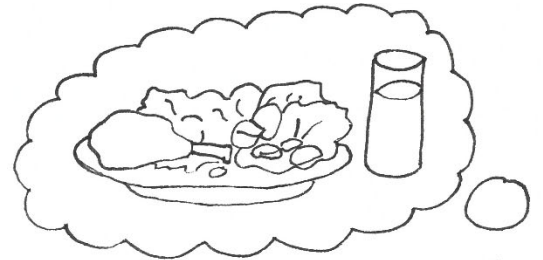


# More About Fish

"When you look towards it, it's fat." - Timothy



"It looks sad, like it's frowning." - Brooklyn



"What do fish eat and drink?"  
- Connor

Small fish like what we found eat aquatic insects, eggs of other fish, tiny worms, dead leaves, algae, and more. And in streams and lakes, fish already have plenty of water in them so they don't need to drink. In the ocean, though, they do drink water!

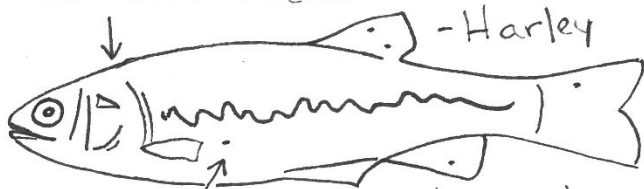
"It likes to swim really fast." - Vanessa

"They are hard to catch because they are so fast!"  
- Brooke



"I just left my container between the rocks and minnows swam into it and I just picked it up." - Sabrina

"It has kind of a flat mouth and head. It has little flaps on the side near its chin. There's silver in its eyes."

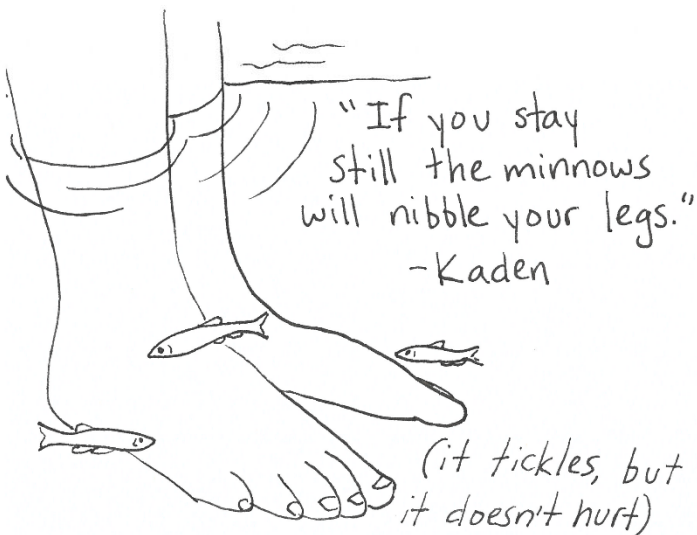


- Harley

"It has black polka-dots." - Harley

"These fish have spots, but I don't think they all do." - Mariah

The tiny black spots are not part of the fish; they are parasites. However, they don't usually hurt the fish and they cannot get in humans.



"If you stay still the minnows will nibble your legs."  
- Kaden

(it tickles, but it doesn't hurt)

# Dragonflies

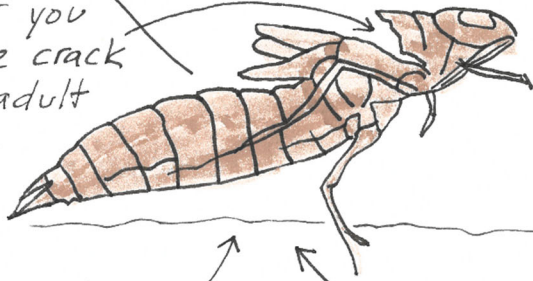


"An exoskeleton is bones on the outside of its body. Like a snake sheds its skin, the dragonfly larva can crawl out of its dead bones. I could do that, but it'd be really hard. It's actually easy for the dragonfly larva. Once it crawls out it's the dragonfly that flies." -Odin



"This is the exoskeleton of a dragonfly larva."

Sometimes you can see the crack where the adult crawled out.



-Odin

Adult dragonfly lays eggs in the water.



"If it feels like paper, it's probably an exoskeleton."  
-Andre



Eggs hatch into aquatic larvae that live underwater!

"It looks like a grasshopper sort of." -Brooklynn



"If you look close enough, there's a Zig-Zag going down. If you think that's their jaw, you're right! We eat up and down, but they eat left to right." -Odin



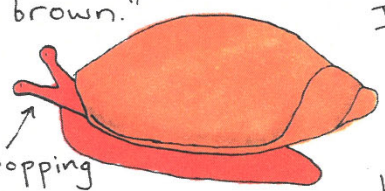
# Molluscs <sup>and</sup> Arthropods

"Molluscs" is the name for the family of animals that includes snails, slugs, mussels and octopuses. But we don't have octopuses in Vermont!

"Arthropods" are animals that have an exoskeleton instead of bones that are inside their body. Some examples are spiders, butterflies, centipedes, crayfish and all insects.

"This snail is all orange."

"This one is white and brown."  
-Nikita

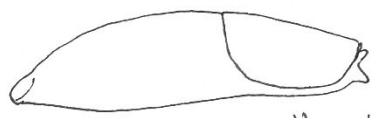


"Look! The eyes are popping out!" - Autumn

- Autumn

"It's squishy. Its shell is hard and its eyes are little. You can see it moved because of the slime." - Erin

"These things eat the garden at Day Camp."  
- Lorelai



Roundback Slug

"The slug has yellow stuff all over it, and the eyes don't go out that far like on snails." - Mariah

(note: Both slugs and snails can pull in their eyes if they sense danger.)



"This centipede has little antennae. It looks kind of scaly. It's really fast. I can feel his little legs crawling on me."  
- Joy

"Chameleon Bug" or Tree Hopper

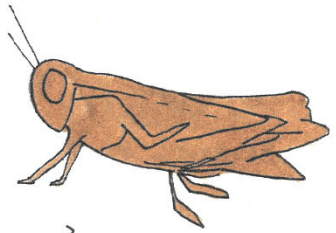


"It's green and it looks like a tiny chameleon." - Devon

"It looks like it has fish gills on the side." - Davian

Grasshopper

"When they hop their legs stretch out really strong and big so they can hop really far."  
- Parker



"That buzzing sound is a cicada."

Cicadas can make such a loud sound that they have to protect their own ears.  
- Anthony

"When I was little I thought that sound was from the sun."  
- Natasha



So much thanks to the campers who joined me in the woods and the river. Thanks for sharing what you know and what you noticed. Thanks for asking questions and seeking answers and having fun together!



Addison  
Addison  
Aiden  
Alex  
Andre  
Andrew  
Angel  
Anthony  
Arianna  
Audrey  
Autumn  
Ava  
Ava  
Avery  
Bentlee  
Blake  
Brantley  
Brennan  
Brianna  
Brittany  
Brody  
Brooke  
Brooklynn  
Bryce  
Caleb  
Calem  
Cameron  
Carly  
Carly  
Carter  
Chance  
Cheyenne  
Clohee  
Cole  
Connor

Darian  
Davian  
Destiny  
Dominique  
Dylan  
Erin  
Ethan  
Faith  
Fletcher  
Gage  
Hailey  
Hailiegh  
Hannah  
Harley  
Hayley  
Hunter  
Isaac  
Jackson  
Jarek  
Jarrett  
Jasmine  
Jayden  
Jayden  
Jazmine  
Jeffrey  
Jeremiah  
Joseph  
Josie  
Joy  
Kaden  
Kaegen  
Karston  
Katelyn  
Katie  
Kayden

Kayliese  
Keegan  
Kira  
Knox  
Kylie  
Kyrielle  
Lacie  
Lauren  
Lauren  
Leighland  
Logan  
Lorelei  
Macaiden  
Macey  
Mackenzie  
Madelyn  
Madison  
Madison  
Madison  
Makenzie  
Mariah  
Marissa  
Marlee  
Marshall  
Mason  
Matt  
Matthew  
Megan  
Memphis  
Miley  
Molly  
Naomi  
Natasha  
Nate  
Nikita

Noah  
Norah  
Odin  
Olivia  
Owen  
Parker  
Payton  
Philip  
Preston  
Reghan  
Rian  
Ronin  
Sabrina  
Savannah  
Sawyer  
Sierra  
Skylar  
Sophia  
Sydney  
Sylvie  
Syrianna  
Taygon  
Teddy  
Tegan  
Theresa  
Timothy  
TJ  
Trina  
Tylee  
Tyler  
Vanessa  
Vanessa  
Zachariah  
Zackary





About the author-illustrator:

Jeannie Bartlett has managed the Franklin County Conservation District since 2016. She graduated from Middlebury College with a degree in Conservation Biology in 2015 and has lived in Burlington since then. Her childhood passions included building fairy houses and playing in the river.



