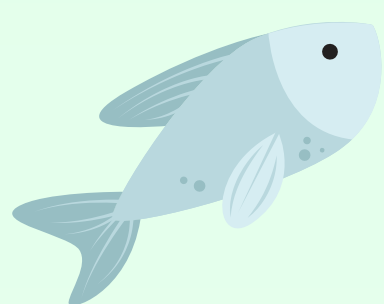
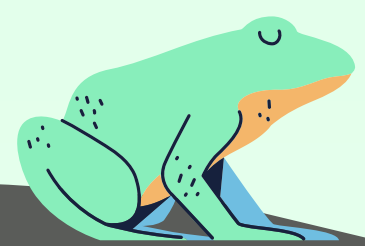





Create a Wetland Ecosystem!

**2nd - 5th Grade
Instruction
Guide**

Watch the video at
www.parachutearts.com
and on Parachute Studio's
Youtube channel





VOCAB

Ecology: The relationship between different things and their environment

Ecosystem: A community of living and non-living components and their environment

Naturalism: A form of art that depicts nature correctly

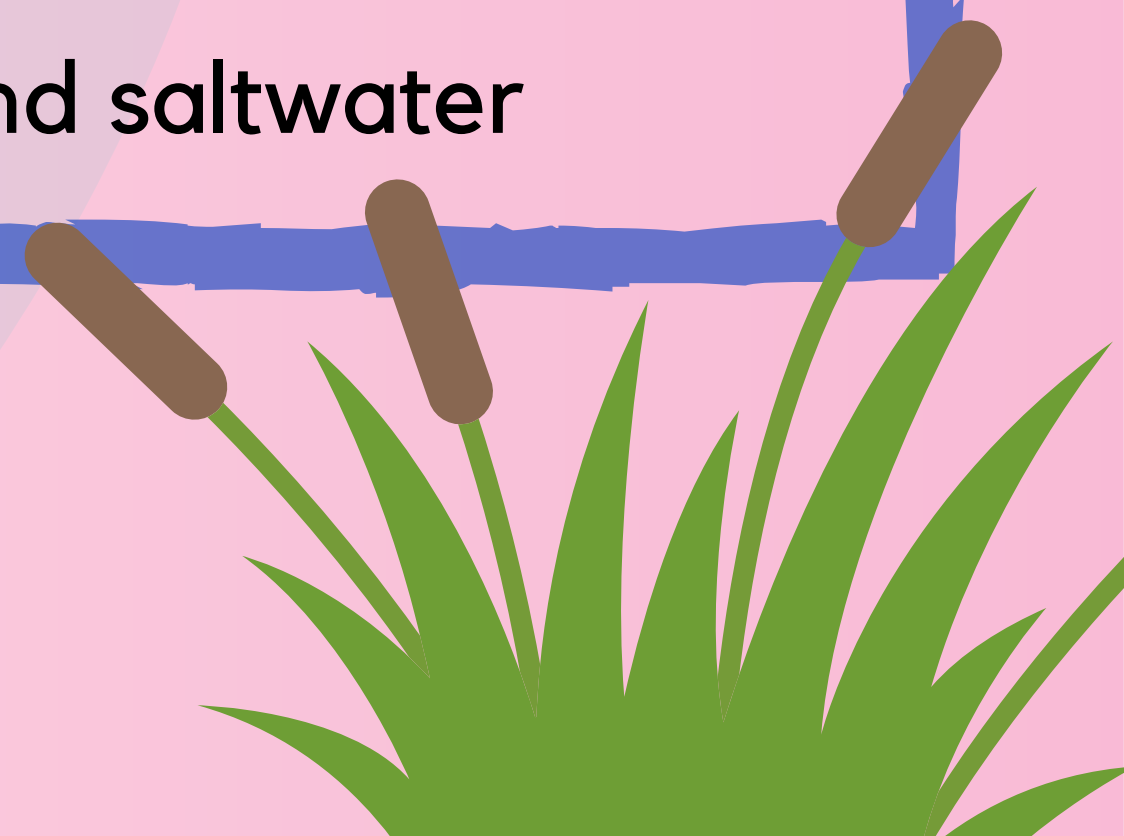
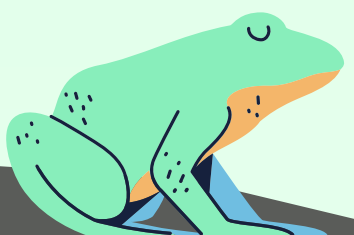
Invasive Species: A non-native species that spreads from the point of introduction and becomes abundant

Frame: The presentation of visual elements bordering the subject of the art piece

Detail: A small part of something larger

Ladder method: The process of coloring a small section from side to side in thick stripes, then repeating

Brackish water: A mixture of freshwater and saltwater





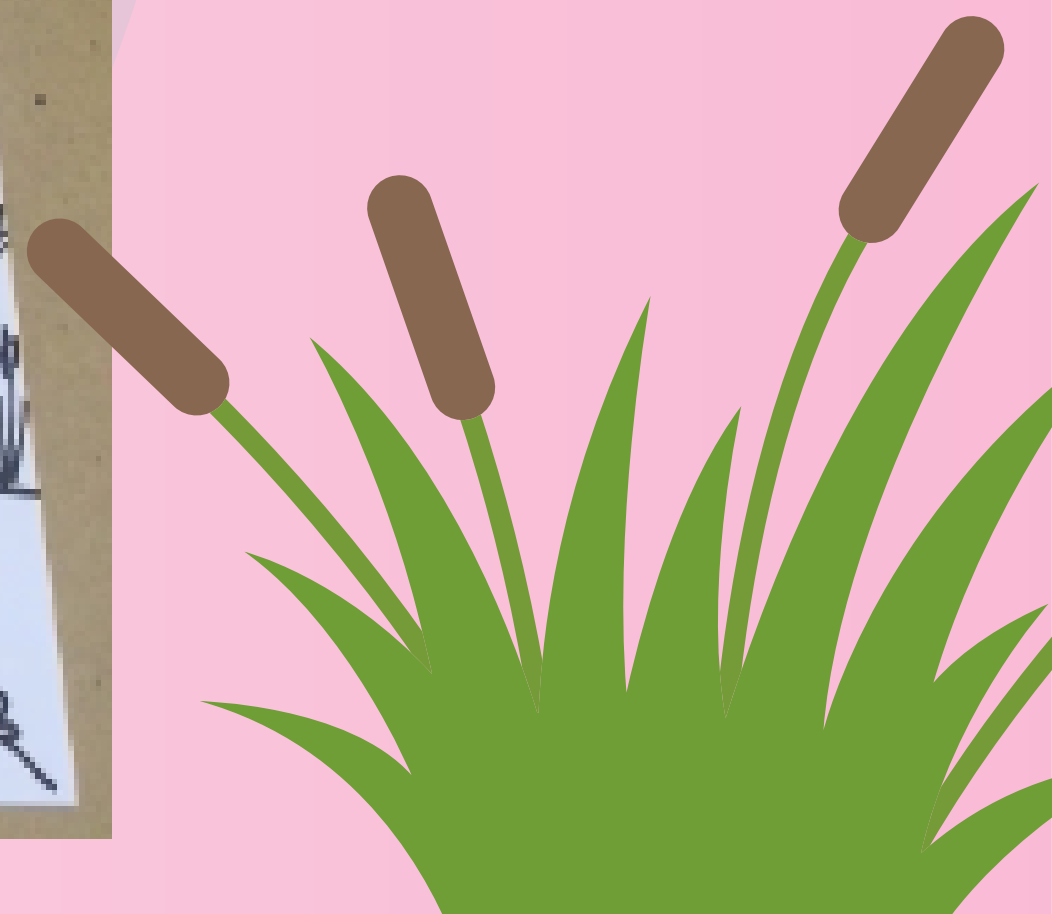
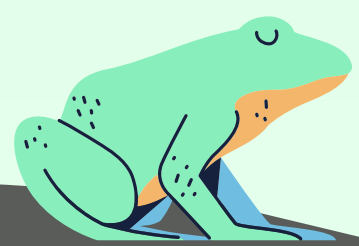
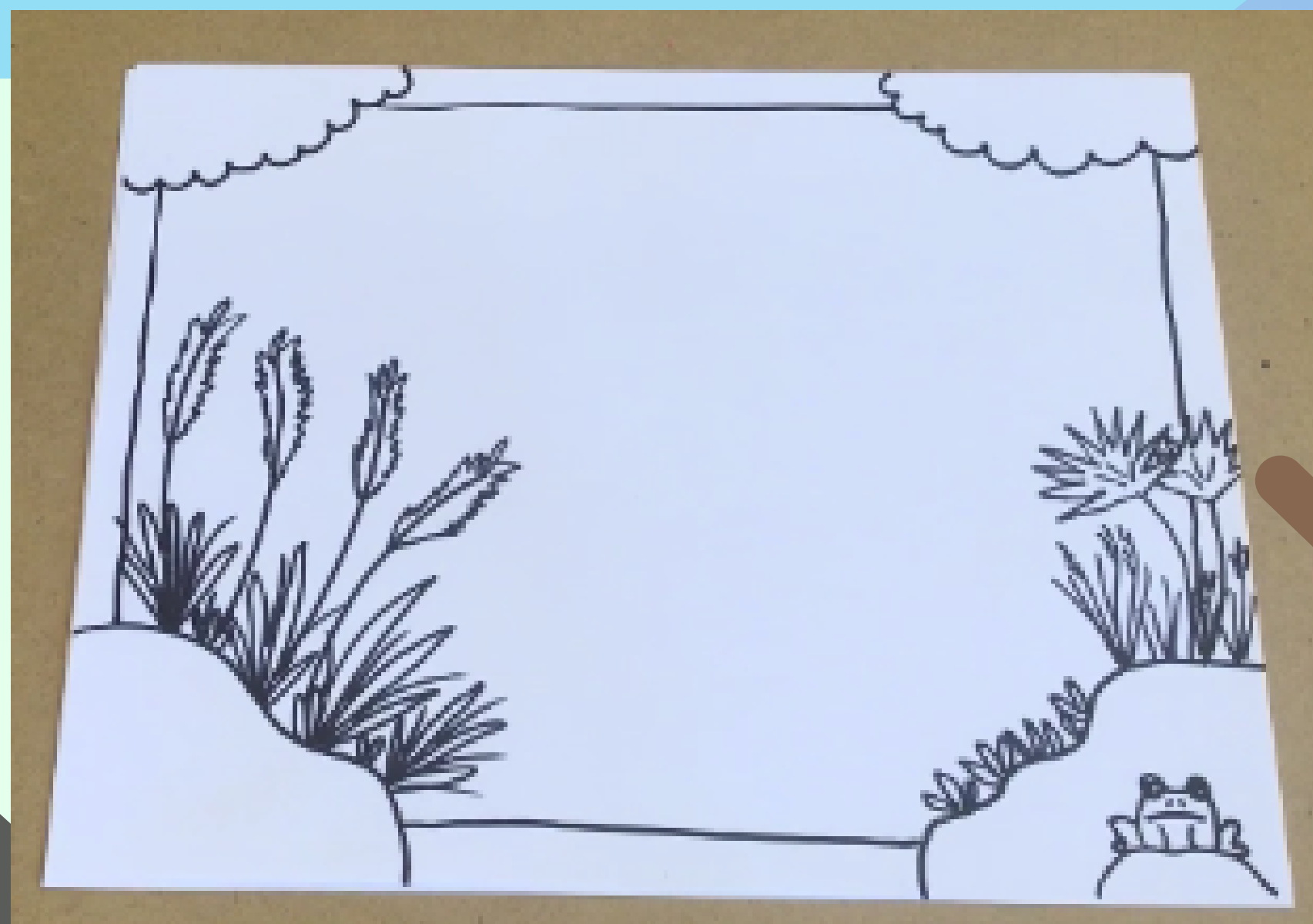
WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Paper
- Black Marker
- Colored pencils
- Cup

DIRECTIONS:

CREATE A FRAME

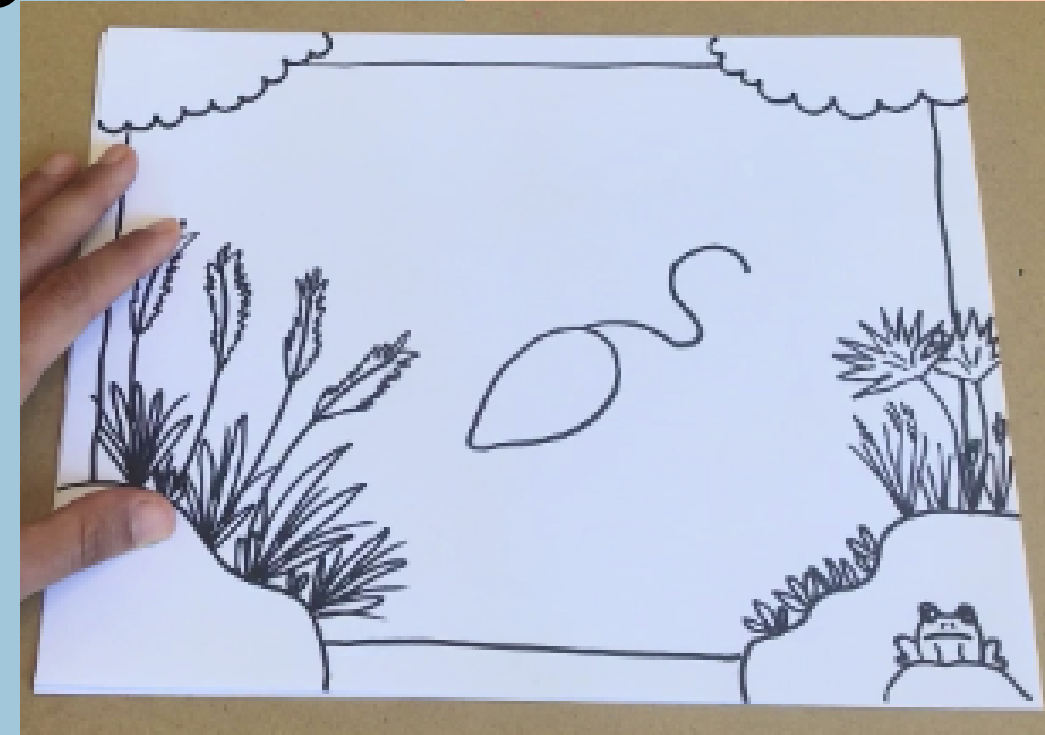
- 1. Draw the land and clouds.** Draw land at the bottom corners and clouds at the top corners of the page.
- 2. Draw wetland plants.** Draw pampas grass, reeds, saltgrass, mexican fan palms, iceplant, or any other marsh plant to that contribute to a wetland ecosystem.
- 3. Draw a frog in the foreground.** Create a small rock with a frog, squirrel, or lizard sitting on top.
- 4. Finish the frame.** Connect the corners of the frame with straight lines to finish the frame. Add details as you'd like.



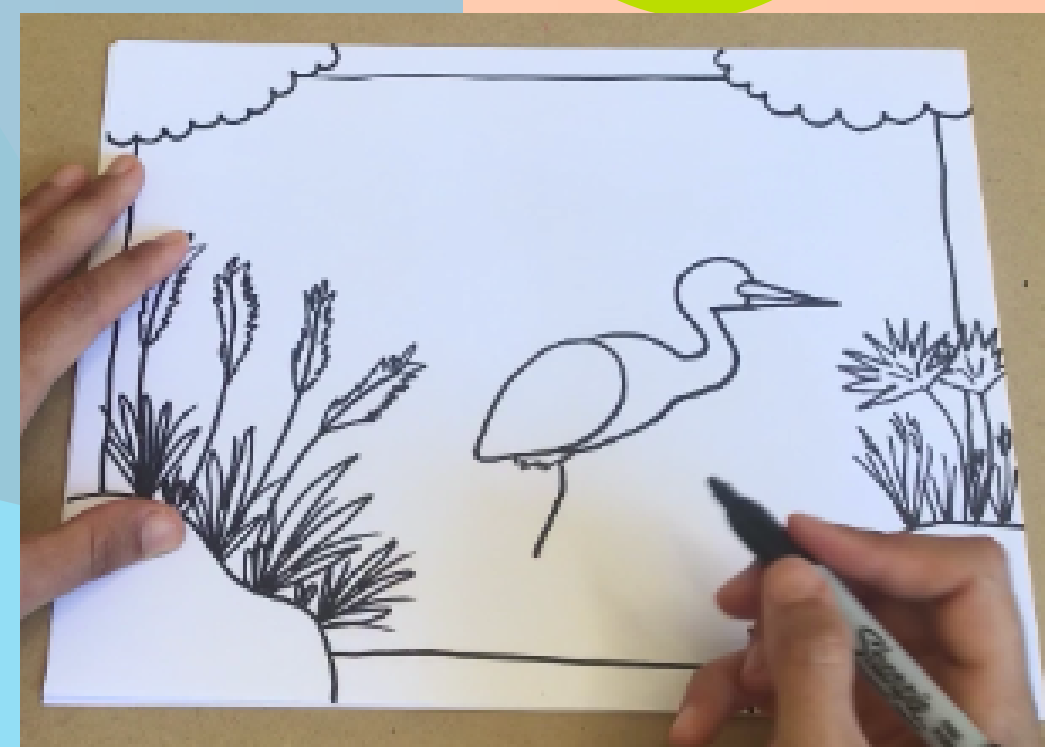
DRAW A GREAT BLUE HERON

5. Draw the wing. In the middle of the paper, draw an oval that comes to a point on one side for the wing.

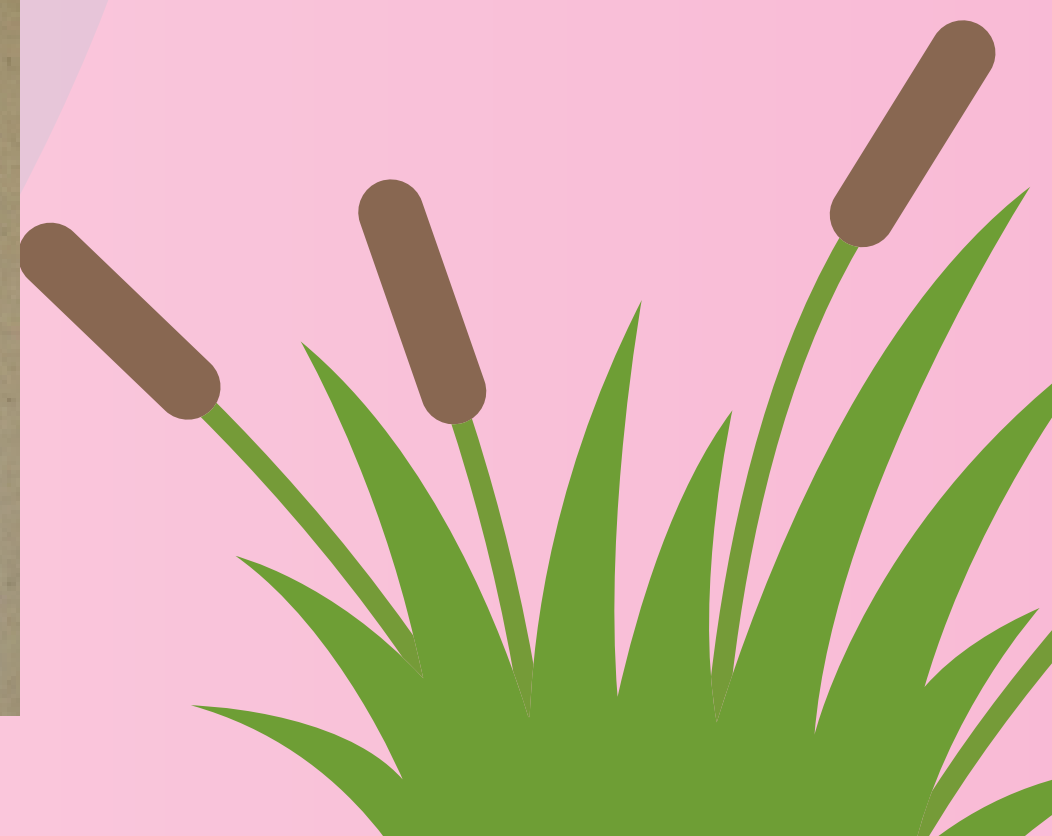
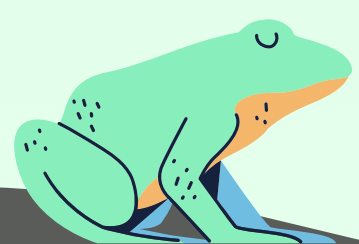
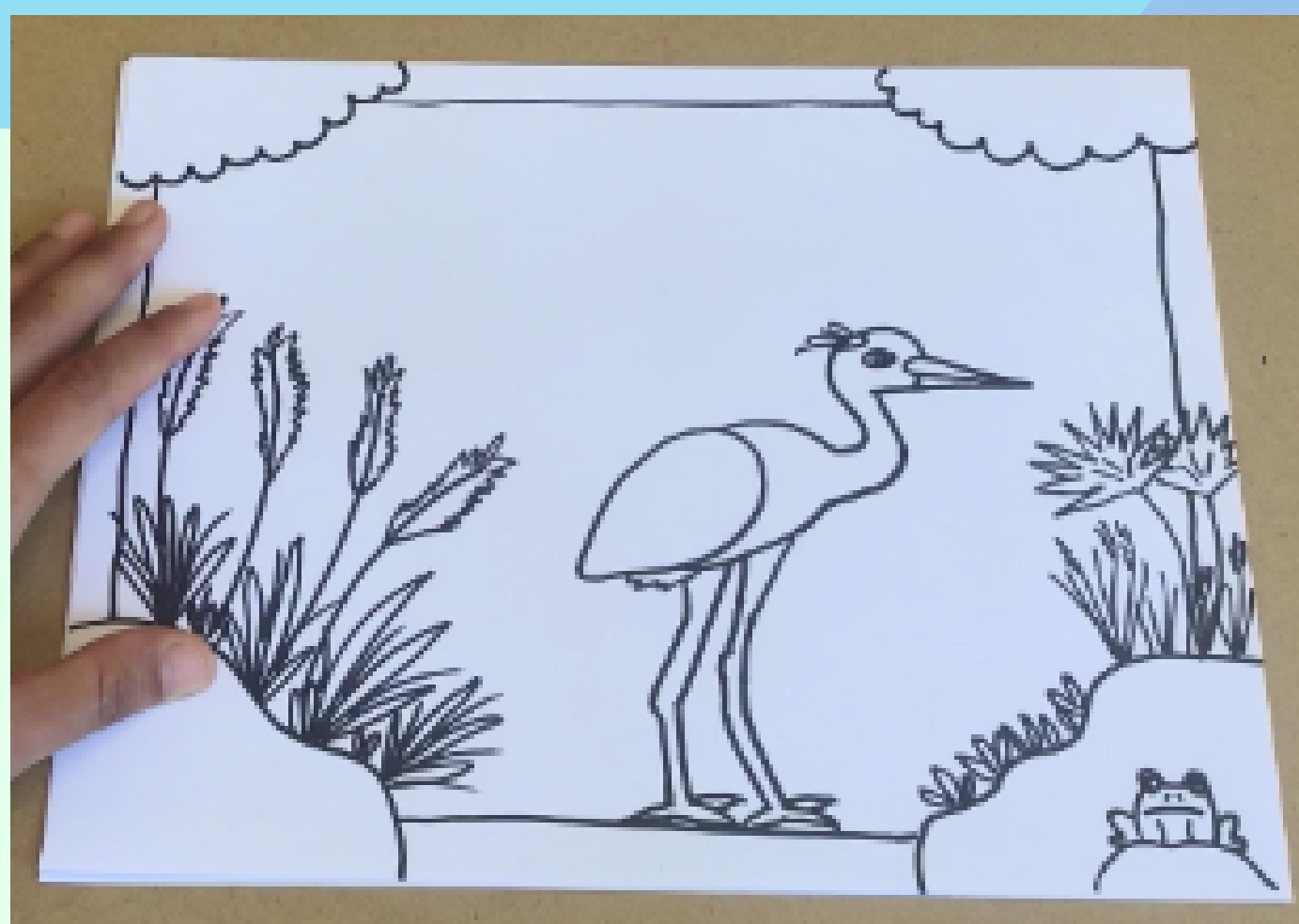
6. Draw the neck and head. Make a curved line for the body that moves upwards in an "S" shape for the neck. Continue with a half-circle for the head.



7. Draw the beak and body. Draw a straight line that comes to a point, with a line through the center for the beak. Follow the "S" curve down the neck and bring that line back to the wing to finish the body.



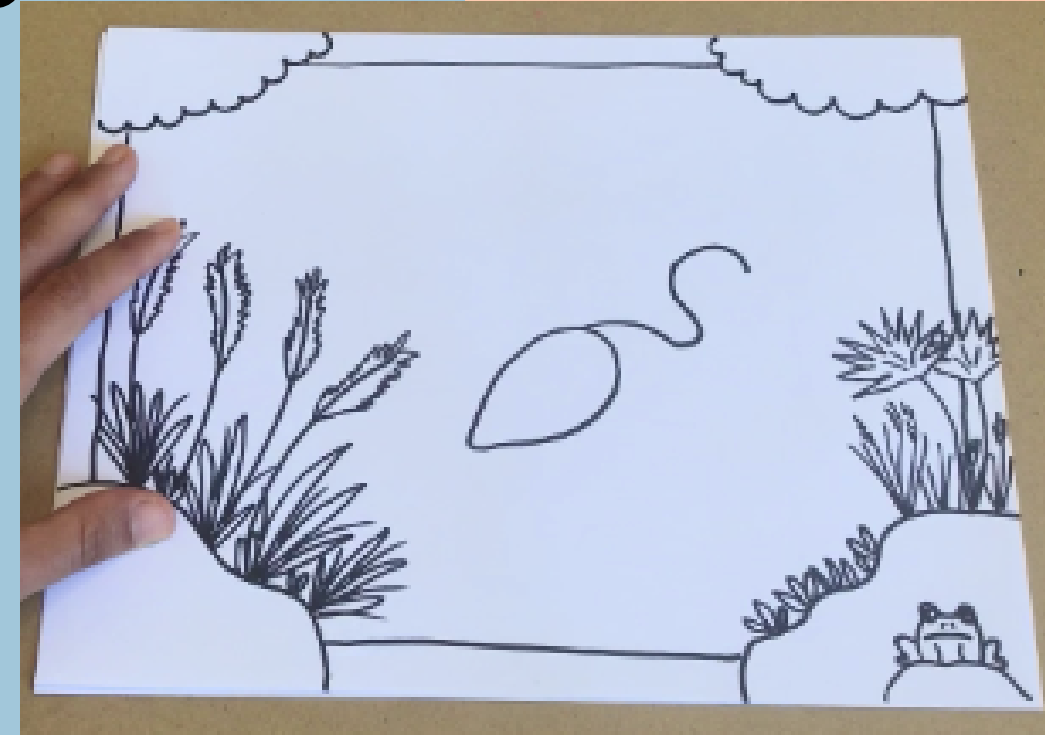
8. Draw the legs. Draw straight lines for the legs, with three toes on each claw.



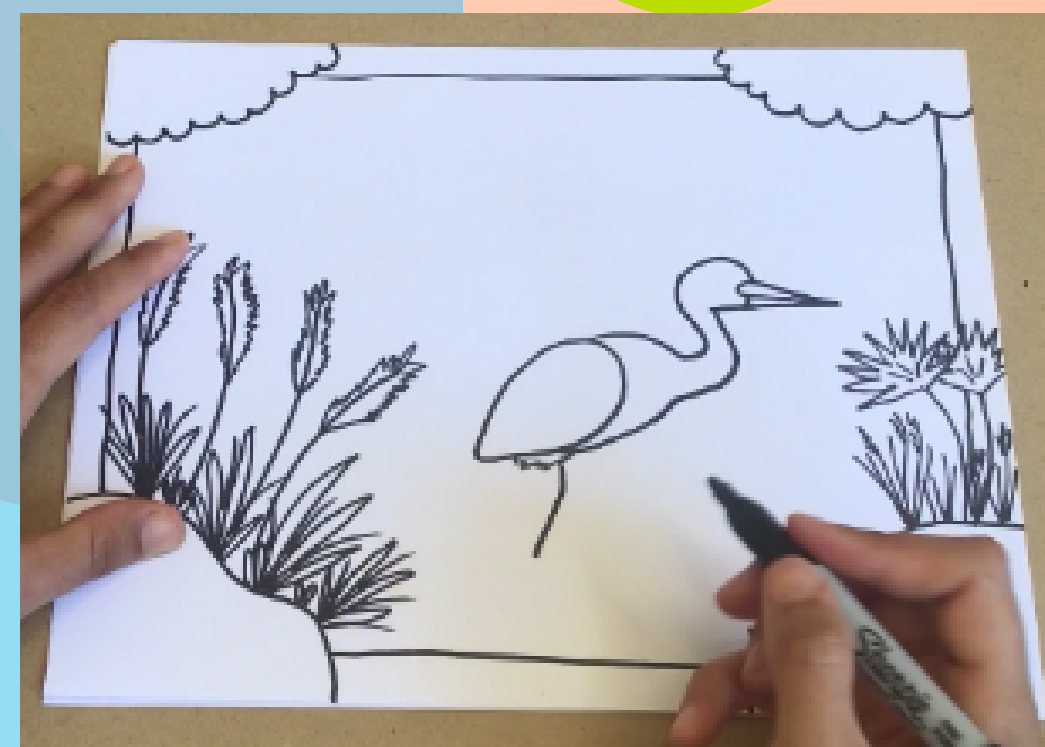
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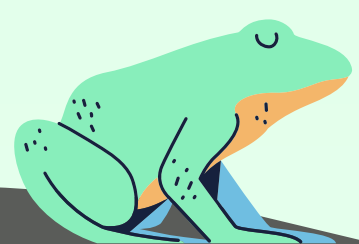
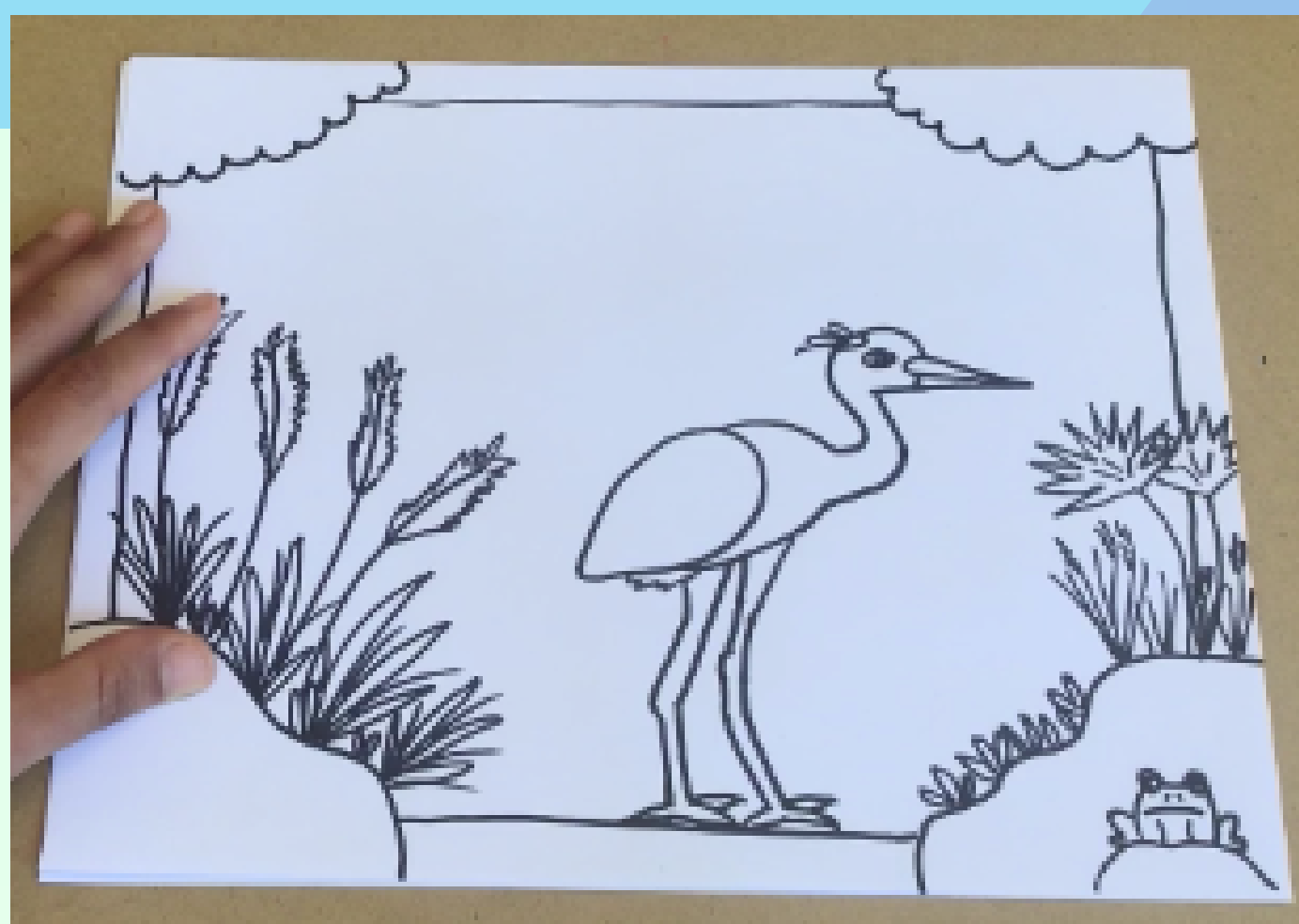
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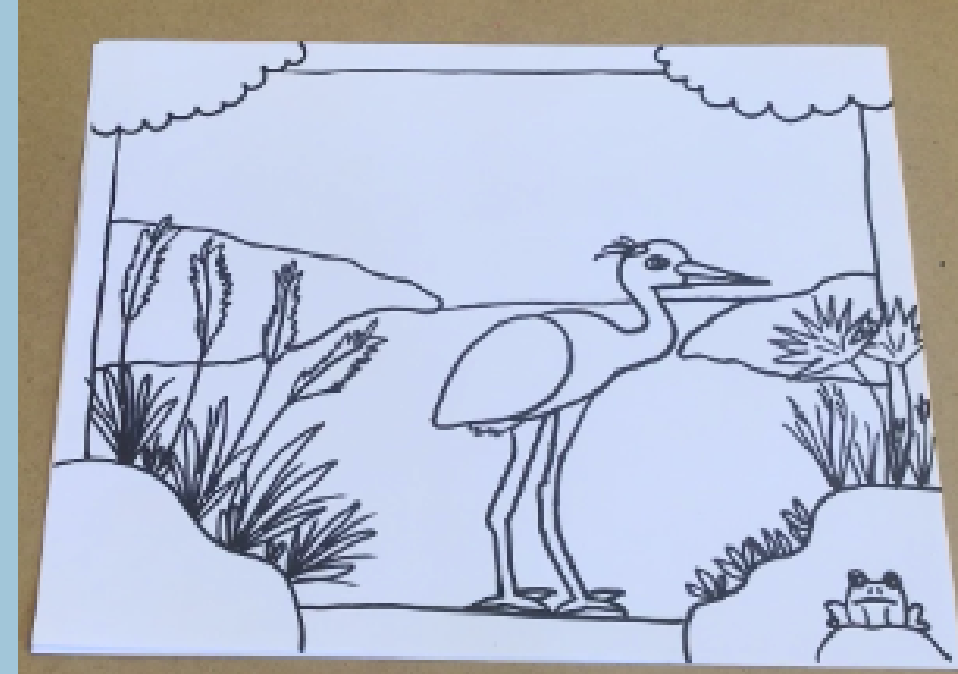


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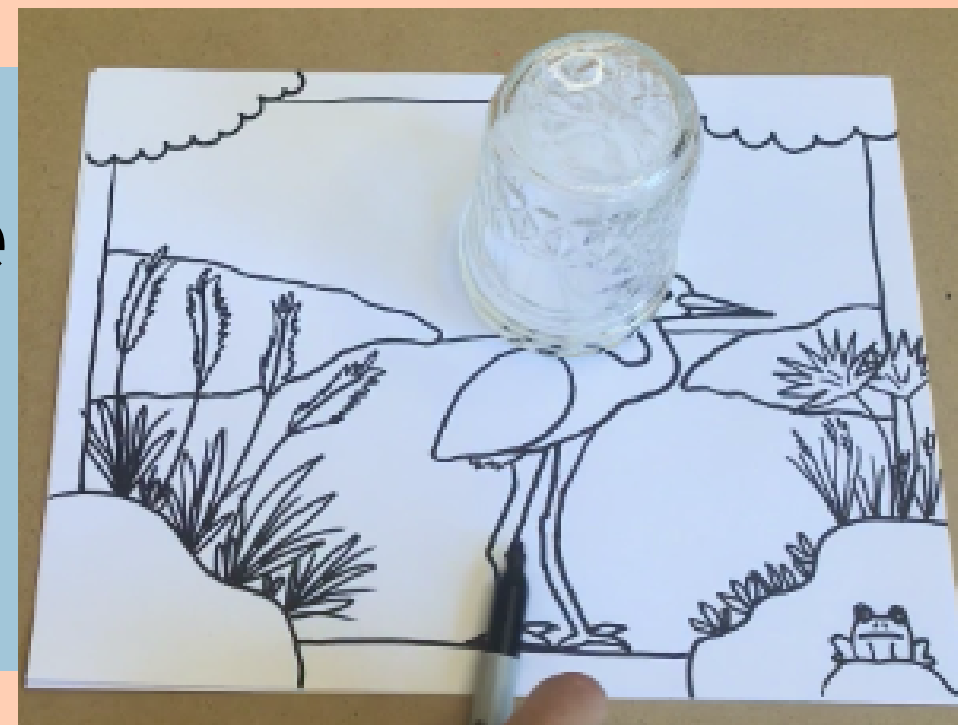


FINISH THE BACKGROUND

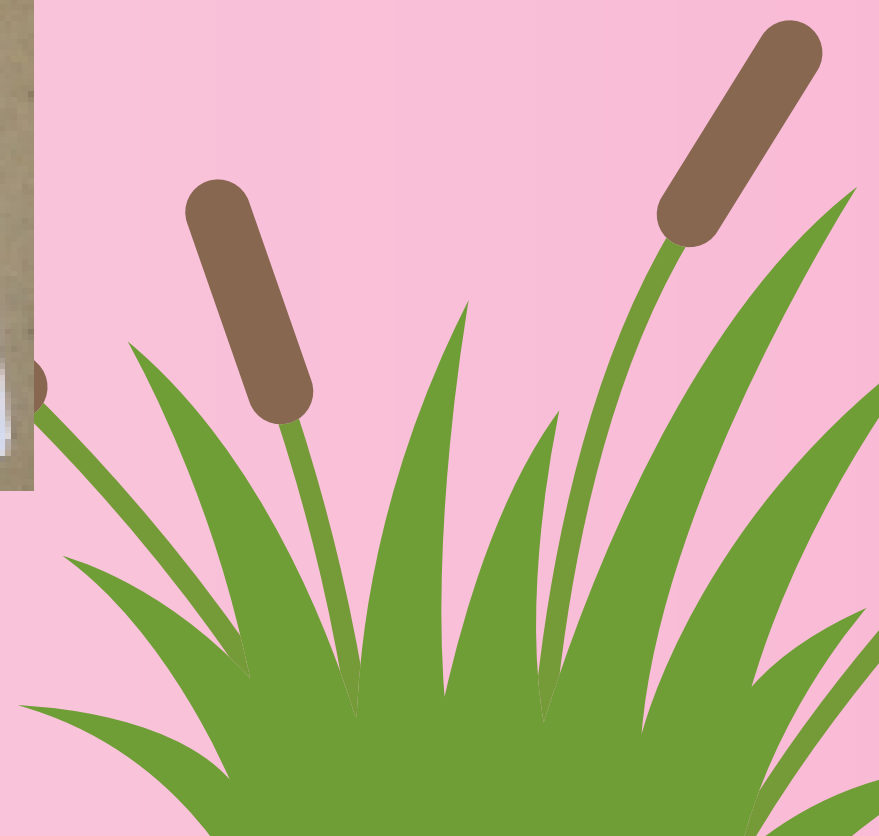
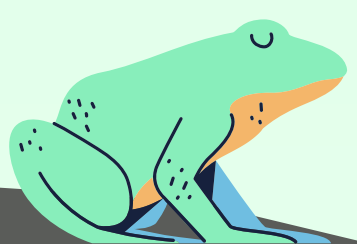
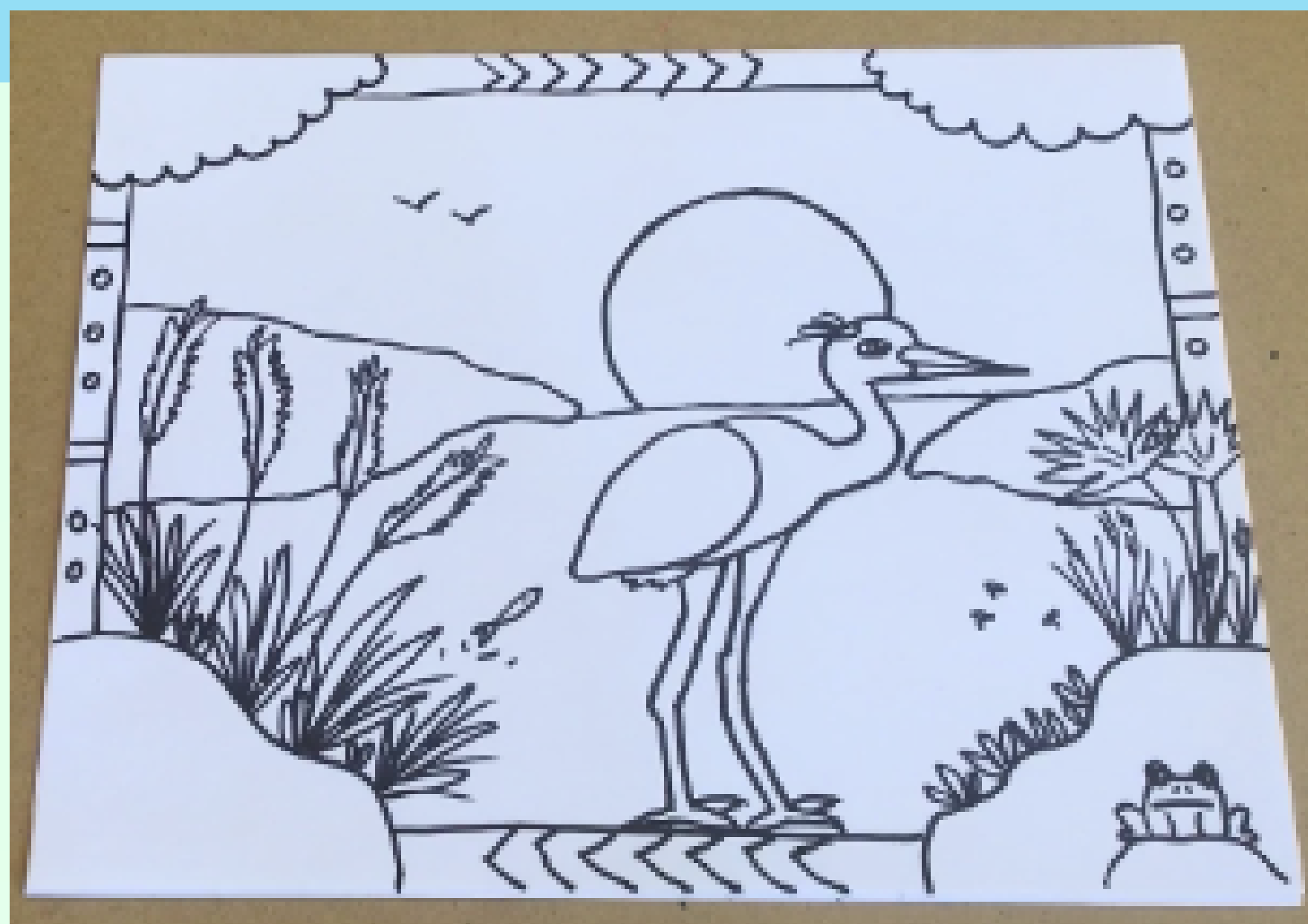
8. Draw the horizon line. Draw land masses on either side of the heron with a horizontal line connecting them to represent where the marsh meets the ocean and sky.



9. Draw the sun. Use a cup to trace the sun setting over the horizon line. Be careful not to trace over your bird!

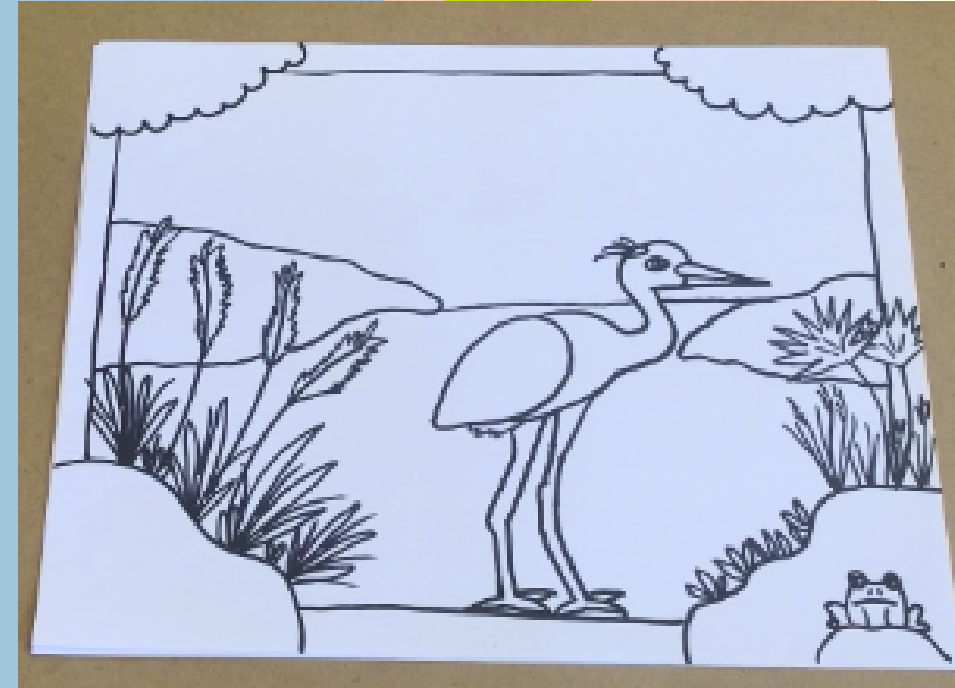


10. Finish the ecosystem. Draw some mosquitoes or flies, mackarel, distant birds, or other animals that are part of this wetland ecosystem. Other options include crabs, butterflies, bees, flowers, sea snails, snakes, lizards, pelicans, and rabbits.



FINISH THE BACKGROUND

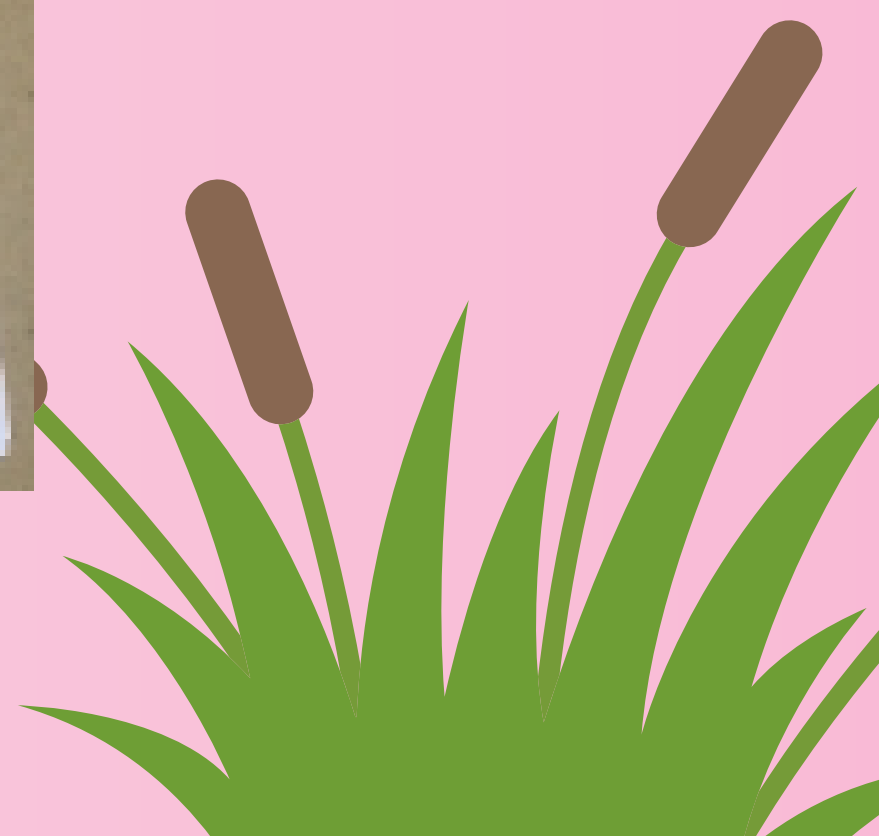
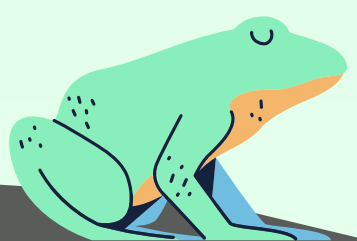
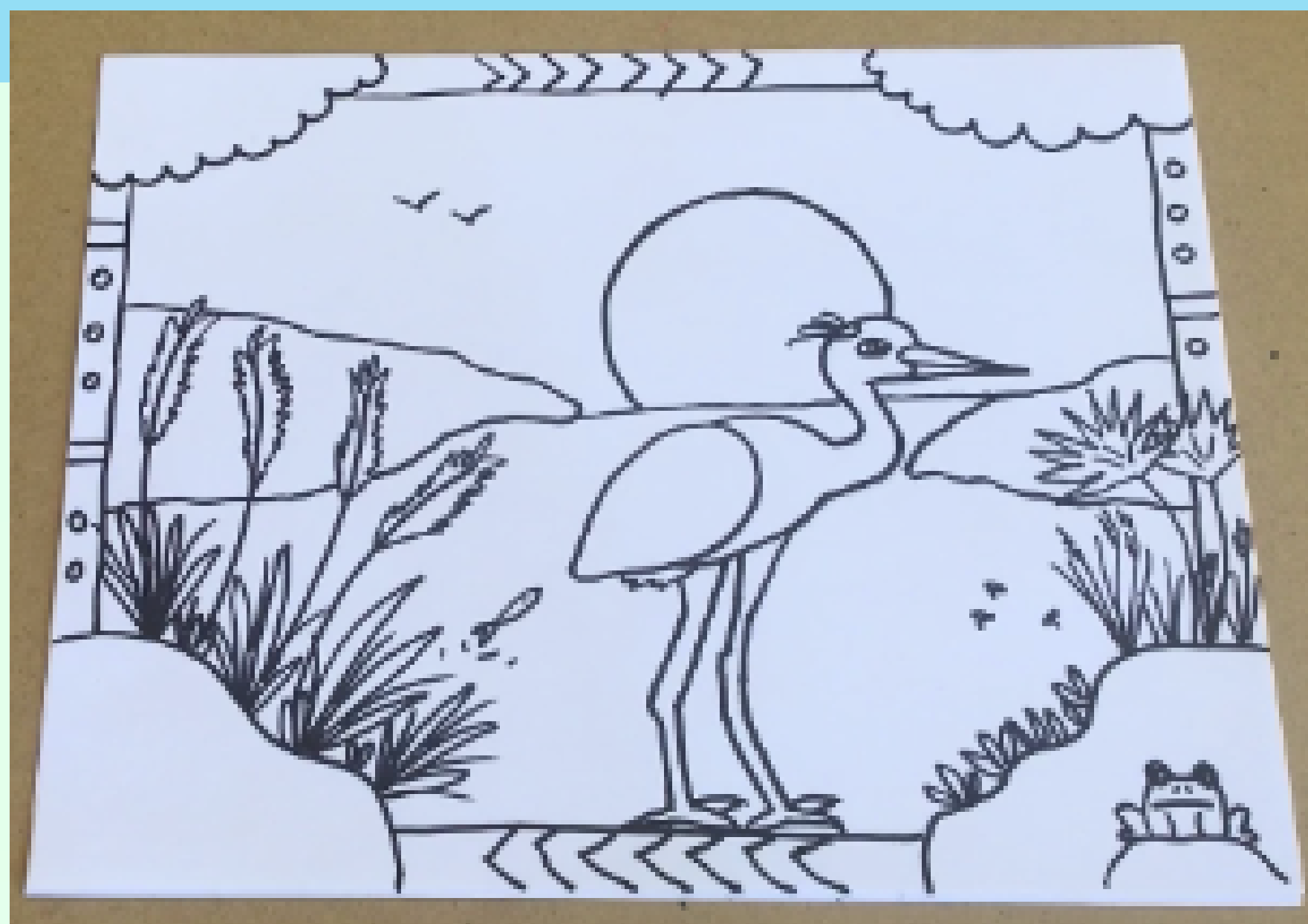
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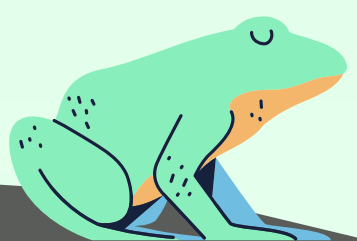


COLOR IT IN!

10. Use light colors first. Press lightly with your colored pencil to color in larger areas using the **ladder method**.
11. Add details. Press harder with darker colored pencils to add details over the previously colored areas.



12. Color the sky. Color the sun with yellow and orange. Then use your yellow colored pencil to follow the circular outline of the sun in a back and forth motion. Repeat this motion with orange, following the yellow strip around the sun. Allow your orange color to slightly overlap the yellow. Repeat with pink, following along and overlapping the edge of the orange circular stripe. Fill in the rest of the sky with blue.

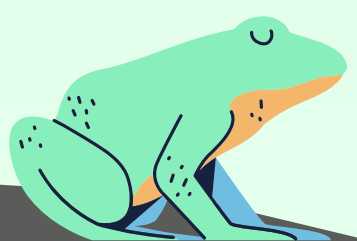


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13. Color the water. Use your yellow pencil to lightly color an imaginary verticle stripe directly below the yellow sun. Color orange stripes on both sides and pink stripes outside of those. Then use your blue colored pencils to fill in the rest of the water. Lightly color in blue throughout the rest of the water to fill in the colors.



14. Finish coloring your frame and clouds. Color your grey clouds in a scumbling pattern. Fill in the frame with colors of your choosing.



We can't wait to see your ecosystems!
Make sure to send photos to your teachers, tag
[@parachutearts](https://www.instagram.com/parachutearts) on Instagram
or email heyparachute@gmail.com
with your finished masterpiece!

