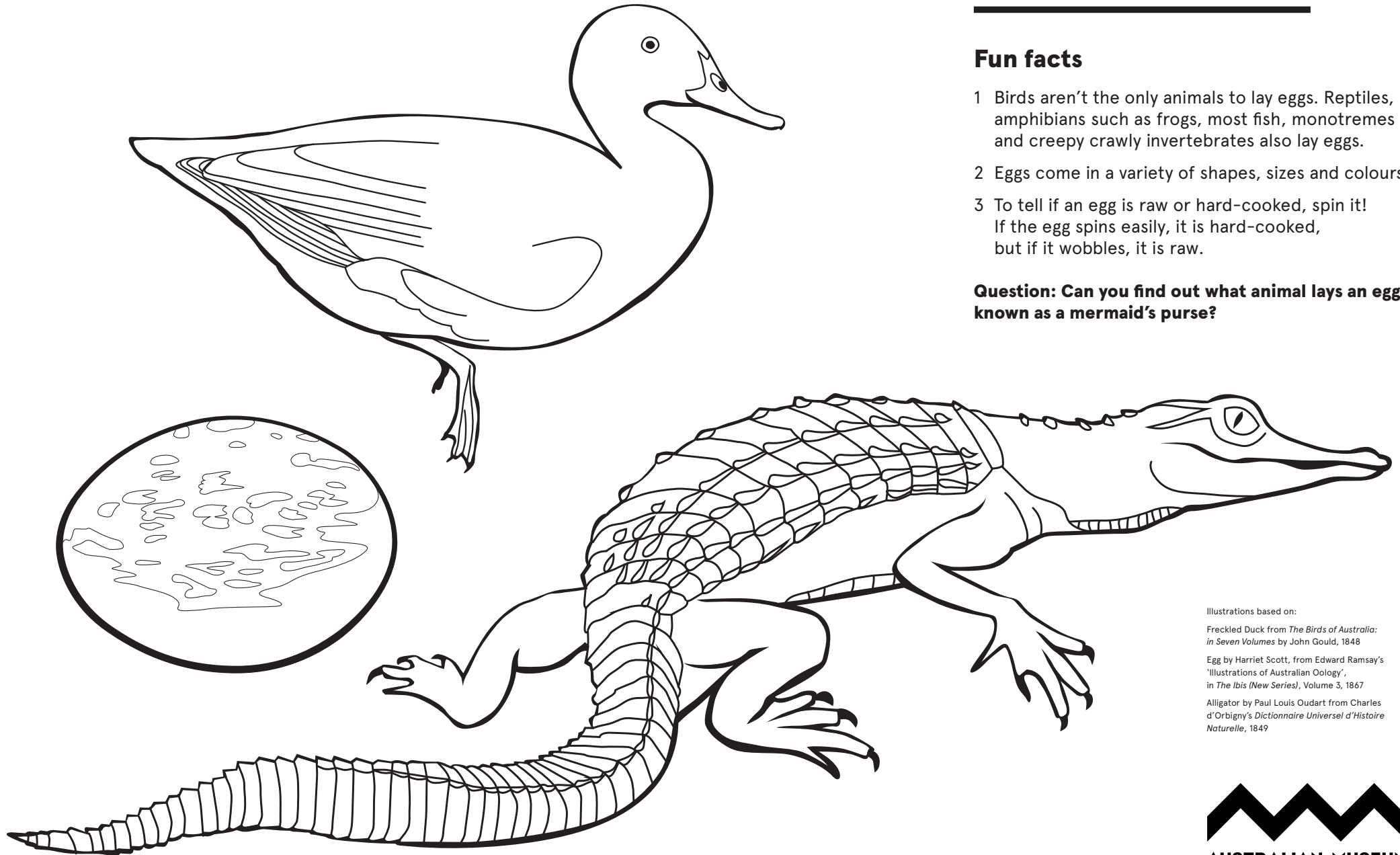


VIRTUAL STORYTIME COLOURING SHEET



The Odd Egg

Fun facts

- 1 Birds aren't the only animals to lay eggs. Reptiles, amphibians such as frogs, most fish, monotremes and creepy crawly invertebrates also lay eggs.
- 2 Eggs come in a variety of shapes, sizes and colours.
- 3 To tell if an egg is raw or hard-cooked, spin it! If the egg spins easily, it is hard-cooked, but if it wobbles, it is raw.

Question: Can you find out what animal lays an egg known as a mermaid's purse?

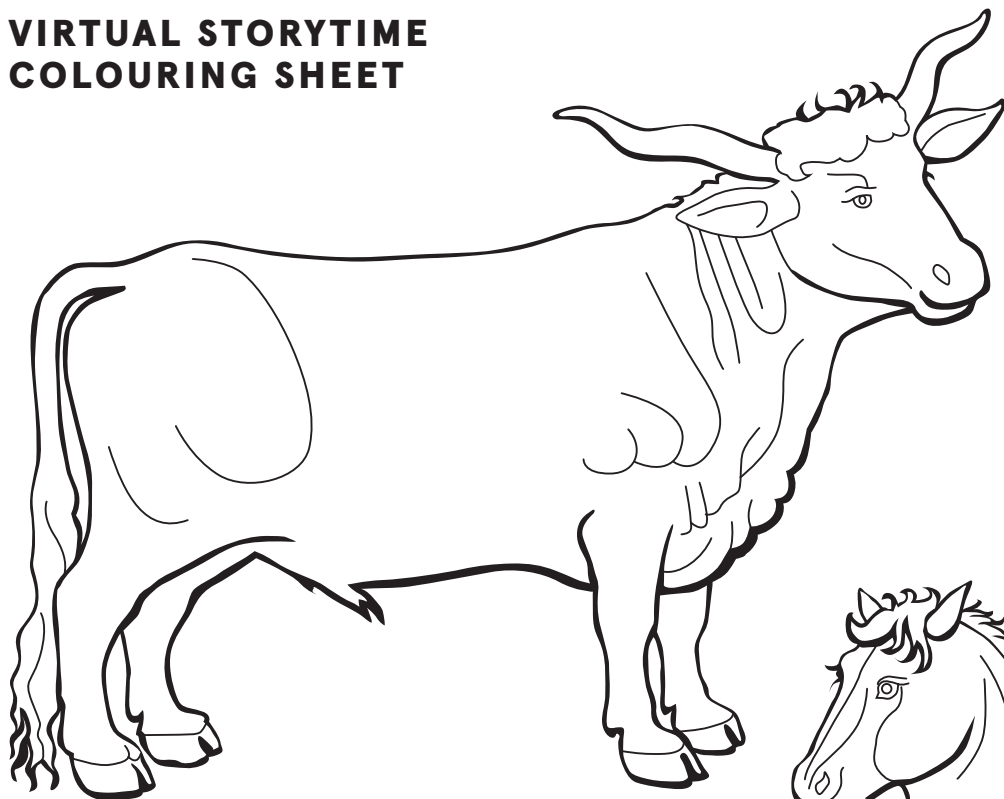
Illustrations based on:

Freckled Duck from *The Birds of Australia: in Seven Volumes* by John Gould, 1848

Egg by Harriet Scott, from Edward Ramsay's 'Illustrations of Australian Oology', in *The Ibis (New Series)*, Volume 3, 1867

Alligator by Paul Louis Oudart from Charles d'Orbigny's *Dictionnaire Universel d'Histoire Naturelle*, 1849

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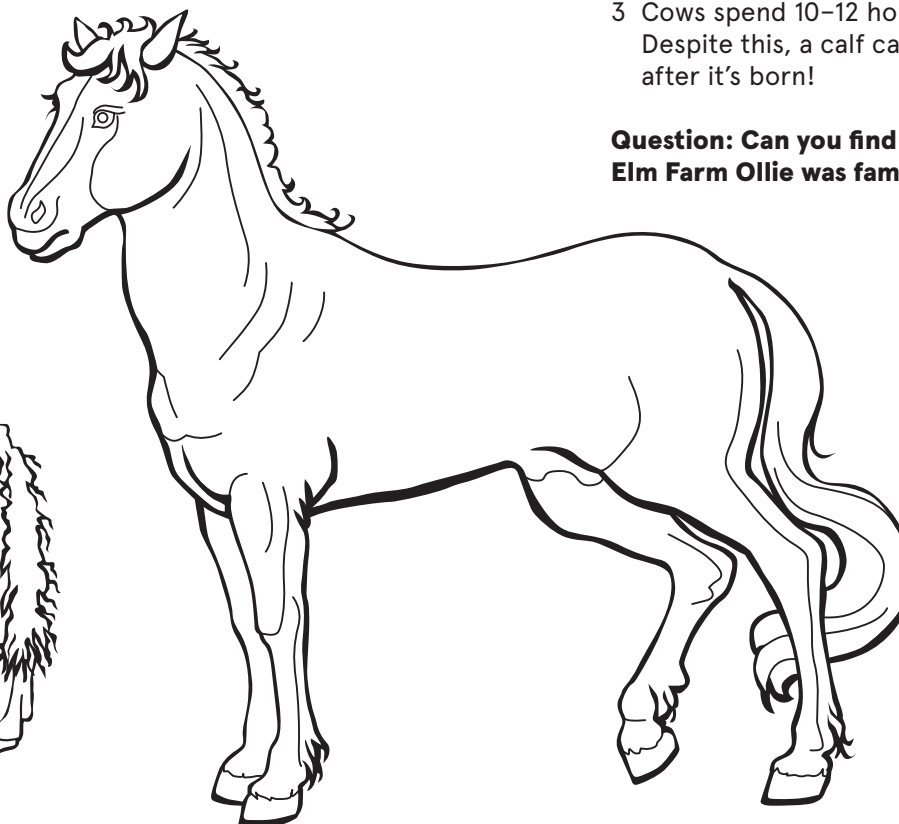
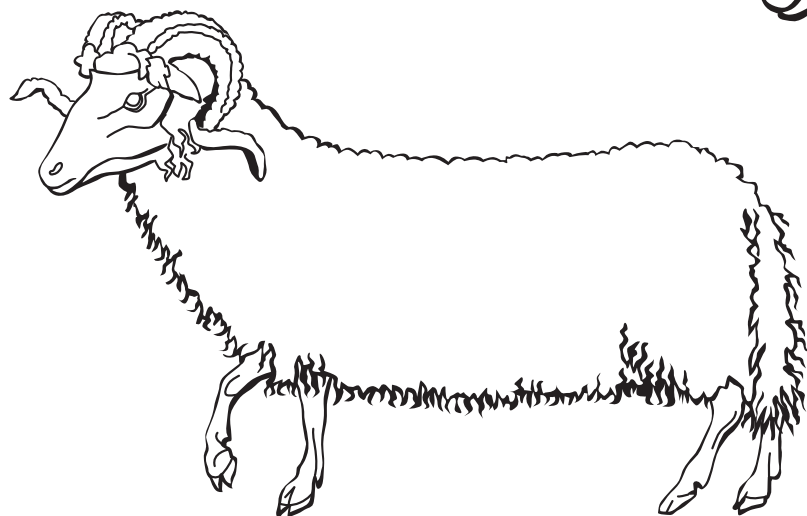


The Cow Said Neigh

Fun facts

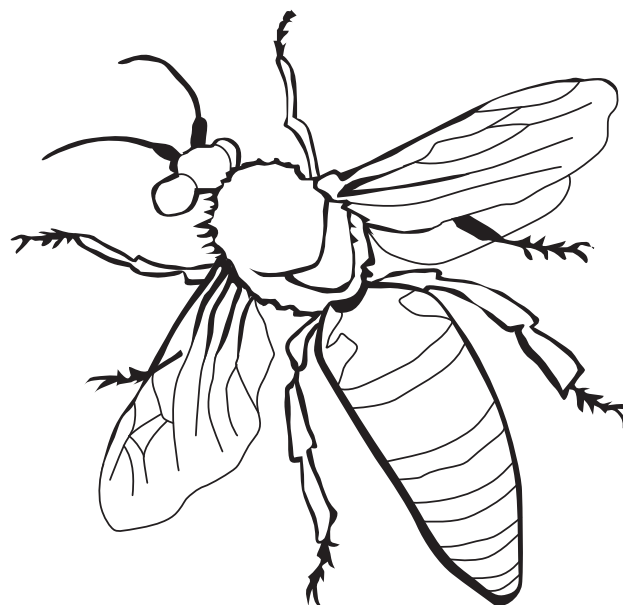
- 1 If you want to be precise, the word 'cow' only refers to female cattle, and 'bull' to male cattle. A baby cow or bull is called a calf.
- 2 Cows have four different compartments in their stomachs to help them digest plant matter and turn it into energy. Humans only have one stomach chamber - our digestion is a lot less complicated!
- 3 Cows spend 10-12 hours a day lying down. Despite this, a calf can stand and walk an hour after it's born!

Question: Can you find out what the cow named Elm Farm Ollie was famous for?



Illustrations based on illustrations from *Icones Animalium* by Conrad Gesner, 1560 edition

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Bea's Bees

Fun facts

- 1 When a bee finds a great food source of flowers, it returns to its hive and dances! This little bee's waggle dance tells all the other bees exactly where the food is. The longer the waggle, the further the flower!
- 2 Honey never goes off! Archaeologists have found 3000-year-old honey in Egyptian pyramids that was still edible.
- 3 Did you know every fruit begins with a flower? If your fruit tree or plant hasn't been fruiting, then it may be because the flowers weren't pollinated by bees or other pollinators. Think about installing a native beehive or insect hotel. Plant some more flowers to attract bees to your garden.

Question: Can you find out how many eyes a bee has?

Illustrations based on illustrations from
The Naturalist's Library edited by William
Jardine, 1843 edition

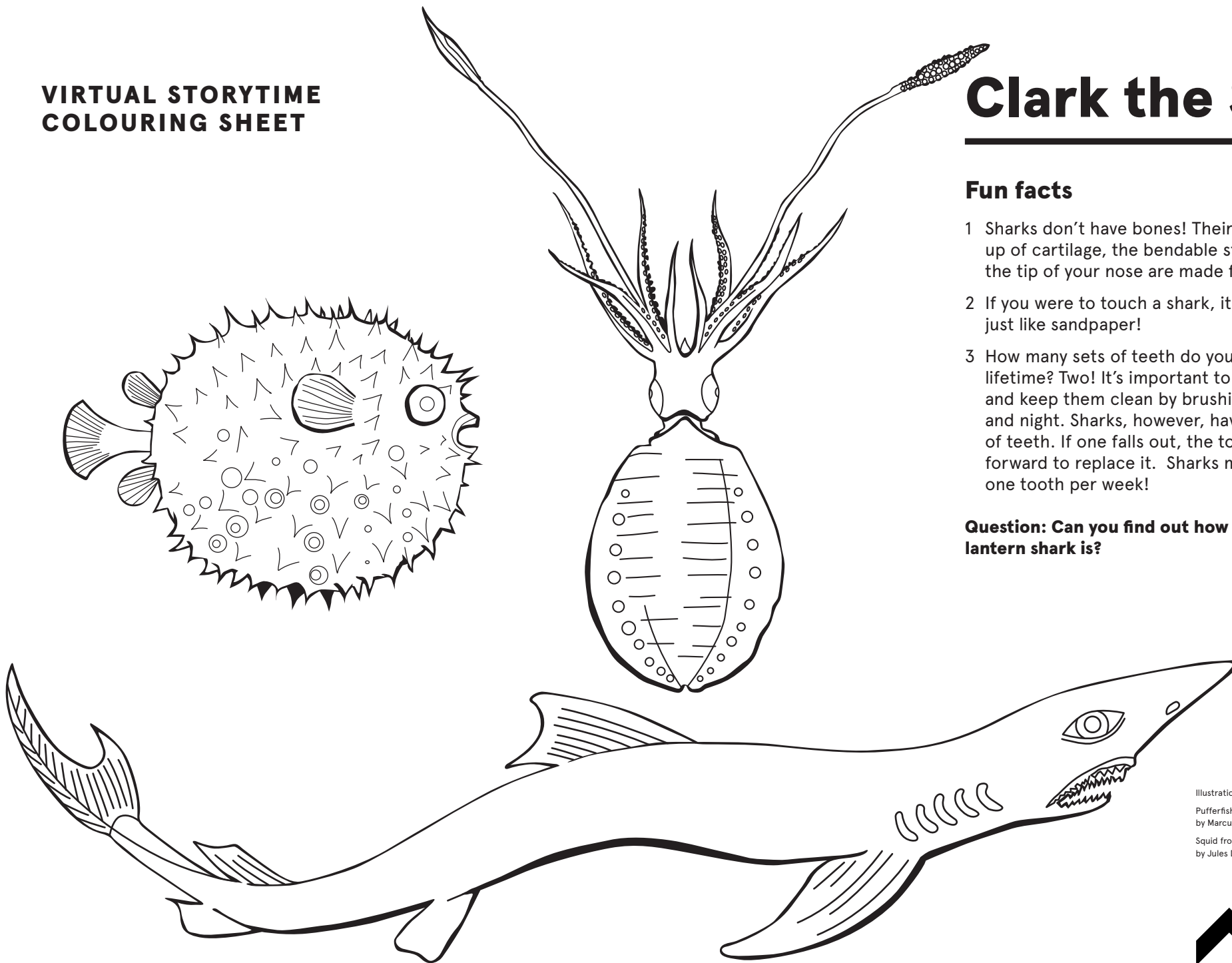
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Clark the Shark

Fun facts

- 1 Sharks don't have bones! Their skeletons are made up of cartilage, the bendable stuff your ears and the tip of your nose are made from.
- 2 If you were to touch a shark, its skin would feel just like sandpaper!
- 3 How many sets of teeth do you get in your lifetime? Two! It's important to look after them and keep them clean by brushing every morning and night. Sharks, however, have multiple rows of teeth. If one falls out, the tooth behind it moves forward to replace it. Sharks might lose at least one tooth per week!

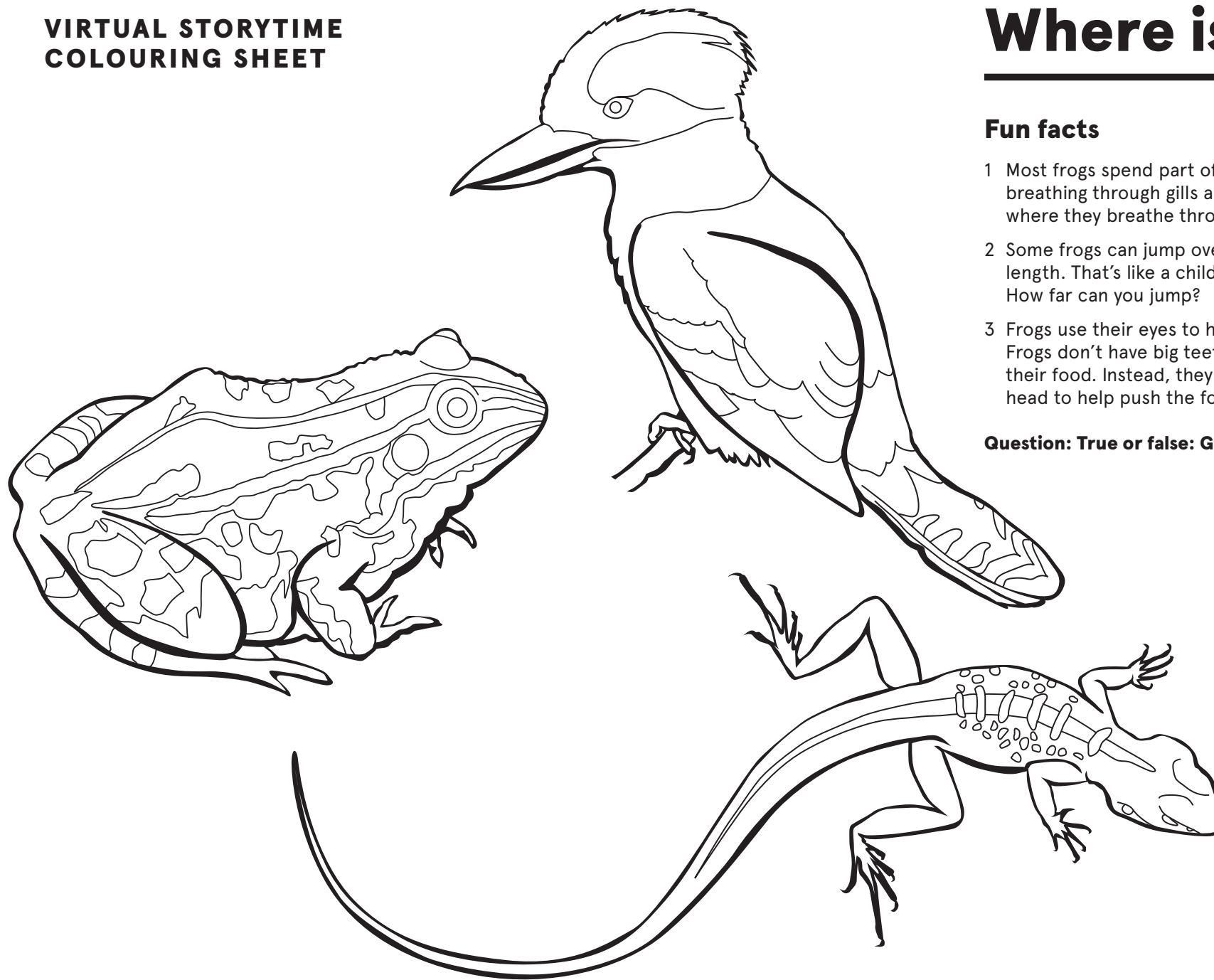
Question: Can you find out how big the dwarf lantern shark is?



Illustrations based on:

Pufferfish and shark from *Ichthyologie*
by Marcus Bloch, 1785–1797

Squid from *Voyage de la corvette l'Astrolabe*
by Jules Dumont d'Urville, 1830–1835



Where is Croaky?

Fun facts

- 1 Most frogs spend part of their life living in water breathing through gills and part of their life on land where they breathe through their lungs and skin!
- 2 Some frogs can jump over 20 times their own body length. That's like a child jumping the length of a bus! How far can you jump?
- 3 Frogs use their eyes to help swallow their food. Frogs don't have big teeth like us so they can't chew their food. Instead, they pull their eyes back into their head to help push the food down their throat.

Question: True or false: Green Tree Frogs eat mice?

Illustrations based on:

Frog from *Historia Naturalis Rararum* by August Johann Roesel von Rosenhoff, 1758

Great Brown Kingfisher from *The Birds of Australia: in Seven Volumes* by John Gould, 1848

Lizard from *Report on the Work of the Horn Scientific Expedition to Central Australia* edited by Baldwin Spencer, 1896

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Koalas Eat Gum Leaves

Fun facts

- 1 Like all marsupials, a baby koala is born tiny – about the size of a jellybean! After it's born, it makes its way to its mother's pouch, where it lives for the next six months.
- 2 Koalas hardly ever need to drink water. They get all the moisture they need out of eucalyptus leaves.
- 3 Koalas aren't very active – they can sleep for up to 20 hours a day!

Question: Can you find out which animal is the koala's closest living relative?

Illustrations based on:

Koala and gum leaf by Harriet Scott from *The Mammals of Australia* by Gerard Krefft, 1871

Snake by Harriet Scott from *The Snakes of Australia* by Gerard Krefft, 1869