



## U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

More than 35,000 engineers, scientists and other specialists work for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Their job is to develop, protect and improve America's water resources.

For example, they protect people from three different types of flooding. Flooding from rivers is a result of melting snow or heavy rains. Heavy rains also occur during hurricanes, but on top of that there is the threat from large amounts of water crashing onshore pushed by hurricane winds. Cities can experience flash flooding when several inches of rain fall in a short period of time. The Corps builds levees and floodwalls, drainage canals and pumping stations to protect people and property from flooding.

The Corps keeps the nation's rivers open for barge and ship traffic. Locks and dams help barges travel on the waterways. Locks make it possible for barges and ships to navigate up and down a river or go from one body of water to another, when the two are at different elevations.

Big Ships from around the world carry heavy cargo. They need deep channels in rivers to deliver these goods to new markets. The Corps dredges rivers, like the Mississippi River, to keep them deep and sometimes builds new channels.

The Corps plans these projects so that little or no harm comes to the environment. It also builds projects that protect and restore forests, rivers, lakes, wetlands, and plant and animal habitats.

Throughout the country, the Corps builds and manages recreation areas. Almost 35 million people visit Corps parks each year to camp, swim, and go boating.

The Corps is ready to lend a hand when disaster strikes. Hurricanes and earthquakes can cause a lot of damage. The Corps cleans up the debris and helps people return to their normal life.

The Corps also supports the Army and Air Force in war and peace, building hospitals, training facilities and housing for soldiers and their families.

Visit our web site at [www.usace.army.mil](http://www.usace.army.mil) to learn more about the Corps of Engineers.

## Louisiana's Coastal Wetlands

Along the coast of Louisiana, one can find bayous and bays, marshes and cypress swamps. These habitats make up the coastal wetlands that are home to bald eagles and many other types of birds, as well as more than 50 species of animals.

Many fish and shrimp are born and spend part of their life cycle in the wetlands before moving into the Gulf of Mexico as they get older. More than 22 million pounds of crawfish are harvested in Louisiana's wetlands each year. Wetlands also provide the perfect habitat for turtles and alligators.

Wetlands protect pipelines that carry oil and gas from the Gulf to the rest of the country. Wetlands serve as protection from hurricane waves from the Gulf for the two million people who make their home in south Louisiana.

As you can see, the wetlands are a very valuable asset to the state and the country. Sadly, this natural resource is disappearing. About every 30 minutes, a marsh area the size of a football field disappears from Louisiana forever.

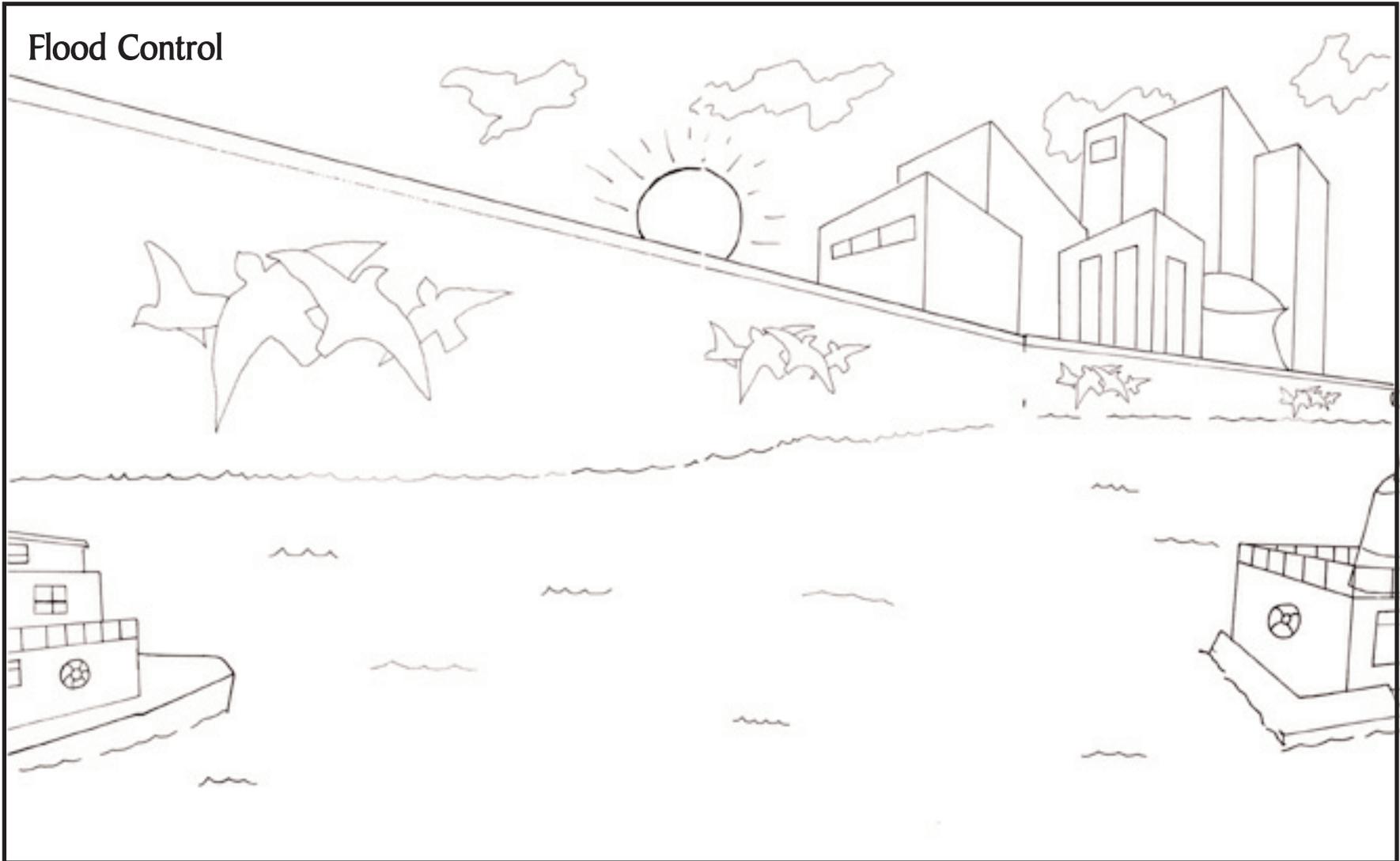
The Corps, other federal agencies and the state of Louisiana have teamed up to build projects to protect and restore the state's wetlands. For example, fresh water diversion projects allow fresh water from the Mississippi River to pass under the levee and into coastal areas. The freshwater pushes out salt water and brings nutrients to the wetlands. Still, much more needs to be done. So the Corps, together with its partners, has developed a plan, called the Louisiana Coastal Area Study (LCA), to identify and eventually build large-scale projects that will create, nourish and maintain America's fragile coastal wetlands in Louisiana.

[www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pao/pao-bro.htm](http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pao/pao-bro.htm)

[www.lacoast.gov](http://www.lacoast.gov)

[www.coast2050.gov/lca](http://www.coast2050.gov/lca)

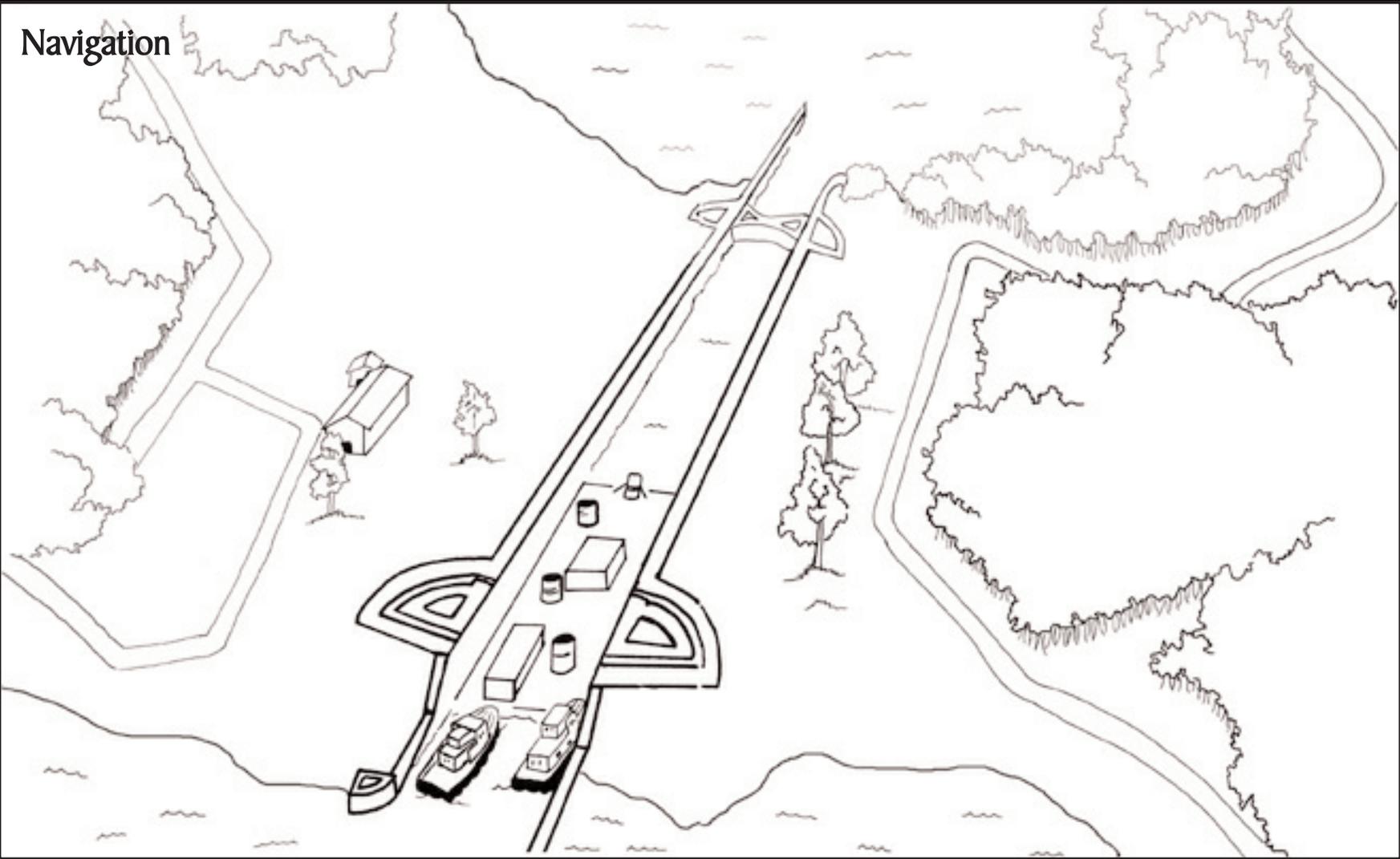
# Flood Control



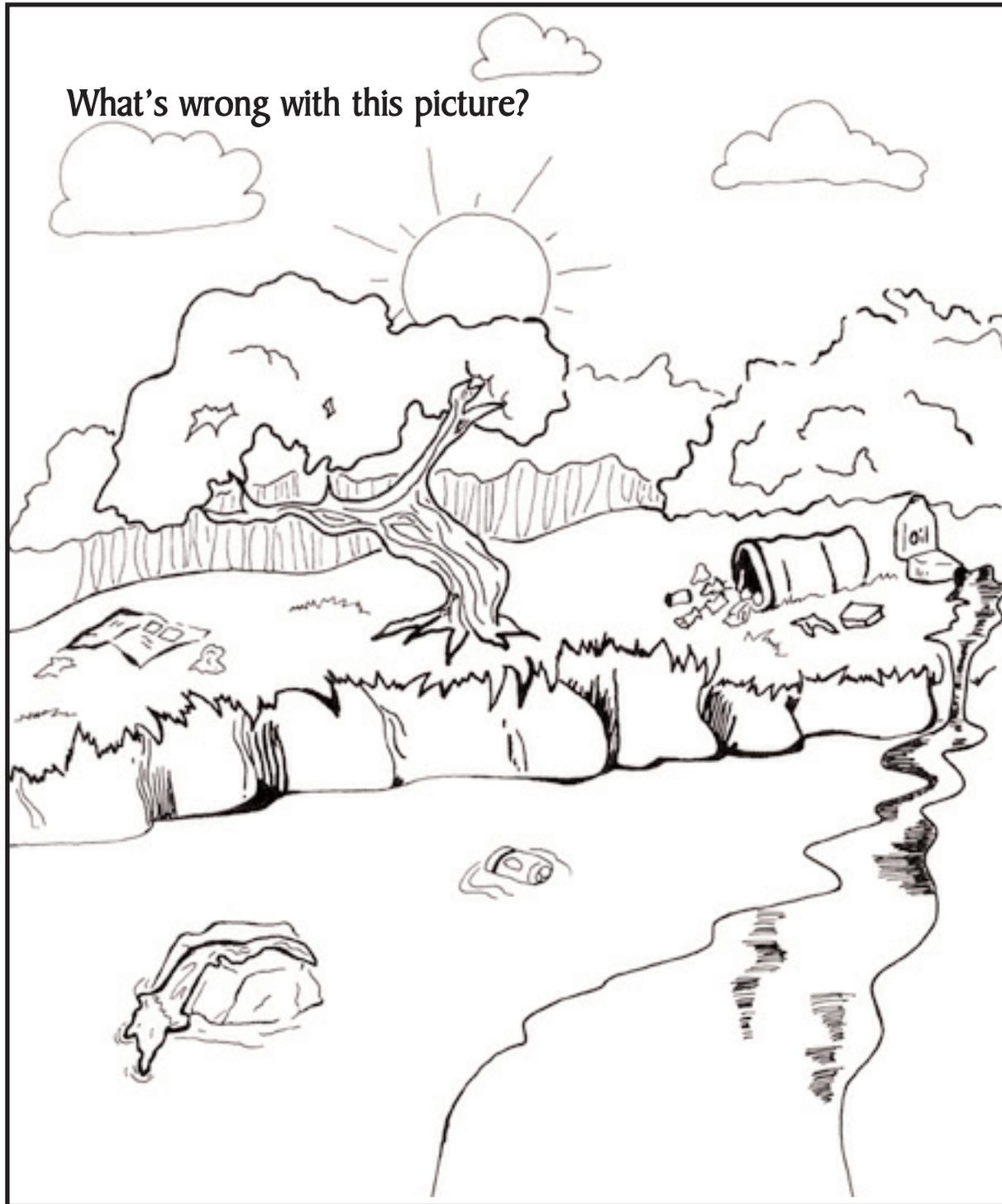
Environment



Navigation

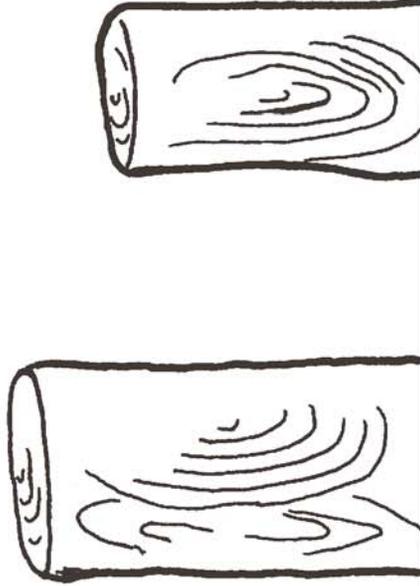
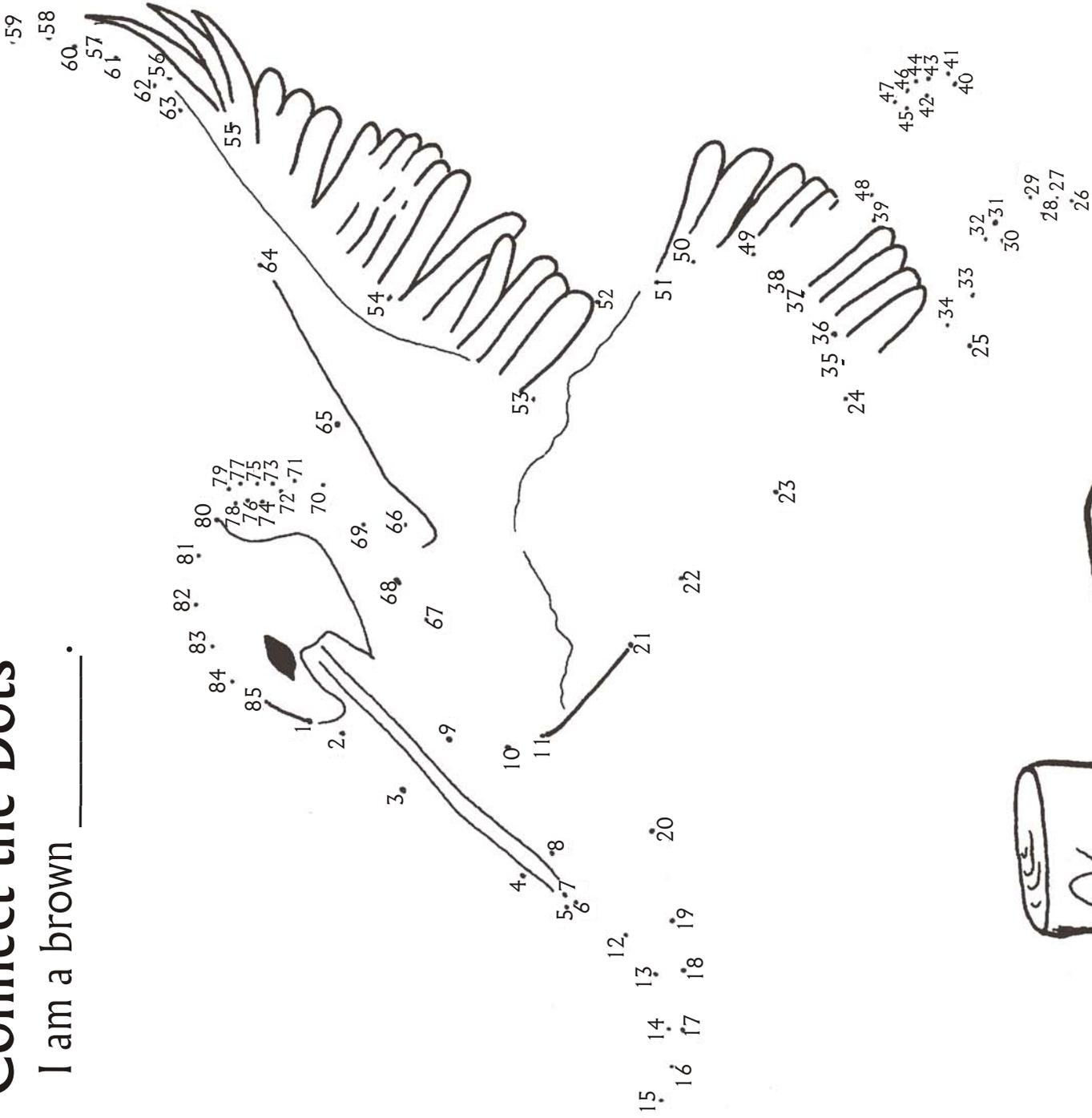


What's wrong with this picture?



# Connect the Dots

I am a brown \_\_\_\_\_.



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

Can you find these words?

NAVIGATION  
FLOOD  
CYPRESS  
SPILLWAY

ENVIRONMENT  
PELICAN  
RIVER  
WEIRS

FLOODWALL  
SHIP  
LEVEE  
REVTMENT

BARGE  
BRIDGE  
SWAMP

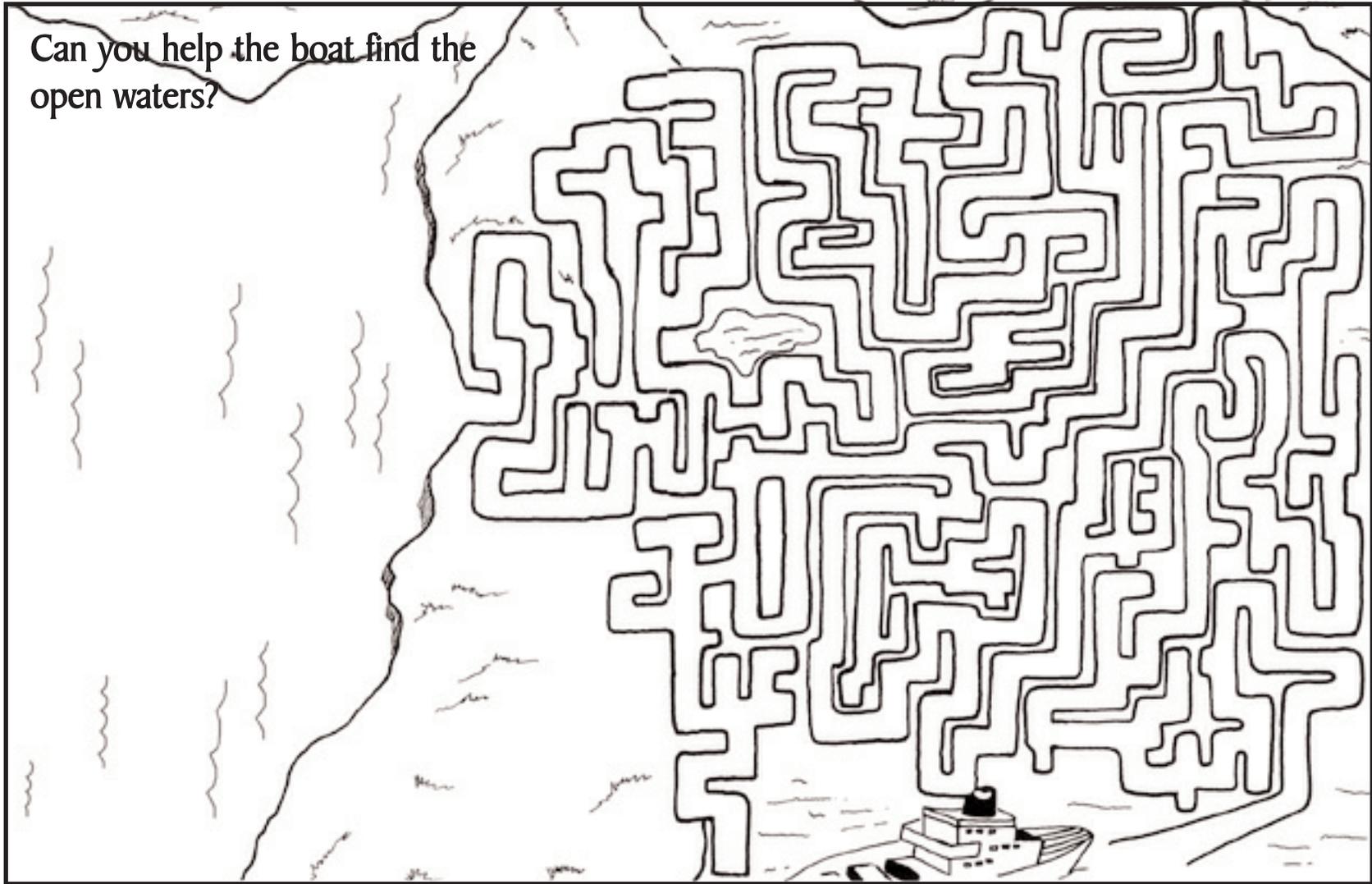
## Quiz

### How much do you know?

Hint: Answers can be found on the first page.

1. What is the job of the 35,000 engineers, scientists and other specialists that work for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers?
  - a) to play cards all day long
  - b) to develop, protect, and improve America's water resources
  - c) to fish
  
2. How do locks and dams help navigation?
  - a) very carefully
  - b) by attaching hundreds of mice beneath boats and forcing them to swim quickly
  - c) they help barges travel on the waterways
  
3. What is the Corps of Engineers' Web site?
  - a) [www.usace.army.mil](http://www.usace.army.mil)
  - b) [www.iliketoswim.com](http://www.iliketoswim.com)
  - c) [www.this.is.fun.org](http://www.this.is.fun.org)
  
4. What can be found along the coast of Louisiana?
  - a) jello, pudding and chocolate
  - b) crayons, paper, coloring books, and markers
  - c) bayous and bays, marshes and cypress swamps
  
5. Where are many fish and shrimp born?
  - a) swimming pools
  - b) the wetlands
  - c) tree houses
  
6. What do the wetlands protect?
  - a) oil and gas pipelines, and the two million people who live in South Louisiana
  - b) cereal from getting soggy
  - c) the mailman from the neighbor's dog
  
7. How much of Louisiana's marshes are lost every 30 minutes?
  - a) an inch
  - b) an area the size of a pea
  - c) an area the size of a football field

Can you help the boat find the open waters?



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

## Answers

- 1) b
- 2) c
- 3) a
- 4) c
- 5) b
- 6) a
- 7) c

