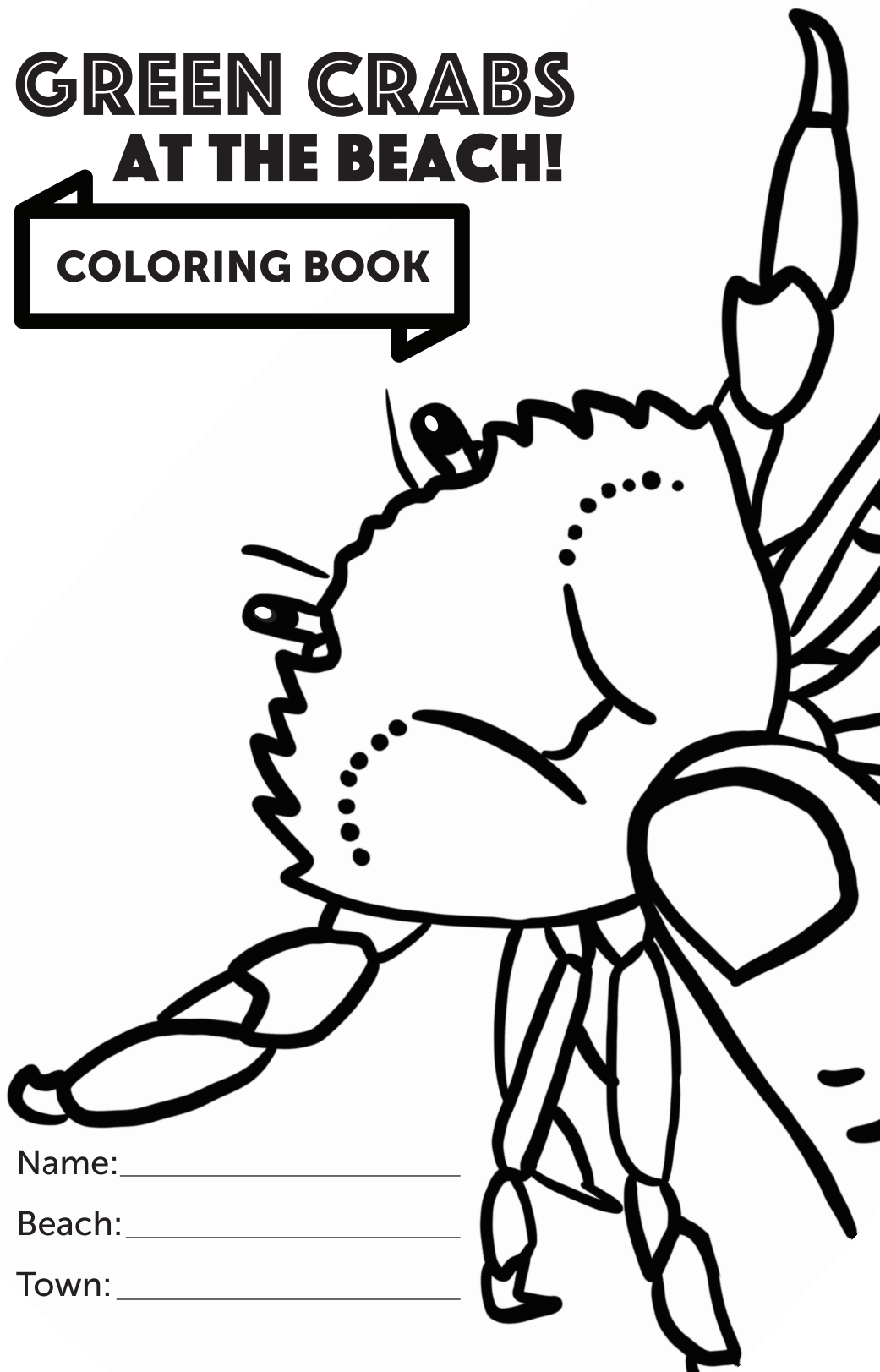


GREEN CRABS AT THE BEACH!

COLORING BOOK



Name: _____

Beach: _____

Town: _____

This coloring book was created by Eileen Riestra of Depict Brands and Mary Parks of greencrab.org in partnership with local artist Carolyn Lewenberg.

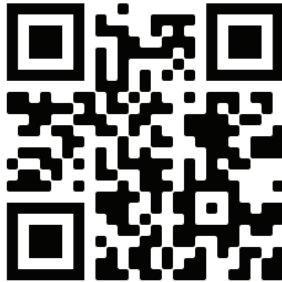
Our biggest thanks to Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Better Beaches Grant Program for funding this project!



GREENCRAWB.ORG

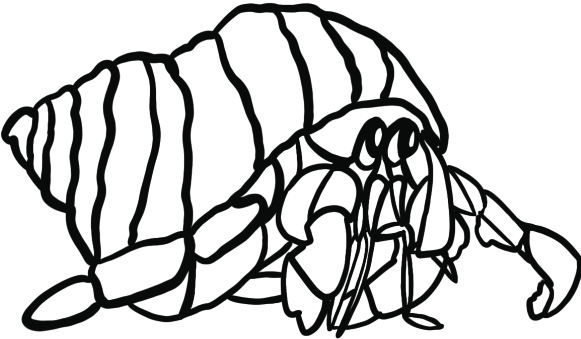
 @artsyicolor
@carolynlcreative

To learn more about invasive green crabs and this project, scan this QR code:

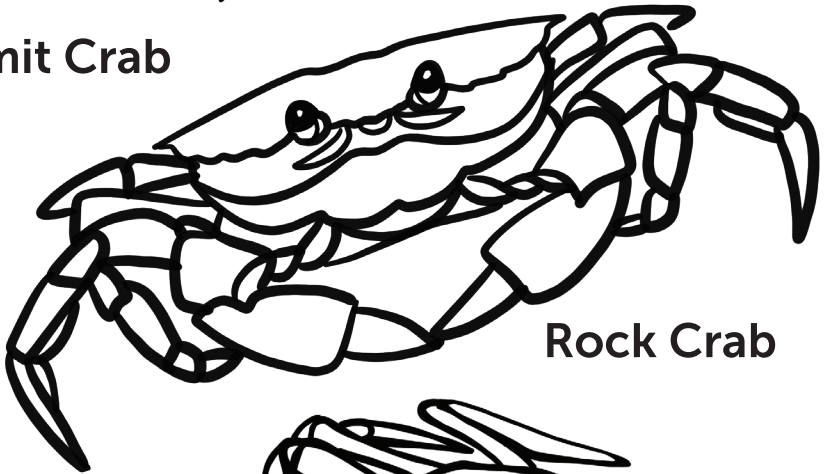


Crabs of New England

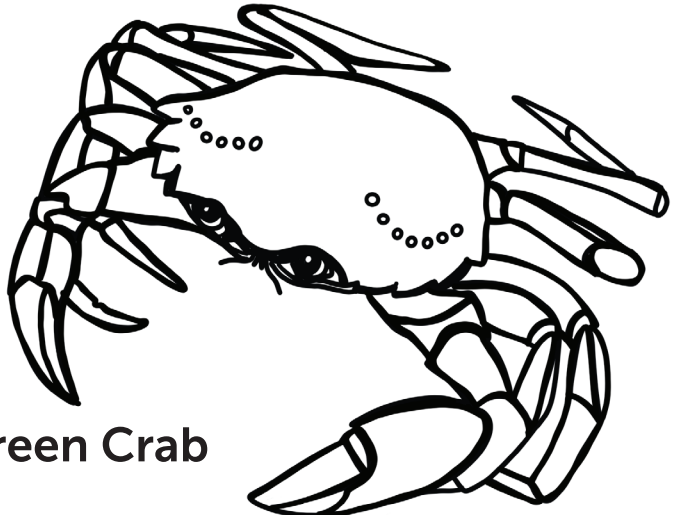
Here are three species of crabs you might find at and around the beach:



Hermit Crab



Rock Crab

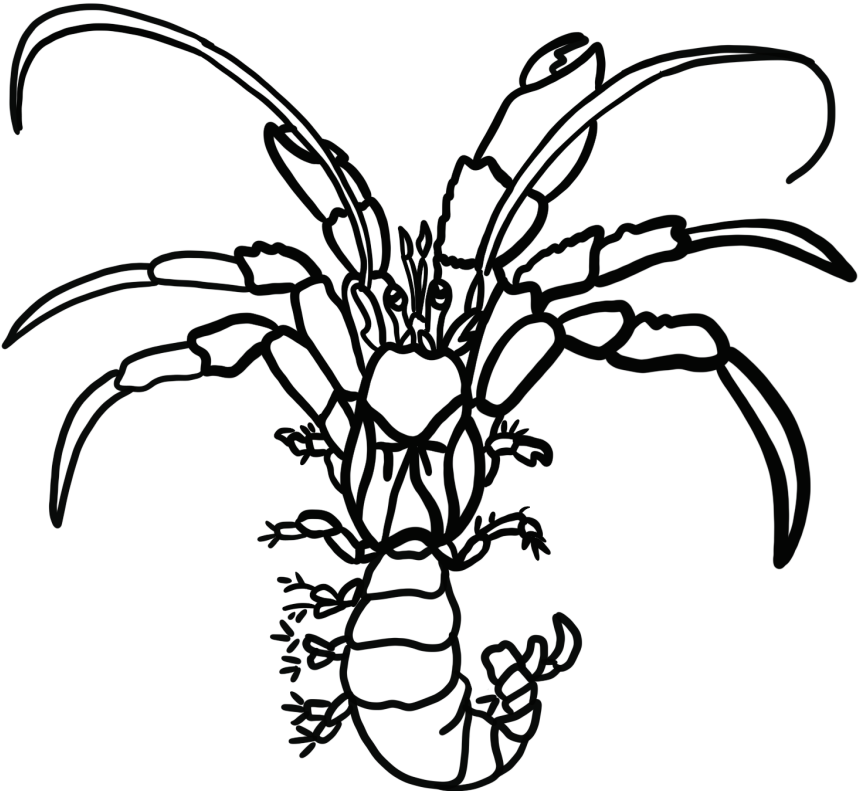


Green Crab

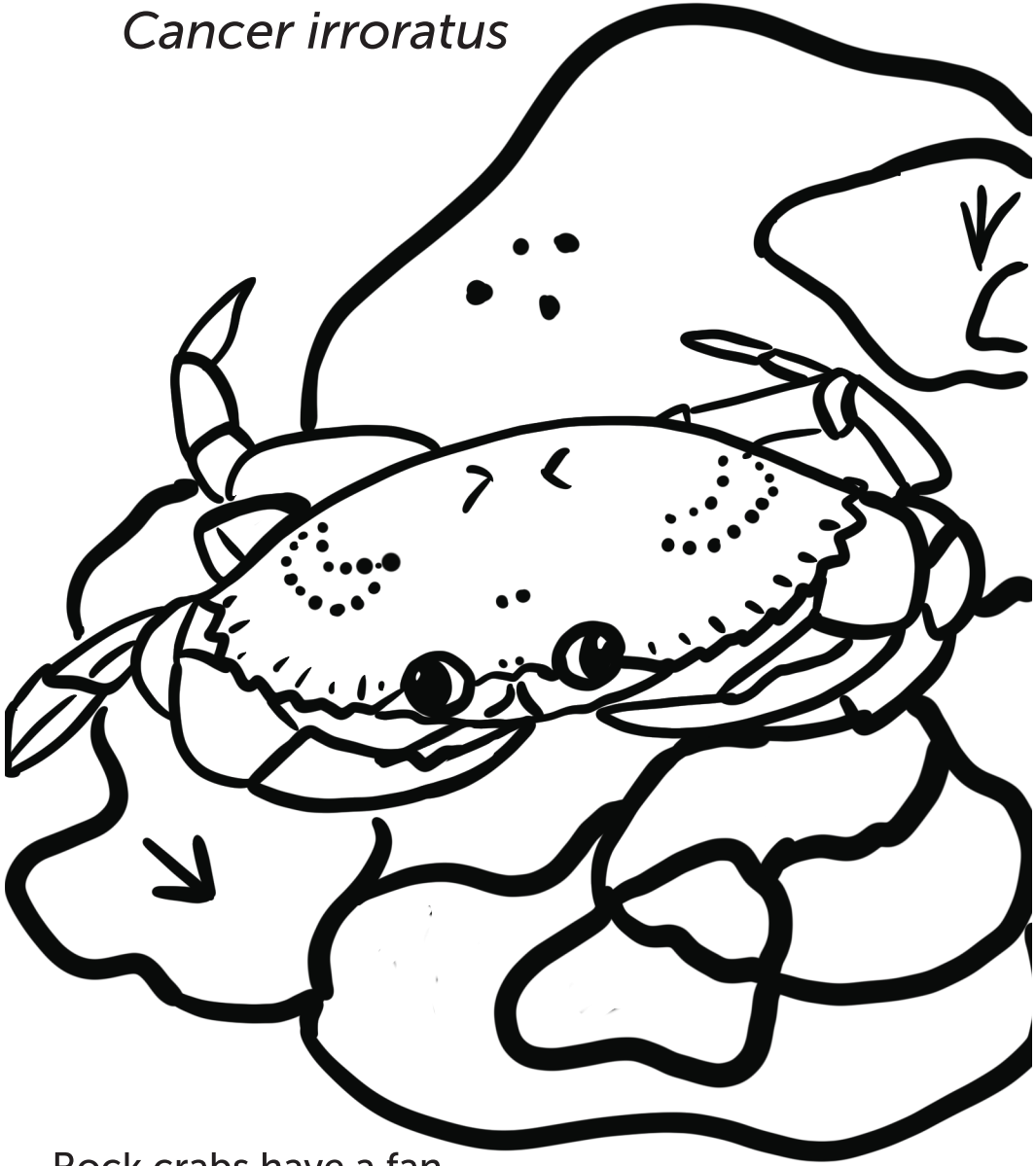
Hermit Crabs: *Pagurus longicarpus*



Hermit crabs live in snail and periwinkle shells and move to bigger shells when they grow too large.

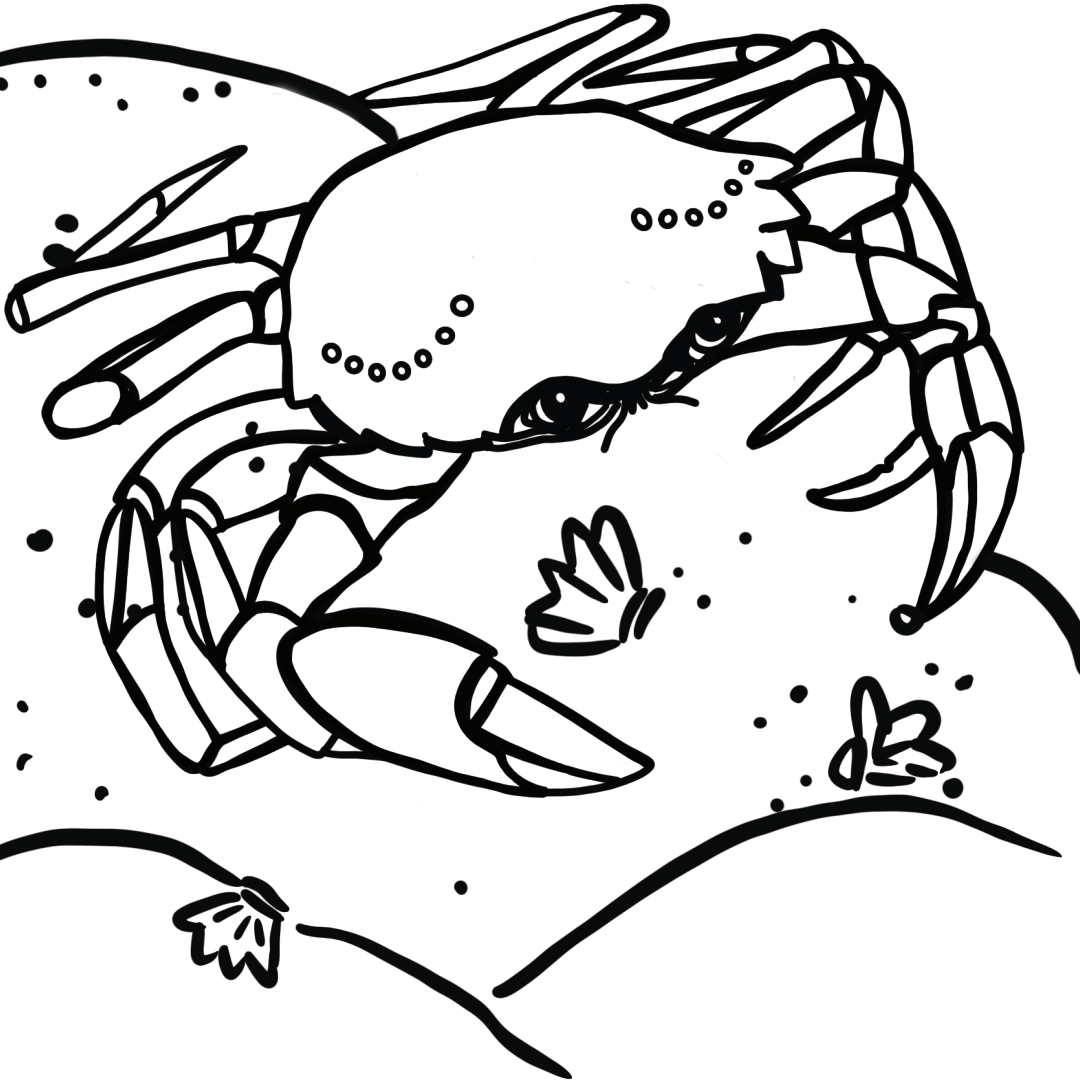


Rock Crabs:
Cancer irroratus



Rock crabs have a fan shaped shell and can grow up to six inches!

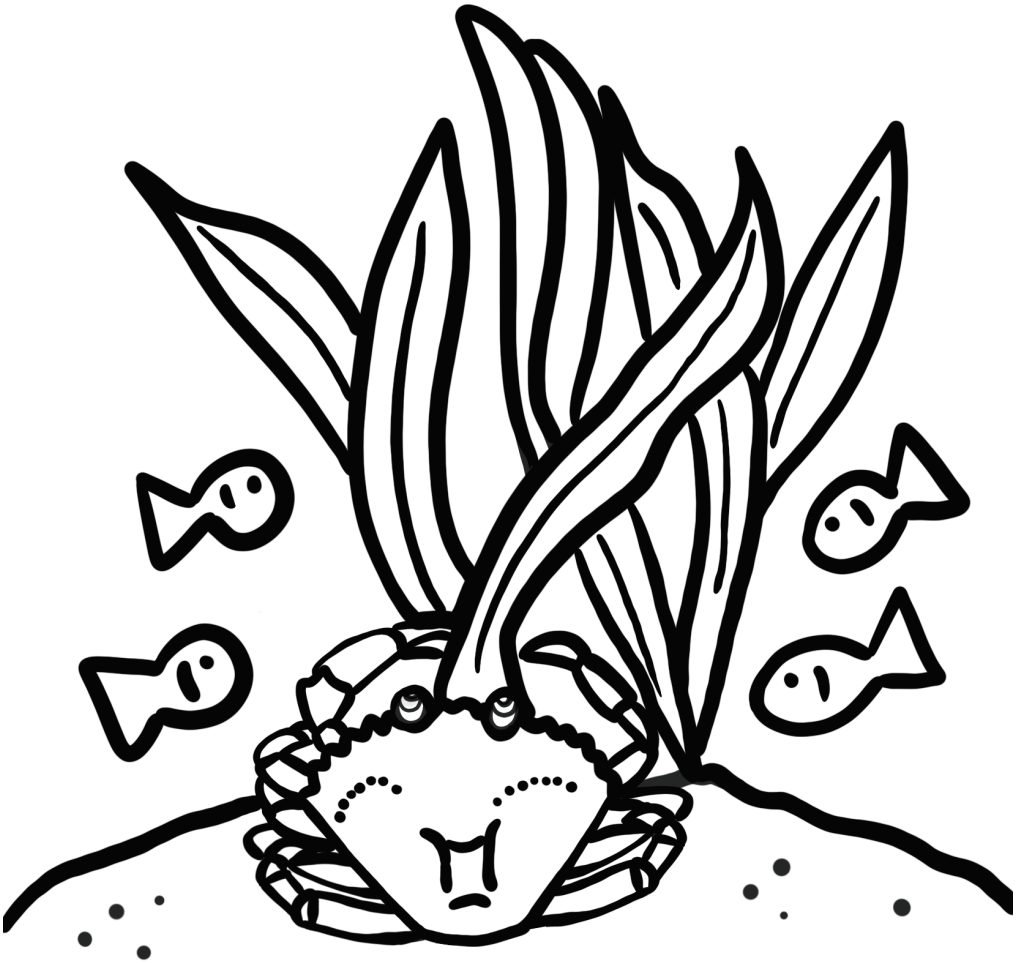
Green Crabs:
Carcinus maenas

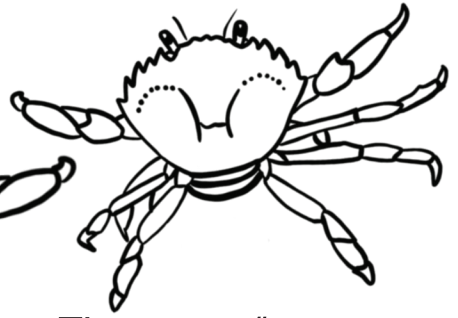


Green crabs are one of the most common crab species in New England but they can cause a lot of problems.

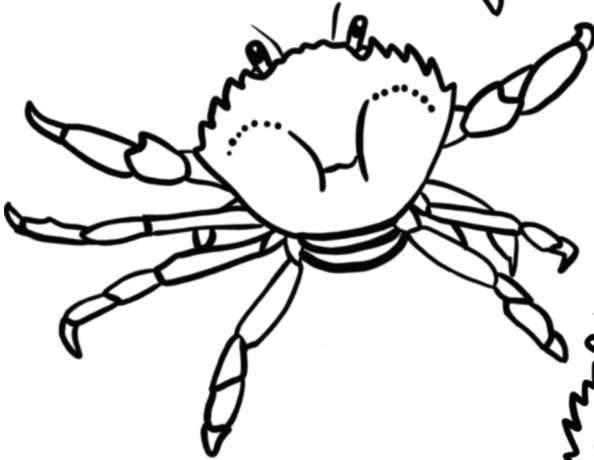
Green crabs can also be found in seagrass environments where they live and hunt and dig for food like clams and small fish.

However, green crabs act like little lawnmowers when they dig for their food, slicing through seagrass that is home to a lot of other creatures like shellfish and baby fish.

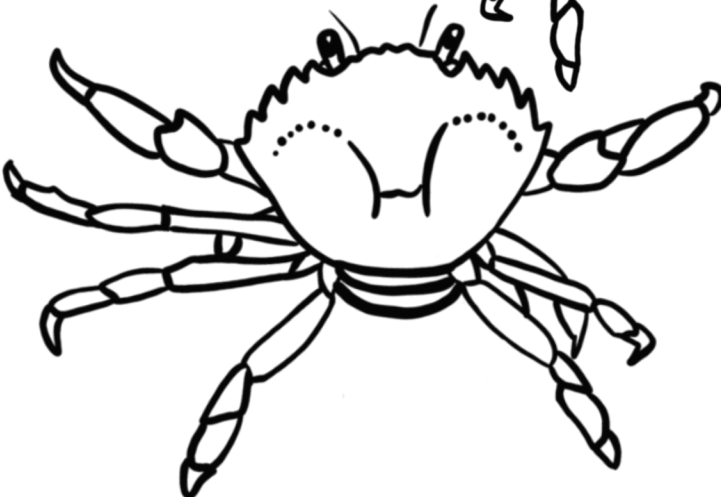
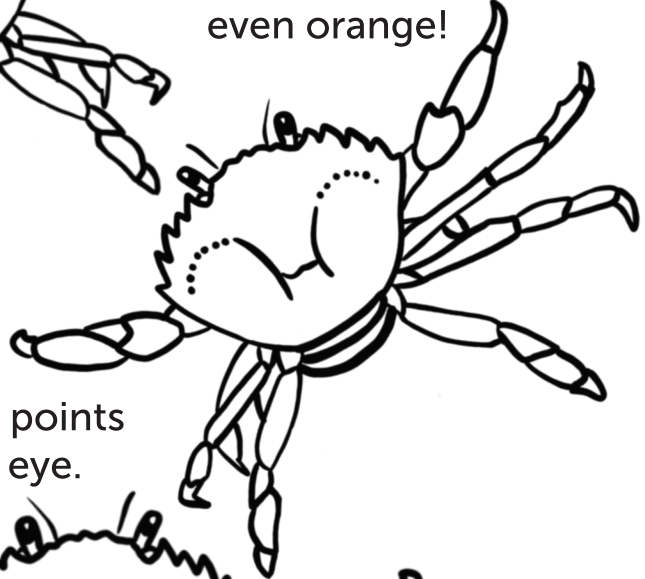




The name "green crab" is confusing because green crabs can actually be blue, brown, green, red, black, white, and even orange!



The best way to spot a green crab is by counting the 5 points on either side of it's eye.



Why are green crabs a problem?

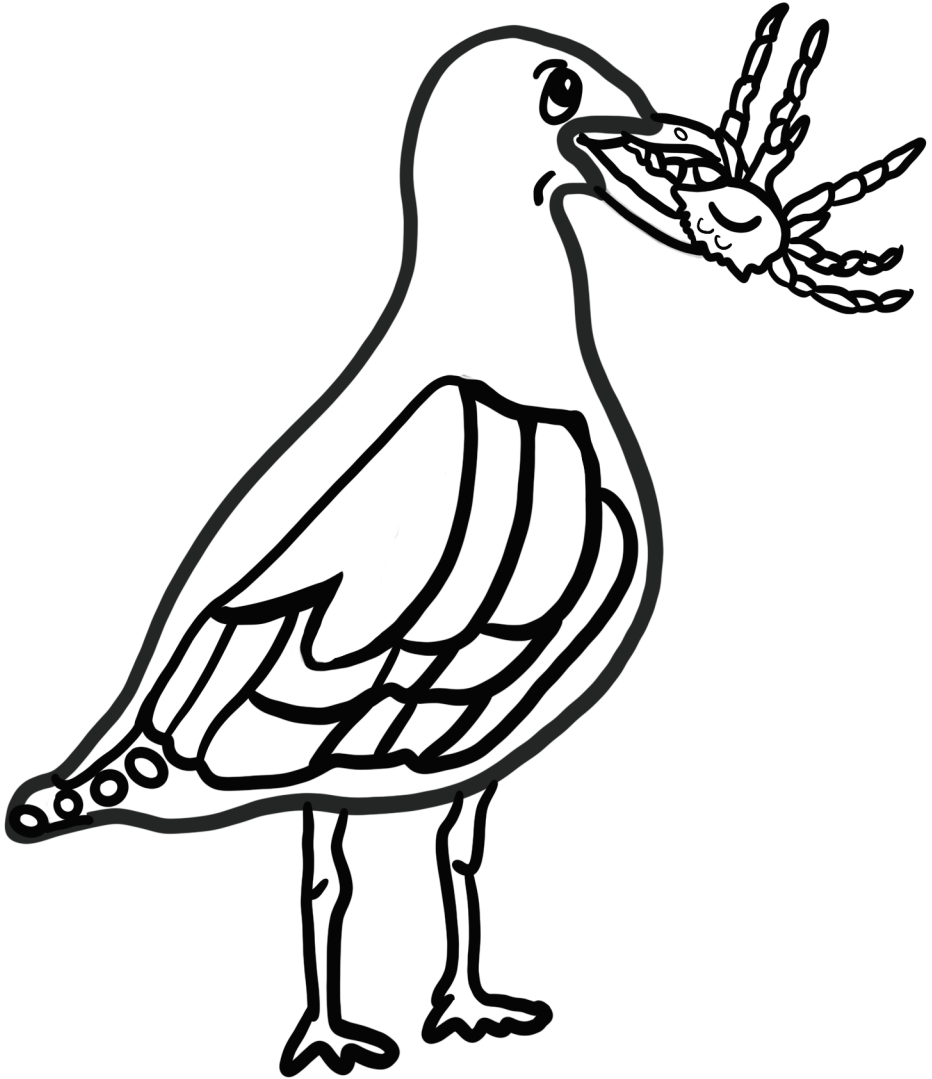
Green crabs are a species that was introduced by Europeans 200 hundred years ago when they hitched a ride on their boats.

Unlike native crab species that have lived here for thousands of years, green crabs don't have many natural predators and now they can be found everywhere in North America, South America, Asia, Europe, Africa, and Australia.

Green crabs compete with native species such as rock crabs and hermit crabs and destroy seagrass habitat.

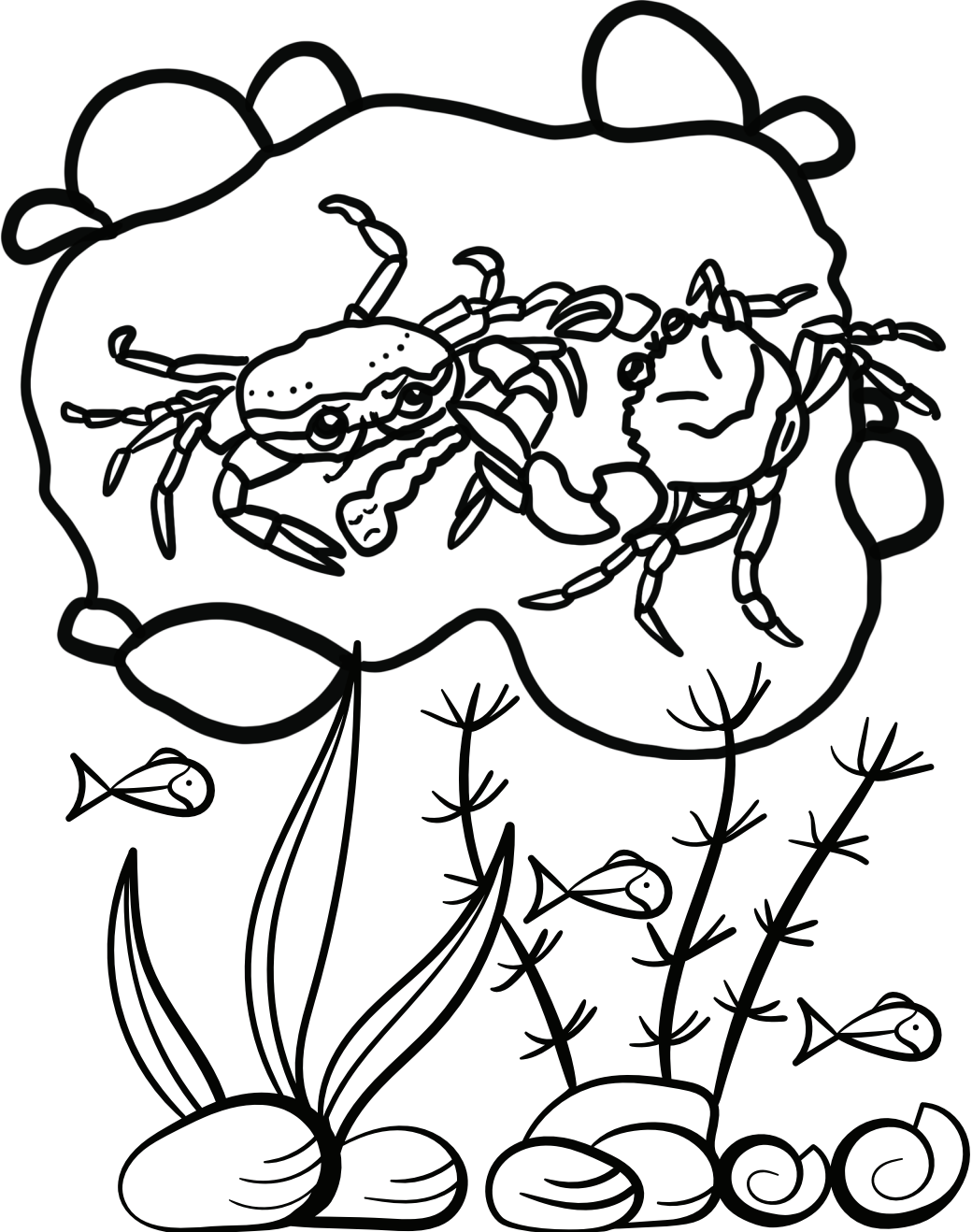


Luckily humans, seagulls, lobsters, and some fish can eat green crabs!



Keep an eye out for crab shells on the beach and you might find a green crab shell!

Tip: Crabs are sneaky and like to hide! You'll often find crabs in tidepools, seagrass, and scuttling along the beach close to the water.





Note: Bring a parent when you're hunting for crabs and don't pick them up with your hands since they can pinch!