

The Ohio River:



The Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO) is the water pollution control agency for the Ohio River and its tributaries. This book shows the many uses of the Ohio River from recreation to transportation. For more information on the water quality of the Ohio River, contact:

ORSANCO

5735 Kellogg Avenue

Cincinnati, OH 45228

Phone: (513) 231-7719

or visit us on the World Wide Web at:

<http://www.orsanco.org>

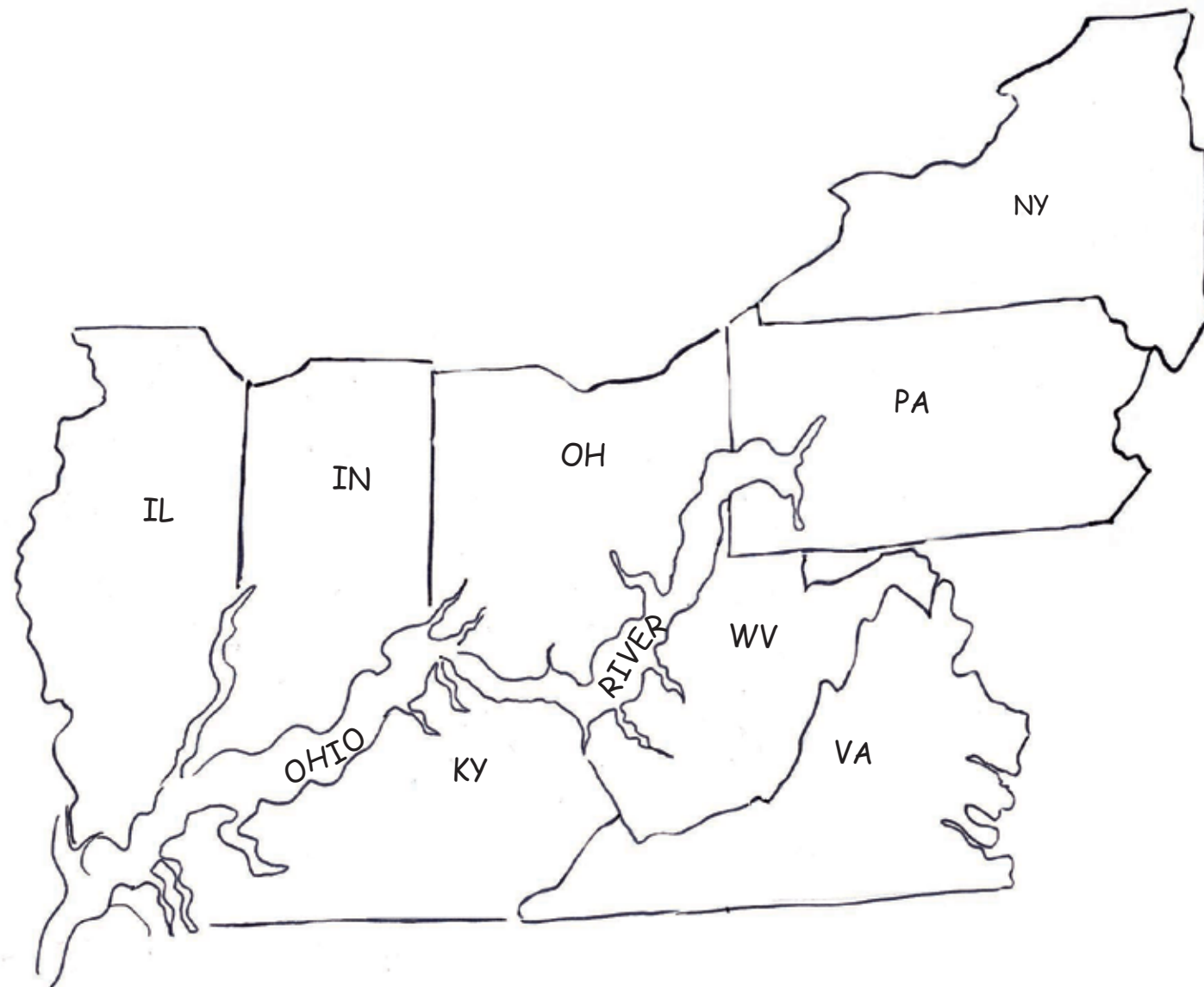


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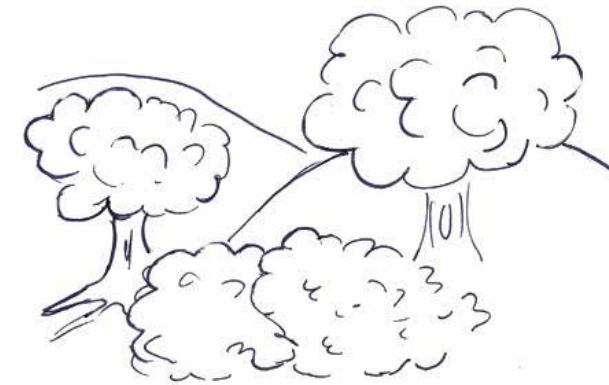
Color it Clean!

THE EIGHT STATES OF THE OHIO RIVER VALLEY



The Ohio River is 981 miles long. It starts where the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers meet in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Ohio River ends in Cairo, Illinois, where it flows into the Mississippi River. The Ohio River flows through or borders six states: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

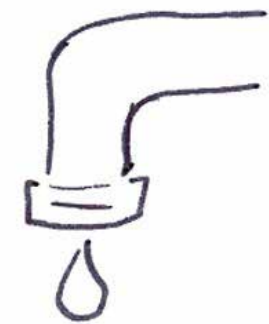
How can you help protect our rivers and streams?



Plant trees, shrubs or other plants on hillsides to keep soil in place.



Keep oil, gasoline and chemicals out of drains, sinks and toilets.



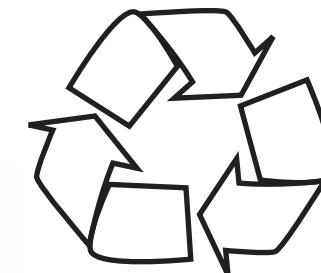
Reduce the amount of water you use.



Learn safer ways to garden.



Put trash in its place.



Reuse and recycle.



Get involved in clean-up activities.

What doesn't belong in this picture?



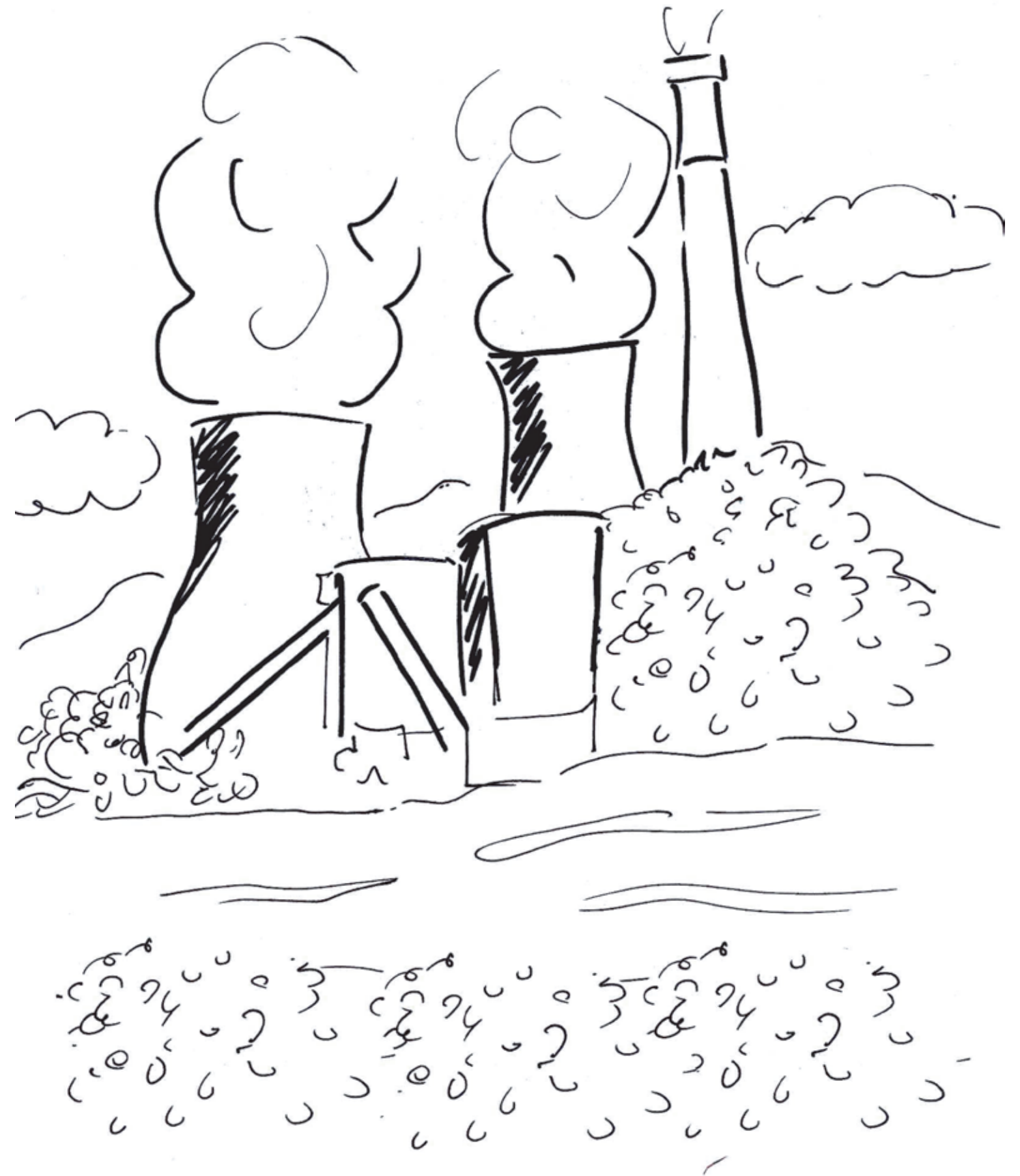
Millions of people get their drinking water from the Ohio River. It is cleaned by treatment plants and used in homes, schools and businesses.





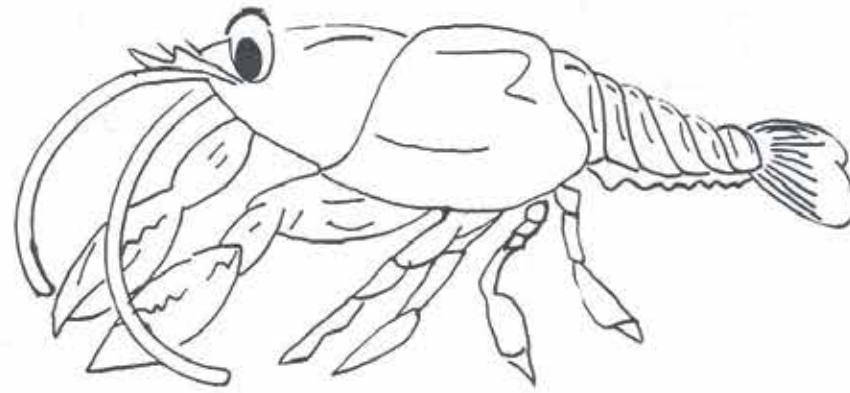
GONE FISHING!

Fishing is a very popular activity on the Ohio River. Do you go fishing?

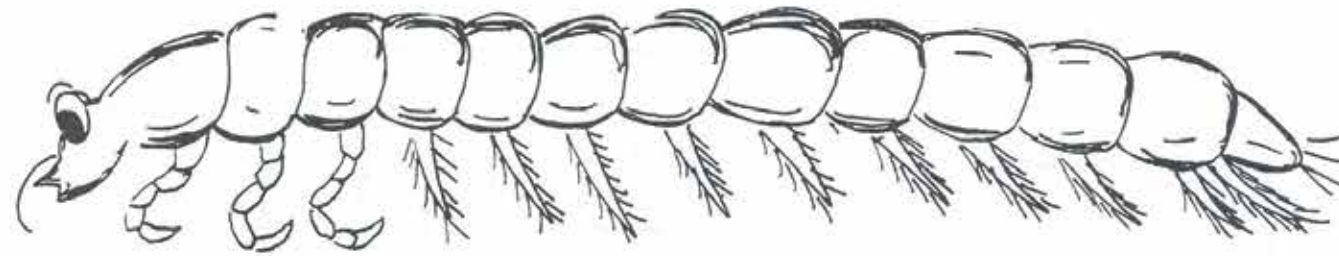


Many industries are located along the Ohio River. Each industry uses water from the Ohio River in a different way. For example, power plants burn coal to create electricity and use Ohio River water to cool the equipment.

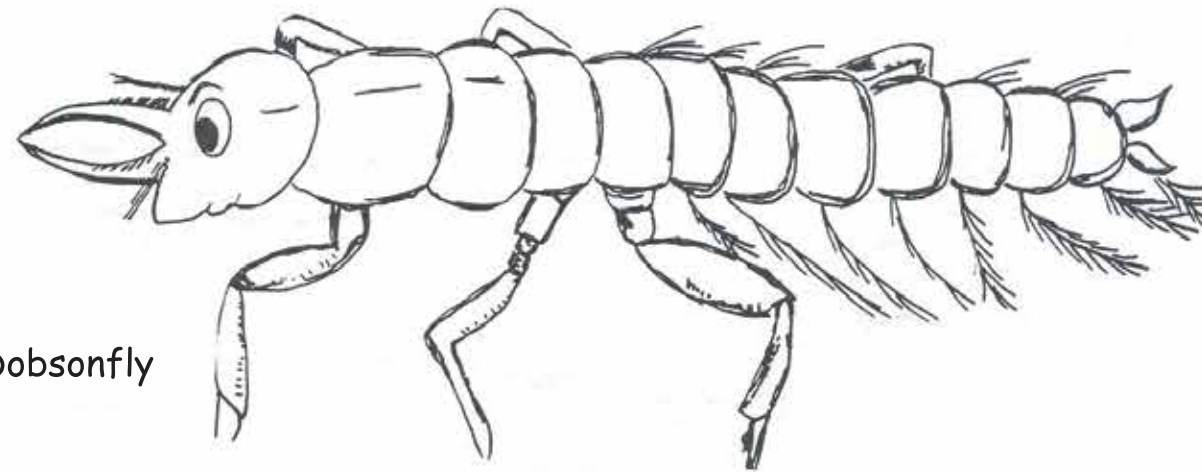
Crayfish



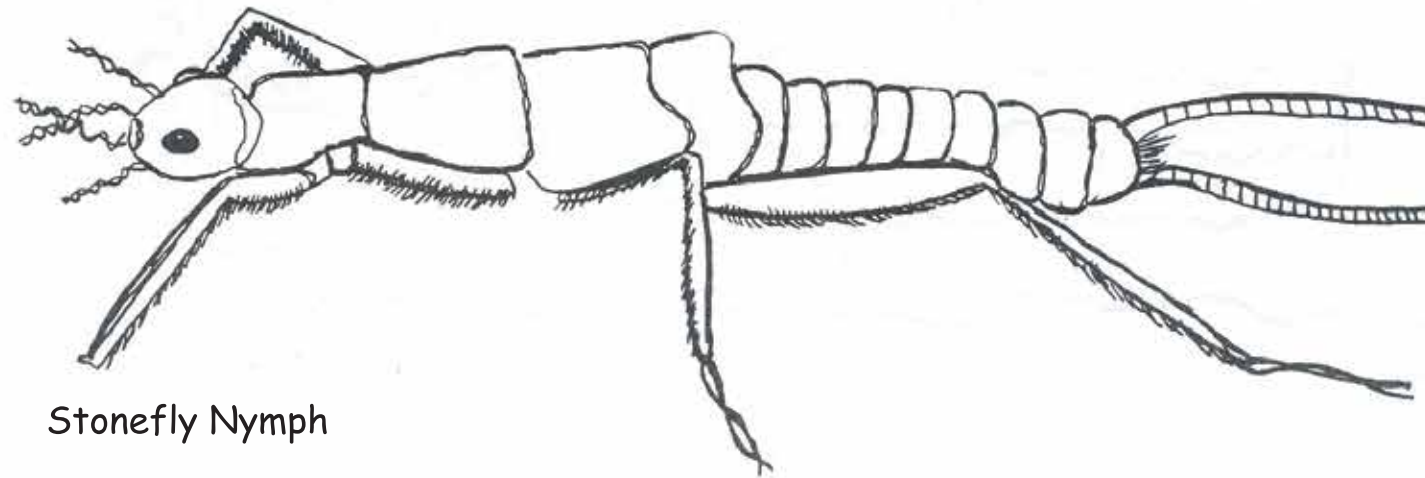
Beetle Larva



Dobsonfly

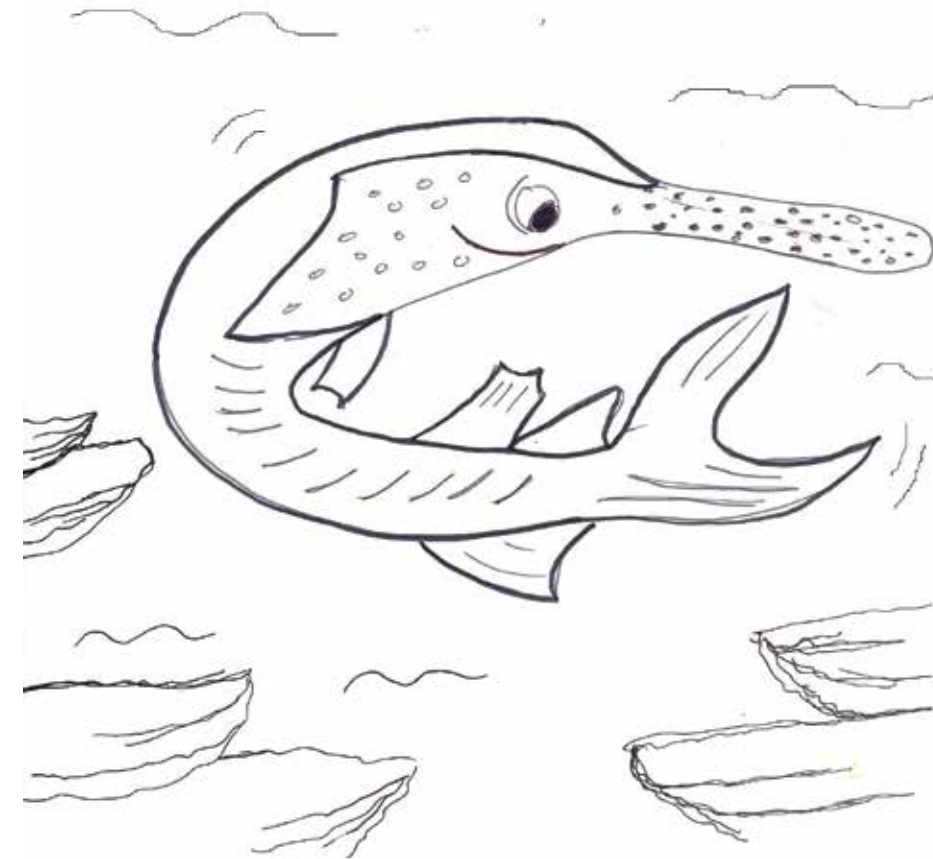


Stonefly Nymph



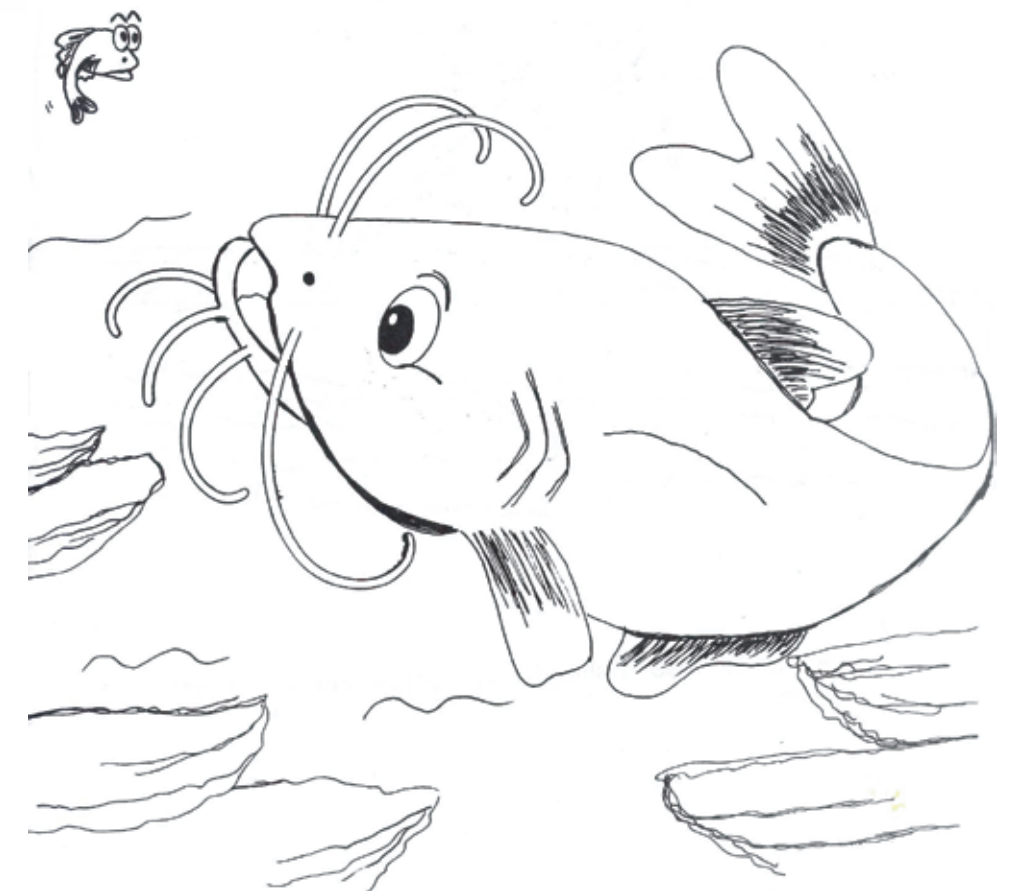
Macroinvertebrates are small insects that live in water, sand and mud, or on rocks, logs, sticks and plants. Some macroinvertebrates can live in polluted water, while others need very clean water. Scientists study macroinvertebrates to tell about the health of rivers, streams or lakes.

More than 130 types of fish live in the Ohio River.



This is a Paddlefish or Spoonbill.

This is a catfish.





People make a lot of the pollution that ends up in the Ohio River. Some pollution from cities comes from salt on the streets during the winter and cars that leak oil onto parking lots.



When people grow plants, like corn on farms or grass on lawns, they often use chemicals to keep the plants strong and healthy. When it rains, these chemicals can run off into nearby creeks and streams, making the water dangerous for aquatic plants and animals.