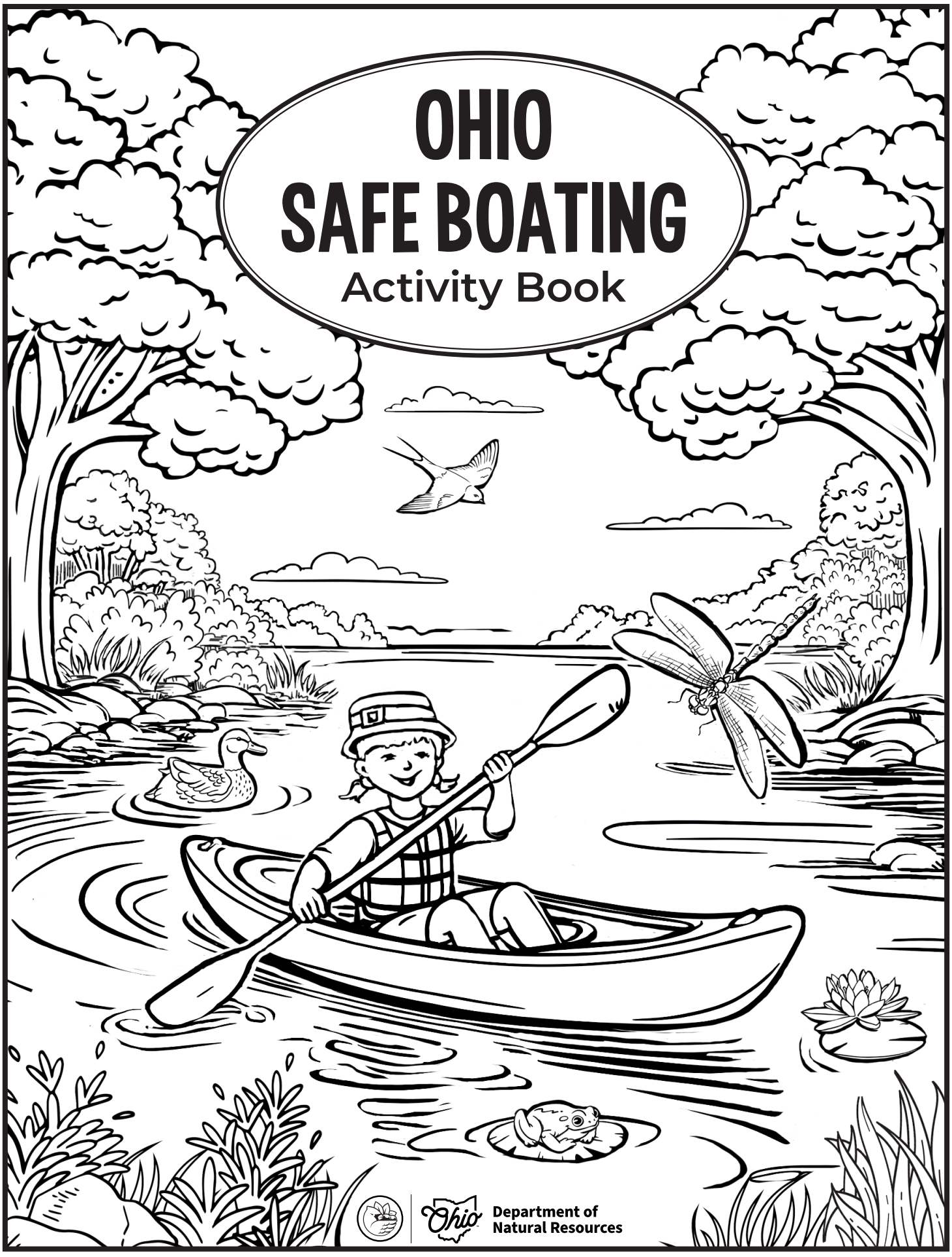
# OHIO SAFE BOATING

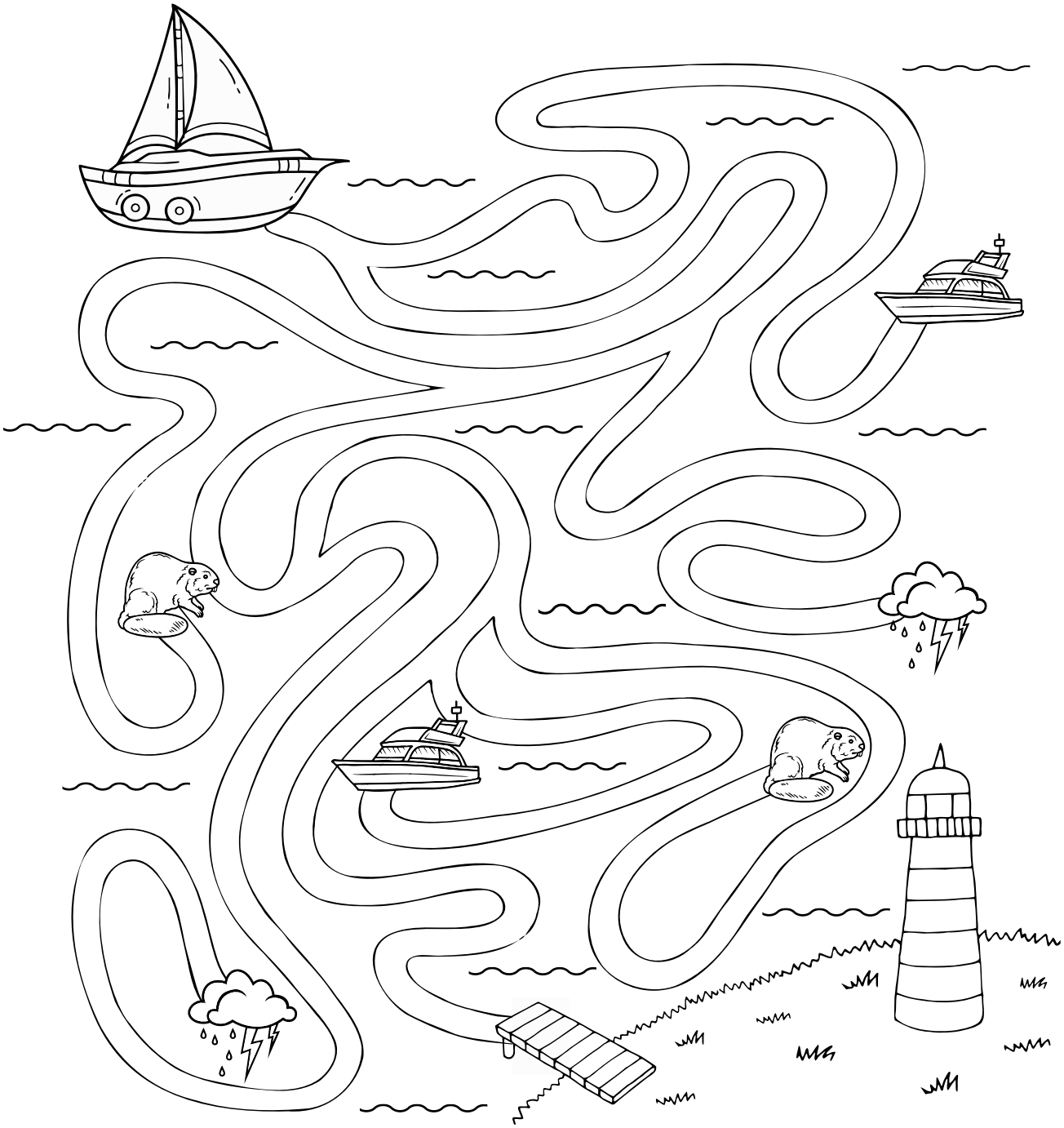
## Activity Book



Department of Natural Resources

# SAFE TO SHORE

**Oh no! You're out on the water and need to get back to shore safely.**
**But there are obstacles in the way! Can you find the safest path through the maze?**



**REMEMBER THESE BOATING SAFETY RULES ALONG THE WAY:**

- Always wear your life jacket!
- Stay seated while the boat is moving.
- Watch out for wildlife, other boaters, and changing weather.
- Stick with an adult and follow the boating rules.

# BOAT SAFETY WORD SEARCH

No matter how old you are or how well you swim, life jackets help keep you safe! Make the promise to always Wear It when you're out on the water.




Look up, down, across and diagonally to find all the items.

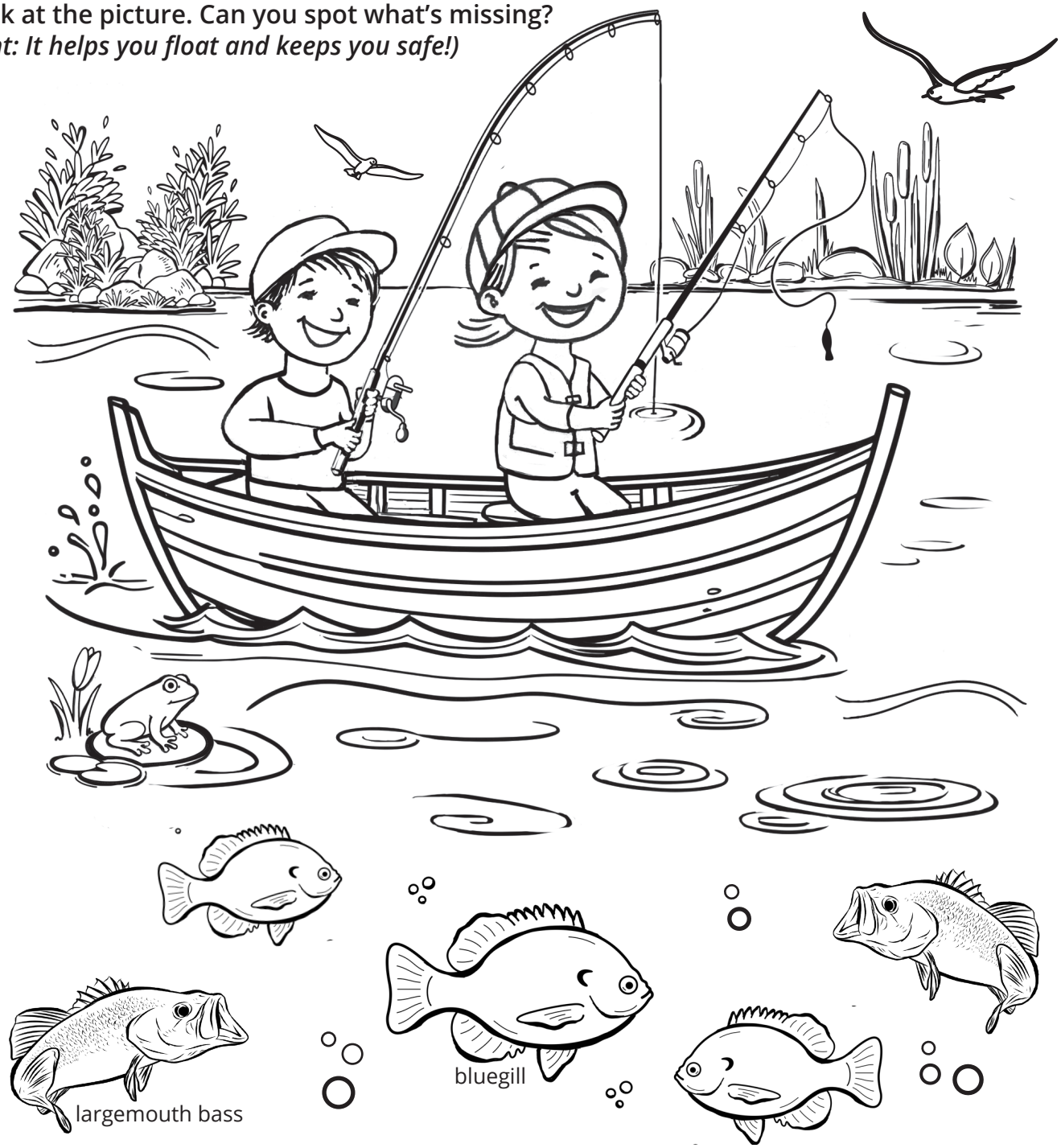
W F I N R Y J L I F E J A C K E T P J F
H M R D L Z G E Z Q D N H S M R S H G C
I T L G R Q X F S S I Y T U J Z R D I S
S A X C A I V L H D O C F H I T T K U G
T B U K D S T A A H U X I A M M F S C E
L T Q V I E T S L N M C R T P M W U K T
E J R K O C P H D Q L Y E N L A L N N M
G K A F M I F L U T Z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

LIFE JACKET
SUNGLASSES
MAPS
FIRE EXTINGUISHER
HAT
SUNSCREEN
PADDLE
RADIO
WHISTLE
RAINCOAT
RAFT
FLASHLIGHT

# LET'S GO FISHING

**You're out on a fishing boat, ready to catch the biggest fish in Ohio's lakes and rivers! But before you cast your line, make sure you're staying safe on the water.**

**SOMETHING IMPORTANT IS MISSING!**
**Look at the picture. Can you spot what's missing?**
***(Hint: It helps you float and keeps you safe!)***



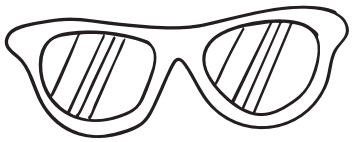

**Draw a life jacket on the person who needs one.**
**Remember to always wear a life jacket and don't stand up in a small boat while it's moving.**

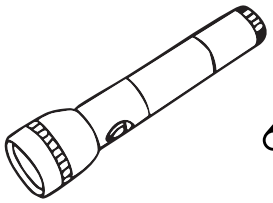
# CRACK THE CODE!

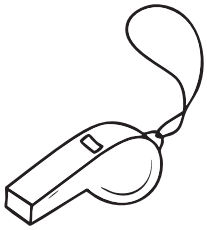
Guess the name of each item and fill in the blanks.
Use the letters to find *The Secret Message*.

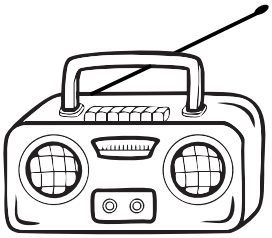


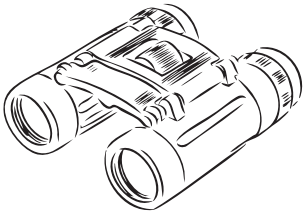


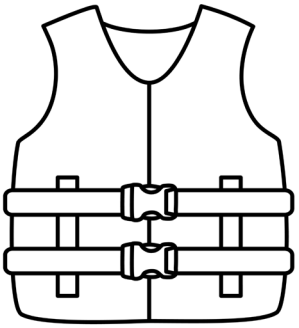










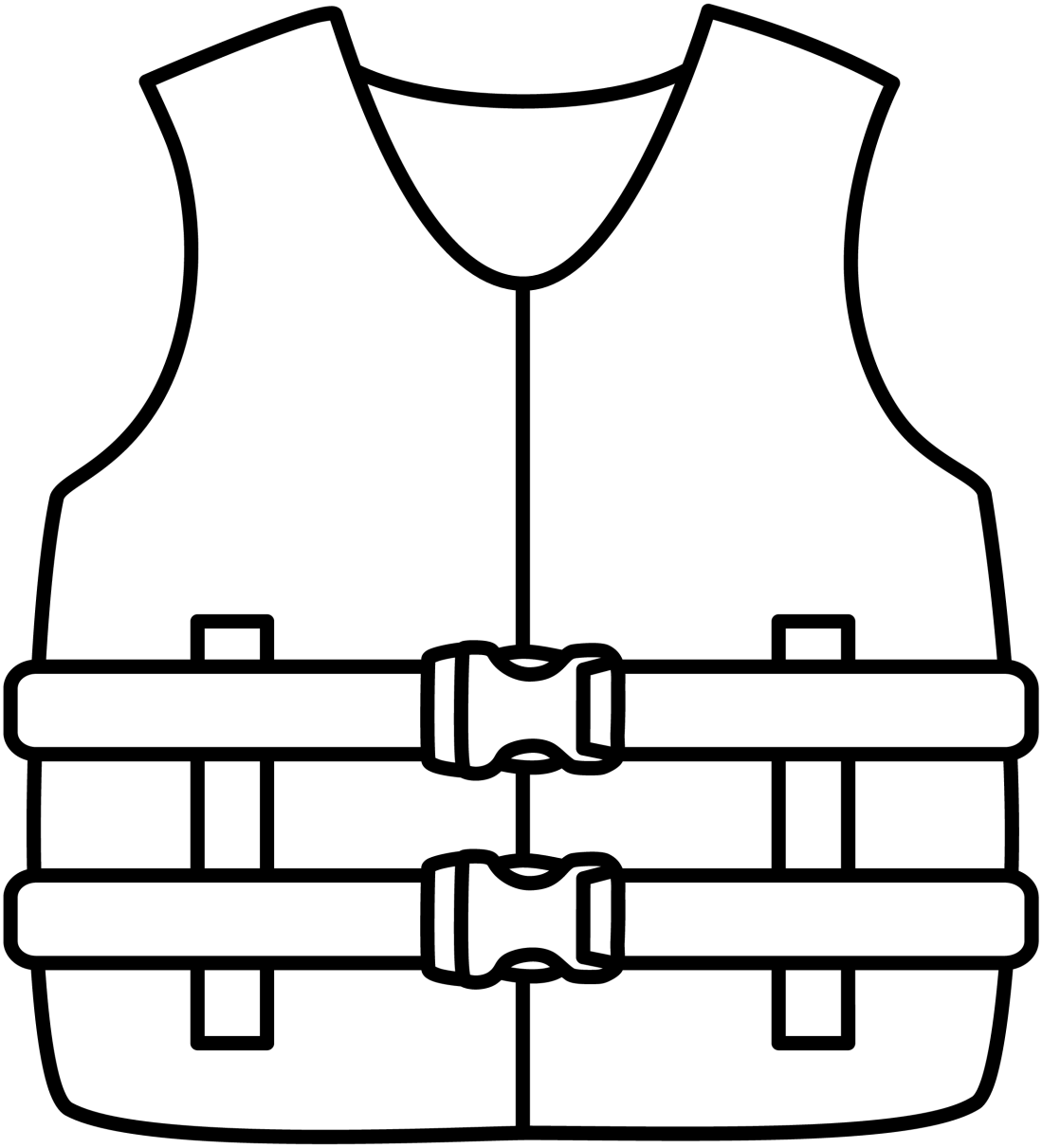


**THE SECRET MESSAGE**

Match the symbols from your answers above to *Crack the Code*.

# COLOR YOUR OWN LIFE JACKET

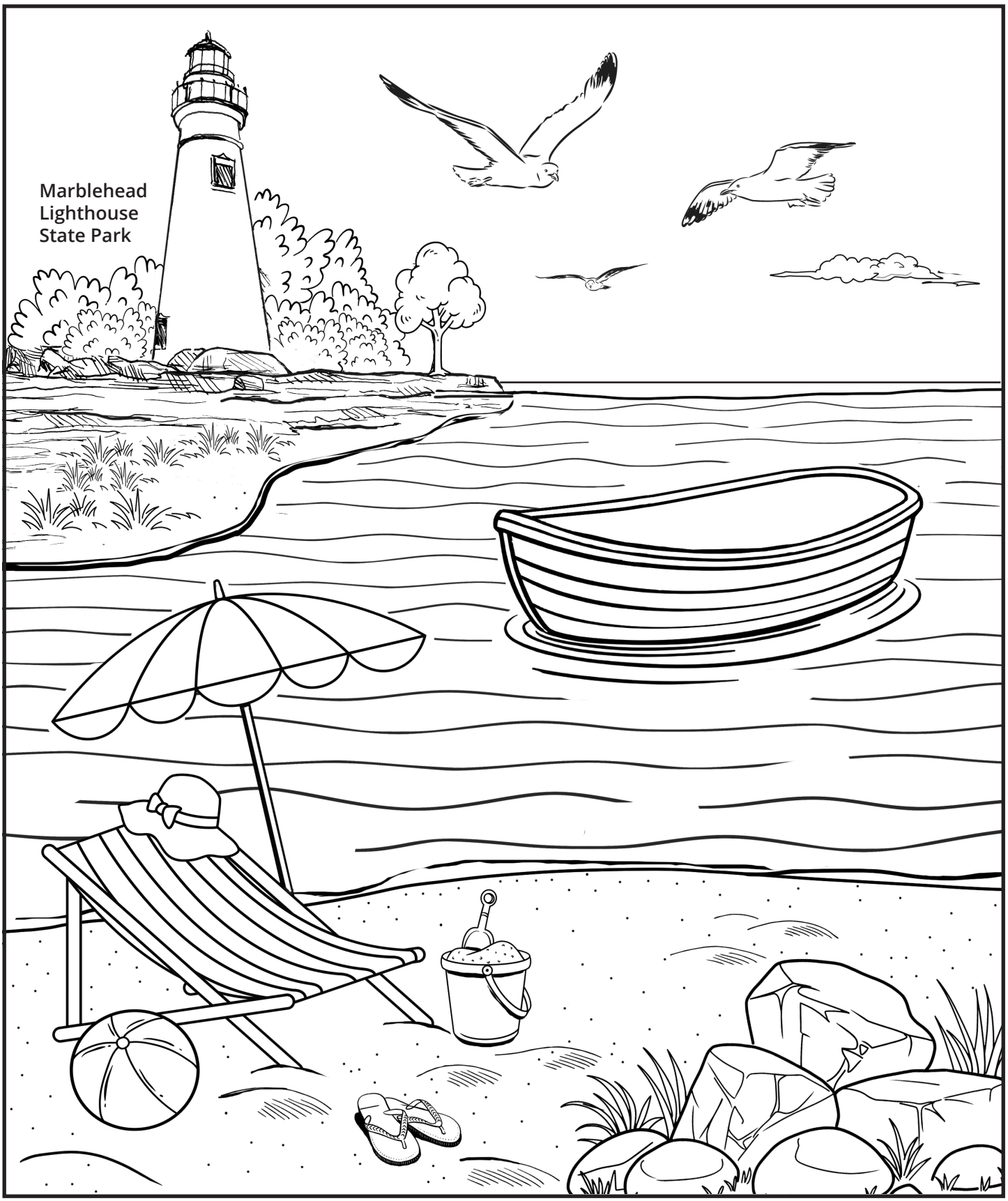
**Staying safe on the water starts with wearing a bright life jacket.**



**Color this life jacket in your favorite bold and easy-to-see color—like red, orange, yellow, or neon green.**

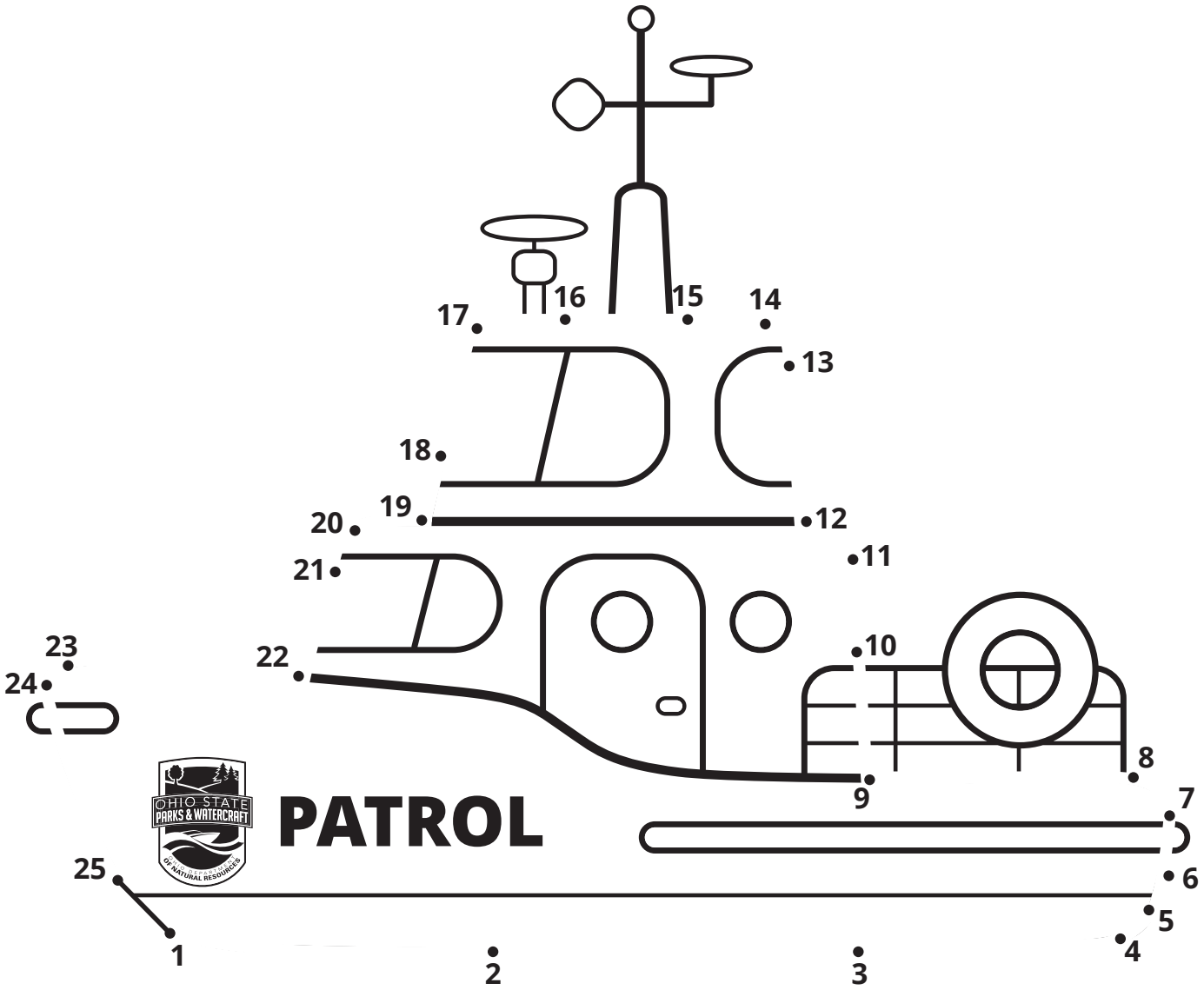
# DRAW YOURSELF IN A BOAT!

**Imagine you're out on the water, boating on an exciting adventure. But wait—safety first! Make sure to draw yourself wearing a life jacket.**



# CONNECT THE DOTS: PATROL BOAT ON DUTY!

**Connect the dots to reveal a patrol boat in action. These boats patrol our waters to assist boaters, perform rescues, enforce boating laws, conduct safety checks, and respond to emergencies.**

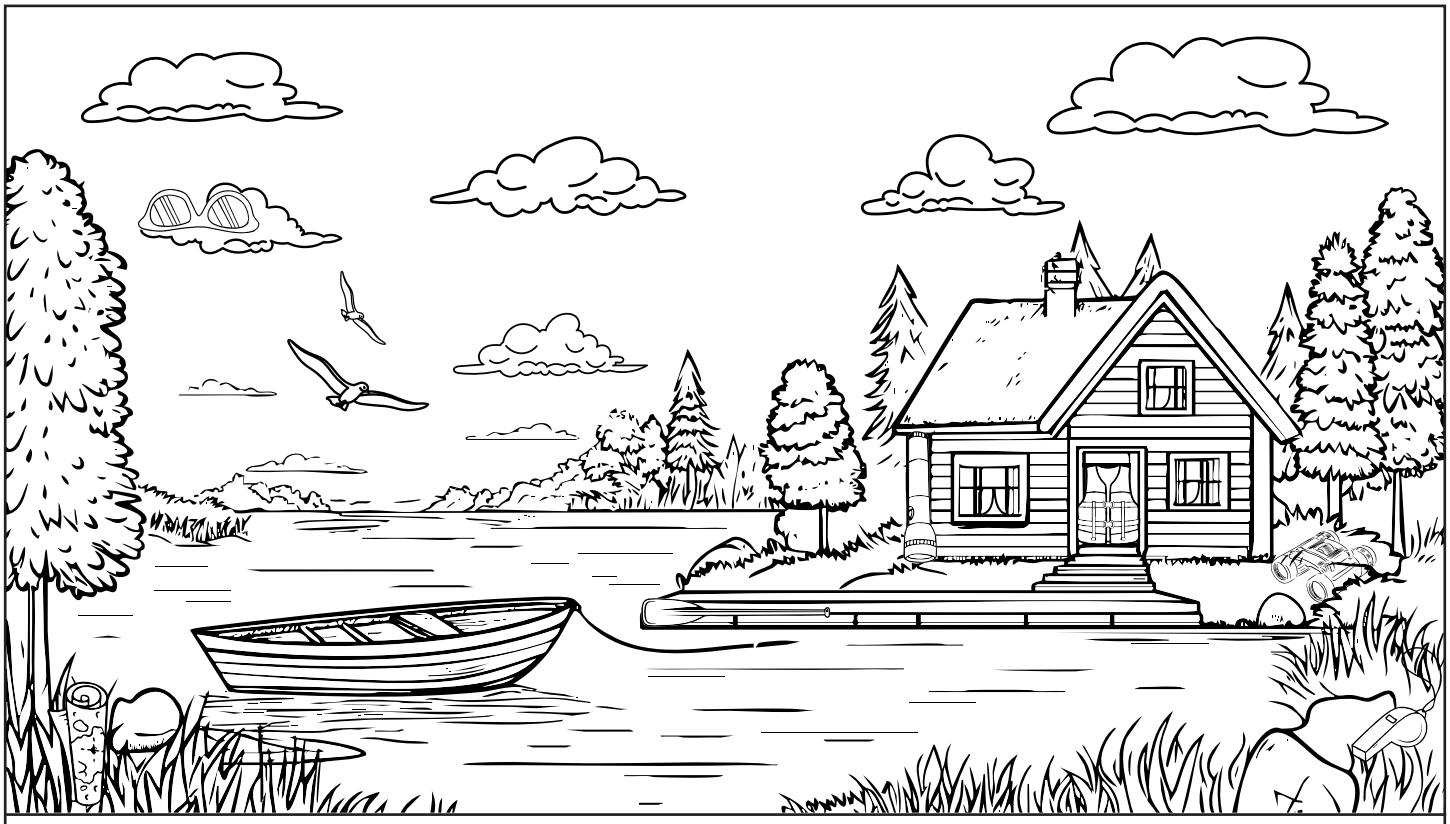



**When you're finished connecting the dots, color in your scene and add water and boaters making safe choices.**

# GETTING READY FOR A DAY ON THE WATER!

**Before you go on a fun water adventure, don't forget to pack these important items. Can you find them in the picture?**

KEEP WHAT
**MATTERS AFLOAT**





Binoculars



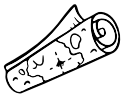
Sunglasses



Whistle



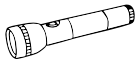
Life Jacket



Map



Paddle



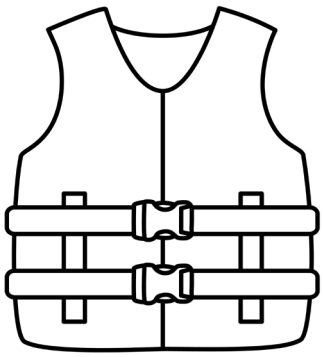
Flashlight

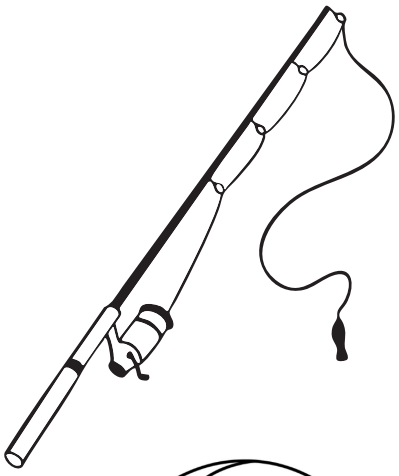
# HELP ME LOAD MY BOAT FOR MY NEXT ADVENTURE!

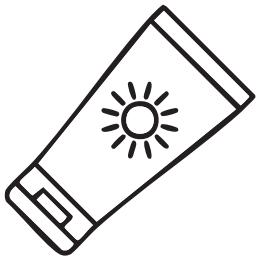
**Cross out the items that don't belong.**

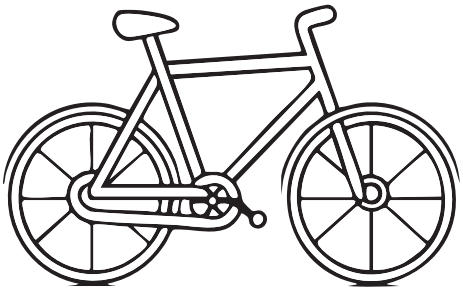


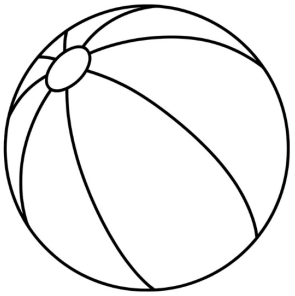


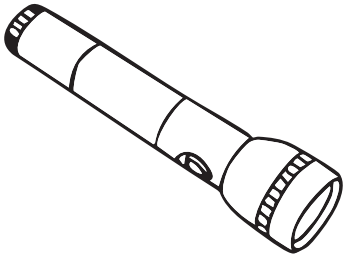








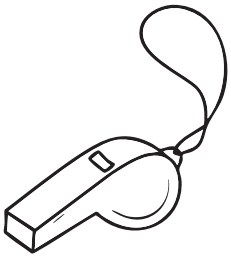












# BOATING SAFETY PLEDGE

**No matter how old you are or how well you swim, life jackets help keep you safe! Make the promise to always Wear It when you're out on the water.**




KEEP WHAT MATTERS AFLOAT

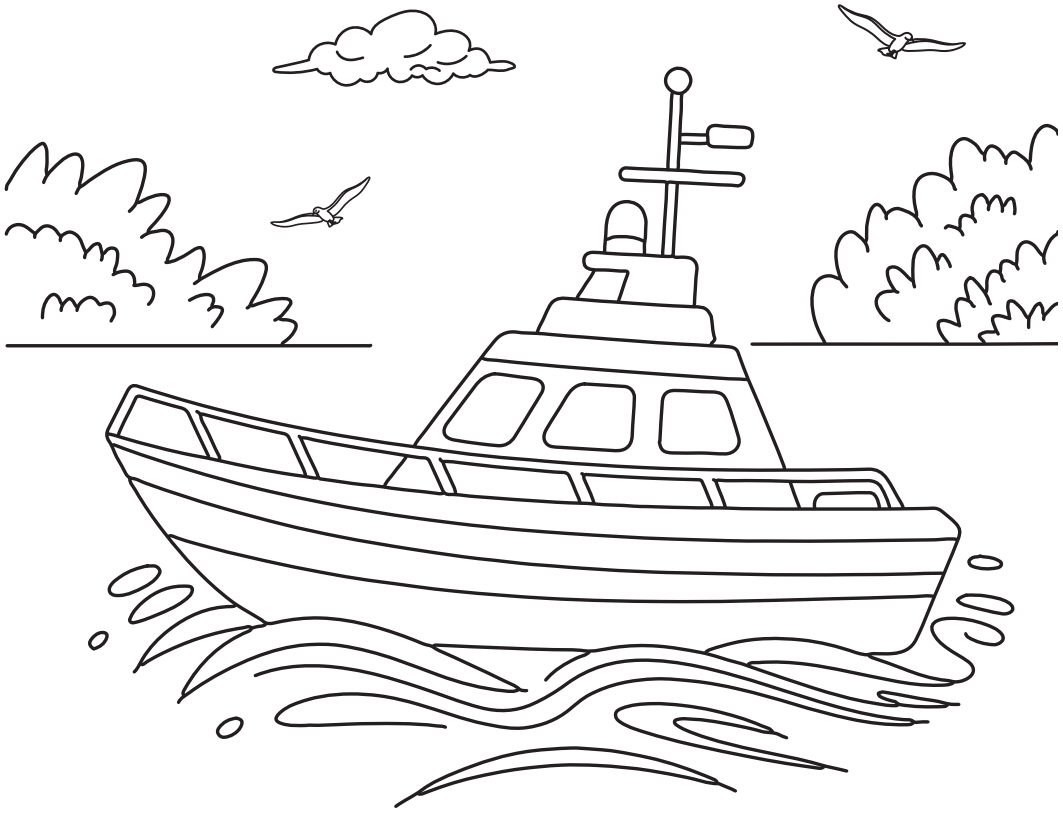
## TAKE THE PLEDGE

**I will always wear my life jacket while boating or fishing, and encourage others to do the same! I'll regularly inspect my life jacket and keep it in good condition. I pledge to boat safely and responsibly – and to have fun!**

_____

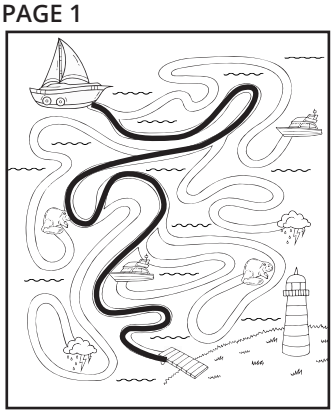
**YOUR NAME**

# Gateway to OHIO'S GREAT OUTDOORS

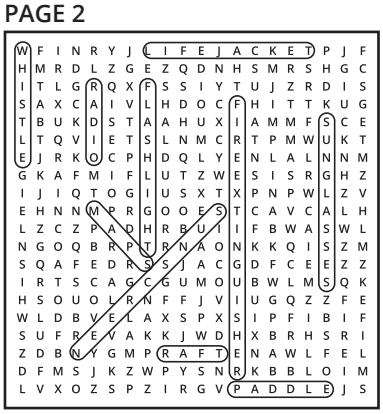


## ANSWER KEY

**PAGE 1**



**PAGE 2**



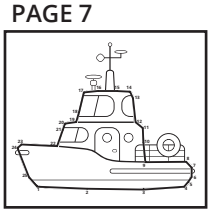

**PAGE 3**



**PAGE 4**

**KEEP WHAT MATTERS AFLOAT**

**PAGE 7**



**PAGE 9**

Items that don't belong: beach ball, bicycle, helmet, ice cream.

**PAGE 8**

**BINOCULARS** right side of house, **SUNGLASSES** in the cloud, **WHISTLE** on the boulder in right bottom corner, **LIFEJACKET** in front door, **MAP** in reeds on left bottom corner, **PADDLE** in front of dock, **FLASHLIGHT** left side of house.