

LITTLE PIECES, BIG PLANET

Name



PRE-K TO 2ND GRADE



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WHAT ARE MICROPLASTICS?

Teeny-tiny pieces of plastic are called “microplastics.” They are so small you might not even see them, but they can be in water, air and soil.



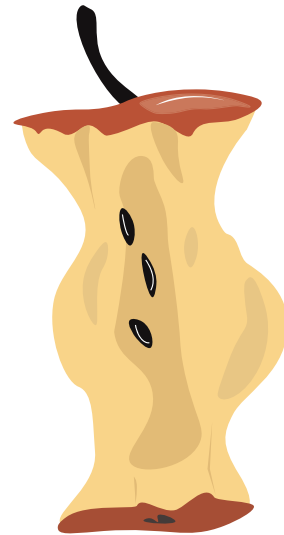
WHERE DO MICROPLASTICS COME FROM?

Microplastics come from larger plastic items (like bags or bottles) that break into smaller pieces. Clothes made from plastic fibers (like some t-shirts and fleece) can shed tiny plastic threads when they get washed. Plastic trash on the ground that gets washed into rivers and oceans can break into smaller pieces.



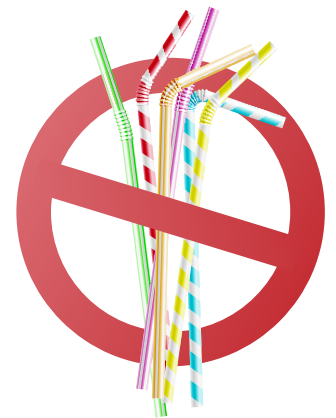
WHY DO WE CARE ABOUT MICROPLASTICS?

Animals can eat tiny plastic pieces by mistake. Tiny plastic pieces can end up in the food we eat and the water we drink.



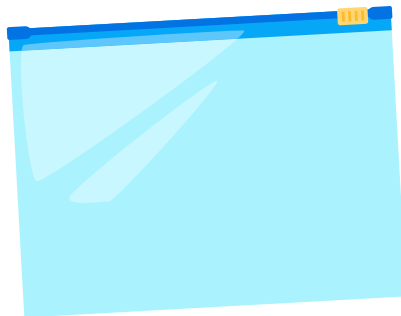
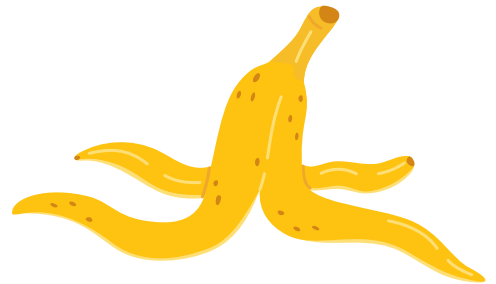
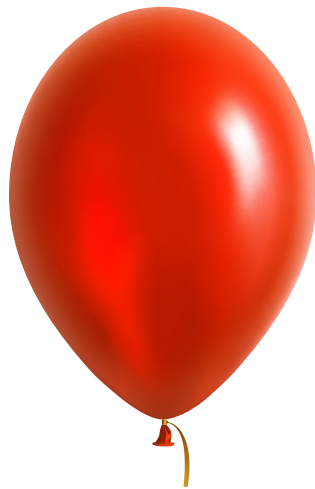
WHAT CAN KIDS DO ABOUT MICROPLASTICS?

- Use a reusable water bottle instead of single-use bottled water
- Say “no, thank you” to extra straws and bags
- Help pick up litter with a grown up



PLASTIC OR NOT?

Instructions: Find the items on the page that are made of plastic. Circle them in **blue**. Find items on the page that are not plastic and circle them in **red**.

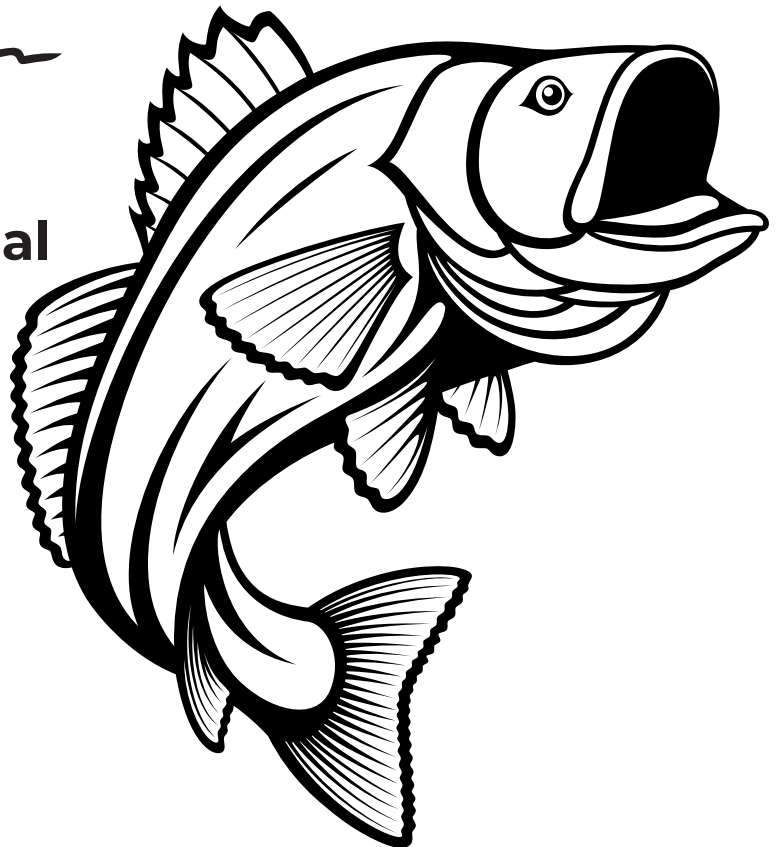


COLOR PAGE

Instructions: Color these Oklahoma species that can be affected by microplastics.



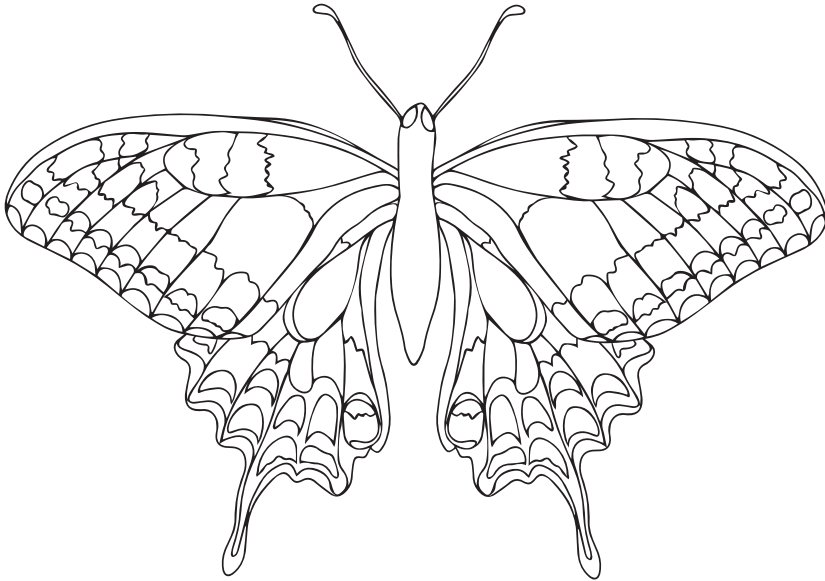
**American Bison,
Oklahoma's State Mammal**



**White Bass,
Oklahoma's State Fish**

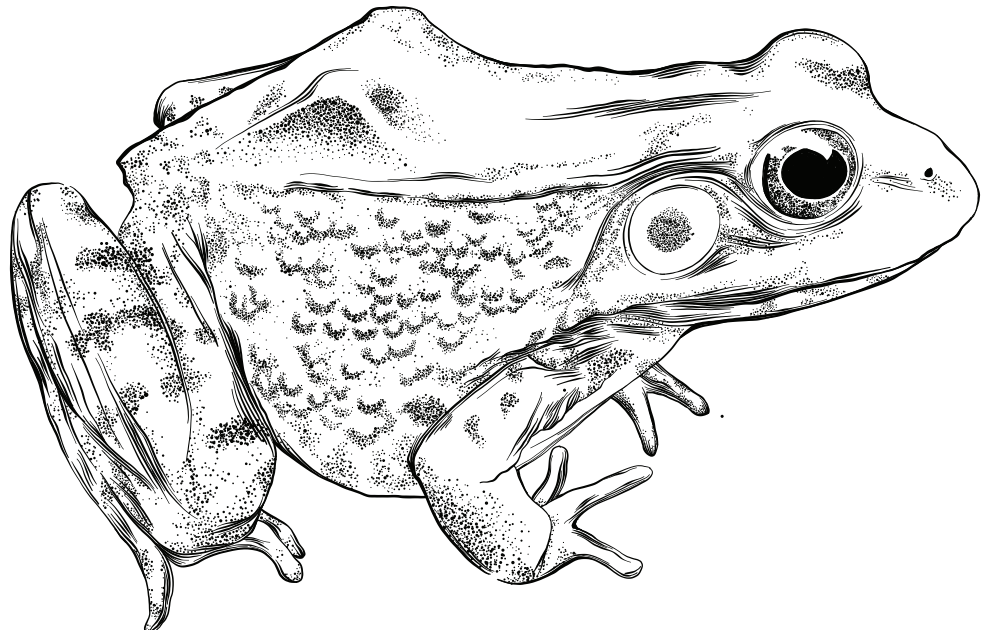
COLOR PAGE

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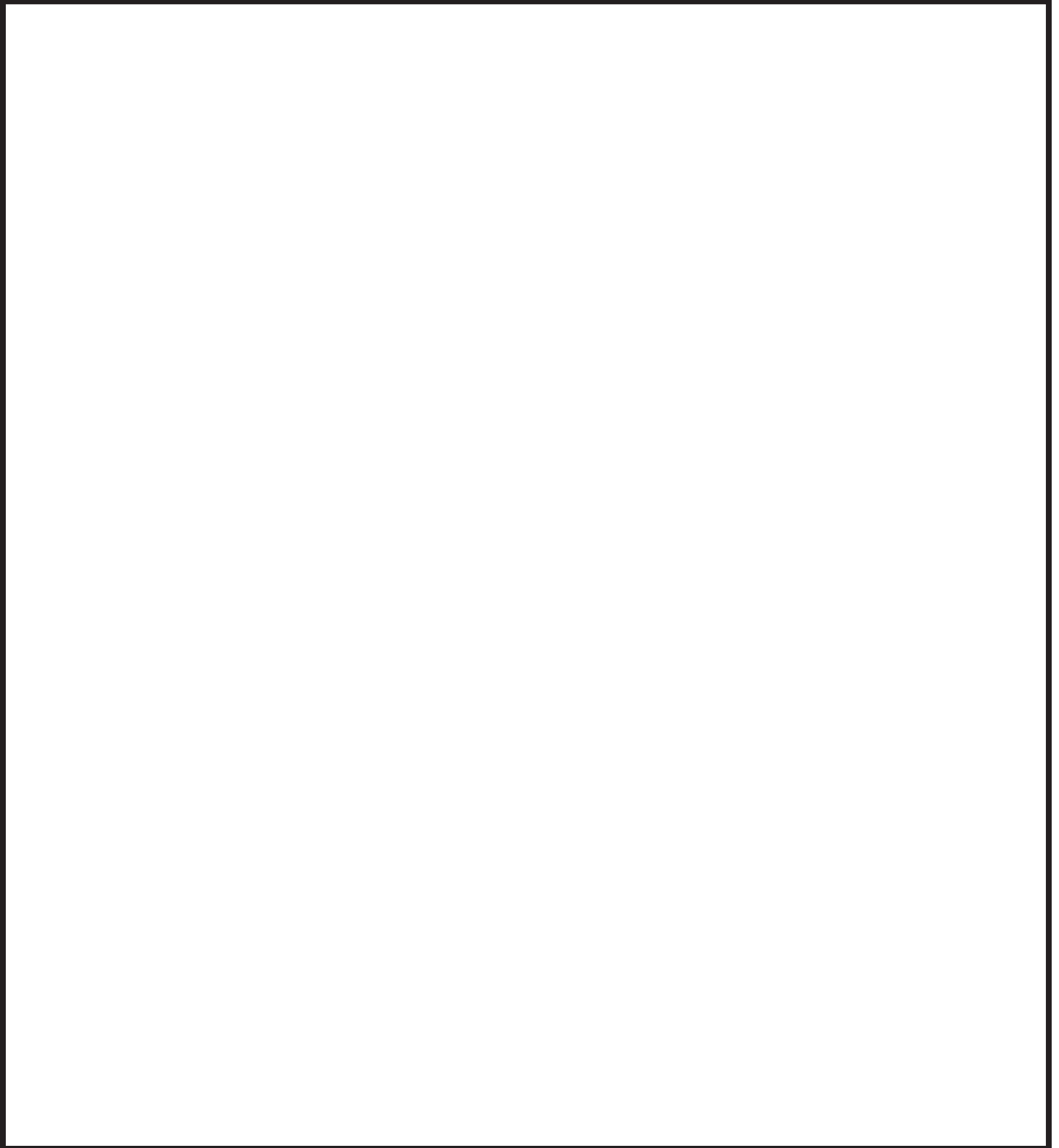
**Black Swallowtail,
Oklahoma's State Butterfly**

**American Bullfrog,
Oklahoma's State Amphibian**



DRAWING

Instructions: Draw yourself doing one helpful action to reduce microplastics.



RESOURCES

FACT SHEETS FOR GENERAL AUDIENCES ON MICROPLASTICS

<https://mp-toolkit.itrcweb.org/outreach-materials-for-a-general-audience/>

EDUCATION RESOURCES AND CAMPAIGN FOR PLASTIC WASTE REDUCTION

<https://oceanconservancy.org/work/plastics/cleanups-icc/outreach-education/>

<https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/our-work/education/students>

FAST FACT: MICROPLASTICS

<https://newsforkids.net/fastfacts/microplastics/#:-:text=microplastics%20are%20tiny%20bits%20of,plastic%20are%20made%20on%20purpose>

9 GAMES & ACTIVITIES TO INSPIRE KIDS TO PROTECT THE OCEANS

<https://exxpedition.com/8-games-activities-to-inspire-kids-to-protect-the-oceans/>



Many thanks to Interstate Technology Regulatory Council for their extensive work on microplastics. This publication is a result of their research and outreach toolkit efforts.



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