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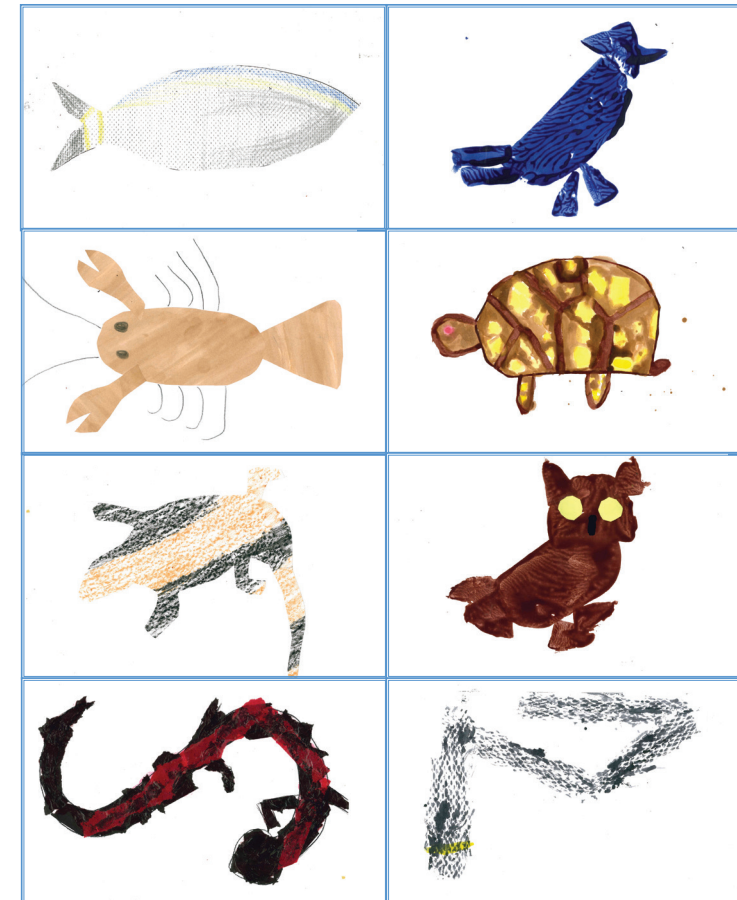
Mundo Verde aims to foster high levels of academic achievement among a diverse group of students by preparing them to be successful and compassionate global stewards of their communities. The engaging curriculum focuses on sustainability and biliteracy.

MISIÓN

Mundo Verde busca fomentar niveles altos de rendimiento académico en un grupo diverso de alumnos, preparándolos para ser guardianes compasivos y eficaces de sus propias comunidades. Nuestro interesante plan de estudios se centra en la sostenibilidad ambiental y el bilingüismo oral y escrito.

www.mundoverdepcs.org

Why Do Animals Look the Way They Look?



Written and Illustrated by:
The Elephants and The Pandas
Spring 2012



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Introduction

Why Do Animals Look the Way They Look? is the culmination of many months of hard work studying the adaptations of animals that live in Rock Creek Park, a Washington, D.C. park. Students in Mundo Verde's Kindergarten Class learned to look carefully at animals and make predictions about how an animal's body parts help it survive. The students learned to conduct research by reading text, studying pictures, talking to experts, and asking their friends. Through this research, students were able to confirm or change their original predictions. Finally, the students learned to share their findings through non-fiction writing.

We are particularly proud of the craftsmanship displayed by the Pandas and the Elephants. To achieve the end results, each piece of student work went through multiple stages of revision, including self critique, peer critique, and teacher critique. Through each of these multiple drafting steps, students saw and reflected upon how their work improved with hard work.

We hope you enjoy the students' work!

Ms. Molly, Ms. Sarah, and Ms. Jennifer

Mundo Verde's Bilingual Model: Mundo Verde's goal is for all its graduates to be fully biliterate in English and Spanish. To that end, students learn to read, write, and speak both languages. *Why Do Animals Look the Way They Look?* is the culminating product representing the Kindergarteners' work in English in Spring 2012.



This book was printed on 100% recycled paper.

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salamander

Great Horned Owl



Samadhi

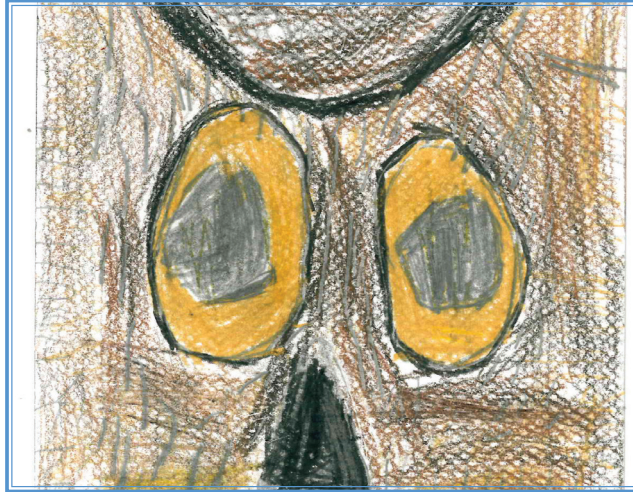
The Great Horned Owl is a large owl. Owls are a type of bird. They look like they have horns sticking out of their heads but actually it is just feathers. The feathers on the bird are brown, black and white.

Habitat



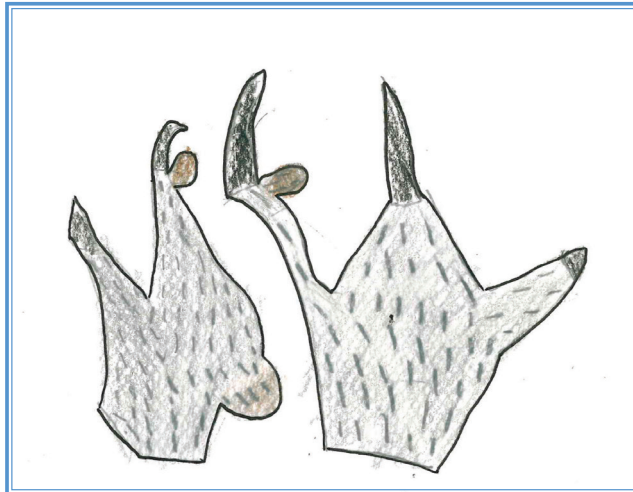
Xavier

The Great Horned Owl lives in the forest. They spend most of their time in the trees or flying through the sky. The trees help the animals hide. If you want to see a Great Horned Owl you could go to Rock Creek Park at night.



Felix

Great Horned Owl's have big eyes for night vision.
They have night vision so they can catch their prey like mice.



Samadhi

Great Horned Owls have claws so they can grab onto branches
and catch their food. They fly really fast so they have
to grab on to the branch.



Gus

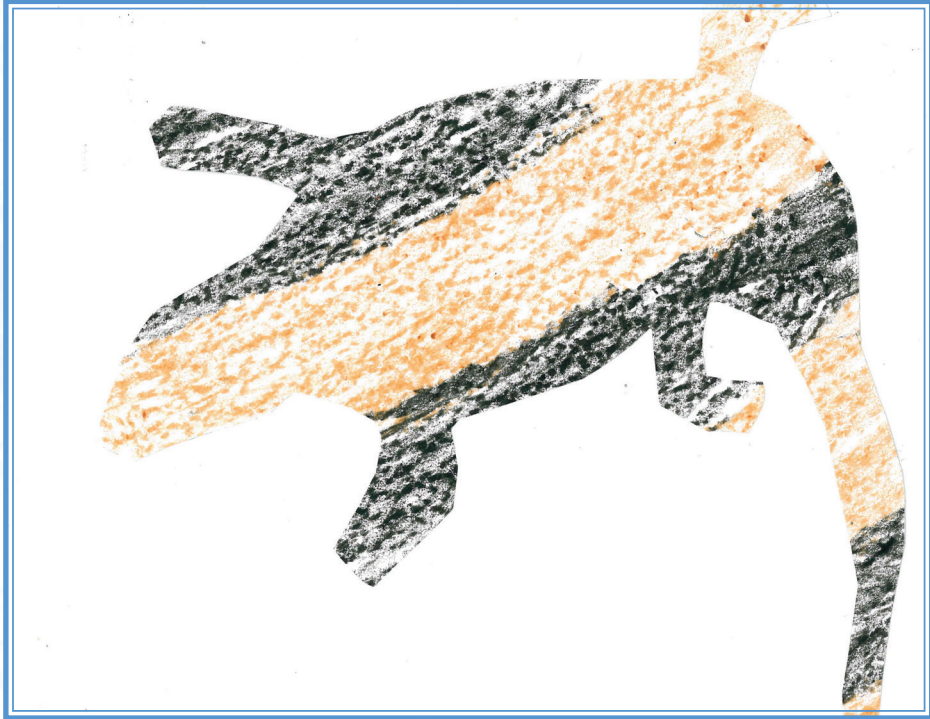
The Great Horned Owls have another set of feathers under their wings so that it can be quiet so it can catch its prey.



Amy

The Great Horned Owl's head can turn almost all the way around so they can see.

Eastern Fence Lizard



Hailey

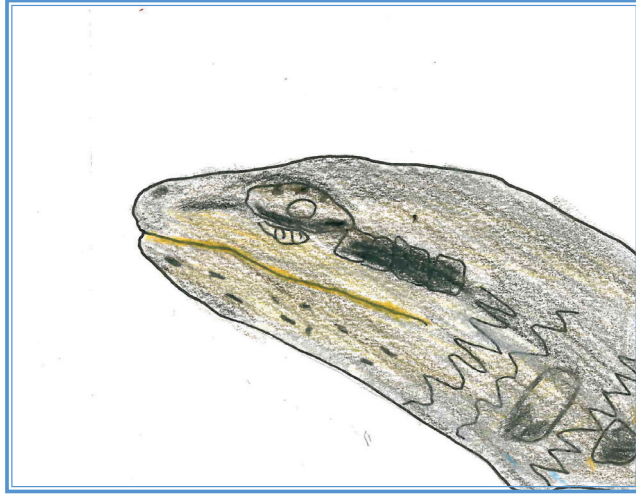
The Eastern Fence Lizard is a small lizard that lives around Washington, D.C. The lizard is covered with brown, gray and black scales. These help it camouflage into its habitat.

Habitat



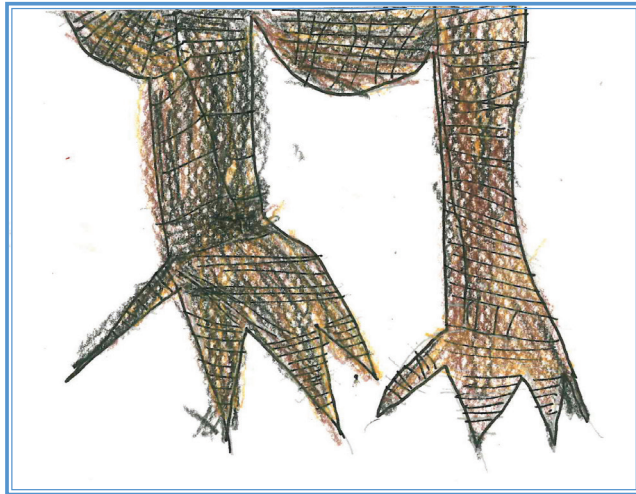
Elijah

The Eastern Fence Lizard lives in the woods. It likes the ground but it can climb. It likes to rest in the sun to get warm. When the lizard is scared it hides near rocks and leaves. If you wanted to see an Eastern Fence Lizard, you could try looking in Rock Creek Park.



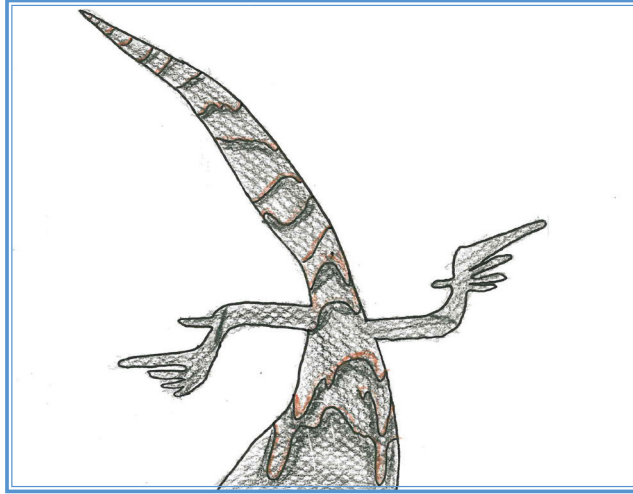
Keith

The Eastern Fence Lizard's head is brown, gray and black so it can camouflage itself. Its colors match the habitat, so predators can't find it.



Aron

The Eastern Fence Lizard has sharp claws to help it run fast.



Amelia Jane

The Eastern Fence Lizard's tail helps it balance. When a predator comes, its tail can fall off. The lizard can grow a new one.



Luis Eduardo

The Eastern Fence Lizard's body is covered with scales. The scales help the lizard stay safe from predators.

Eastern Box Turtle



Alejandra

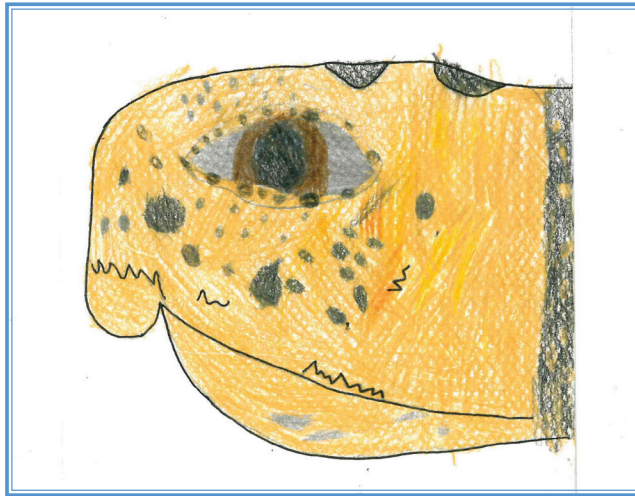
The Eastern Box Turtle is a reptile. It carries a big hard shell on its back. The shell of the Eastern Box Turtle is mostly black and yellow.

Habitat



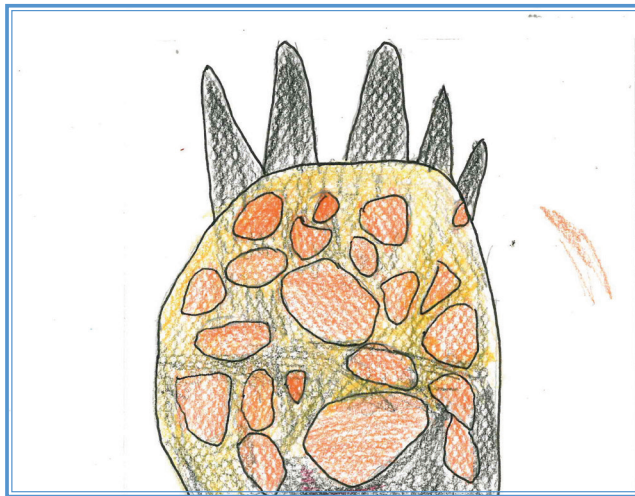
Montsy

The Eastern Box Turtle lives near water like ponds, streams and lakes. It lives on the ground. The turtle likes mud, leaves, rocks and logs. In Washington, D.C., you might find an Eastern Box Turtle in a park like Rock Creek.



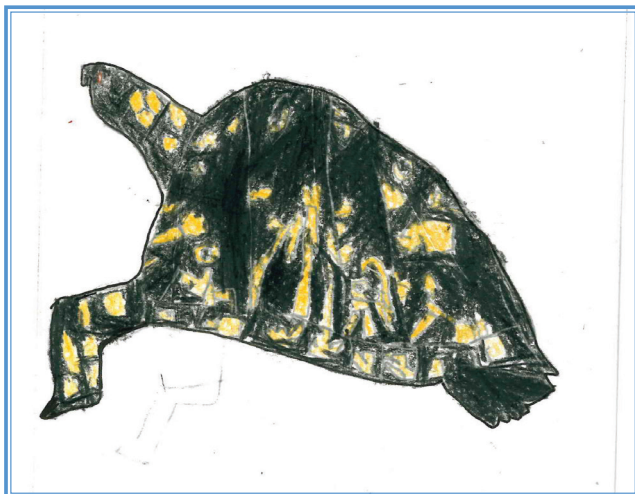
A'mari

The Eastern Box Turtle has an egg nose to get out of the shell.



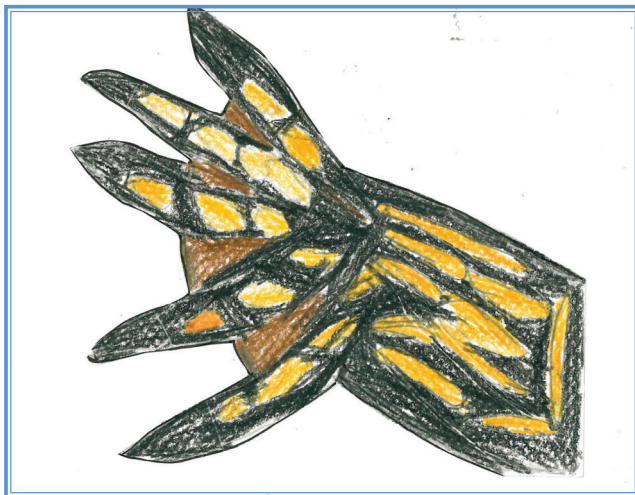
Elizabeth

The Eastern Box Turtle has sharp claws to help him dig.
The claws help him to find his food.



James

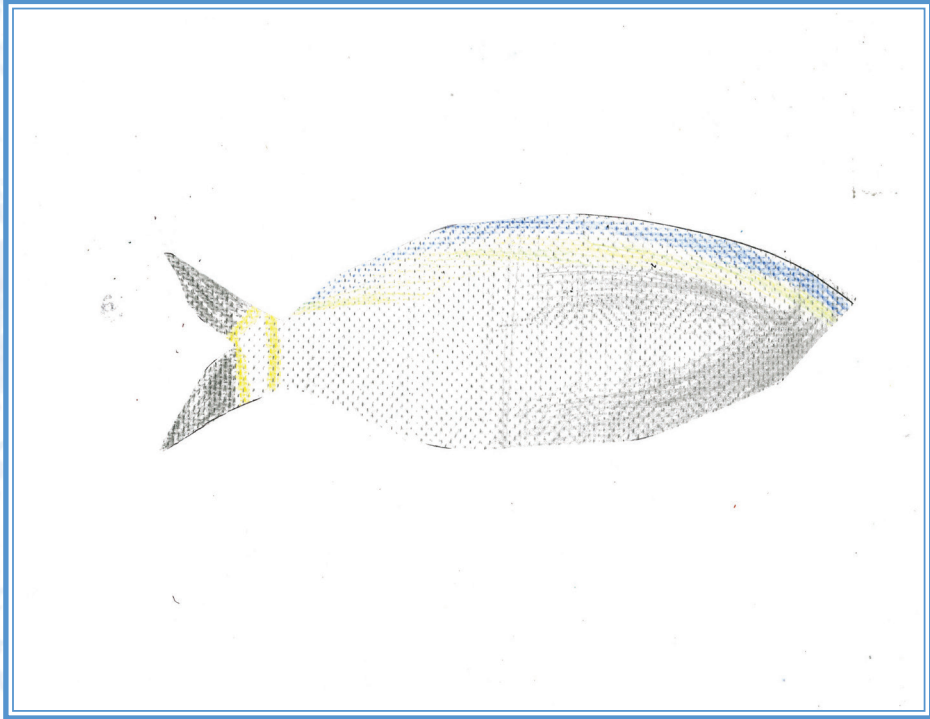
The Eastern Box Turtle has a hard shell so that it can hide.



Ian

The Eastern Box Turtle has webbed feet to help it swim.
The reptile basks in the sun in the middle of a lake.

American Shad



Alek

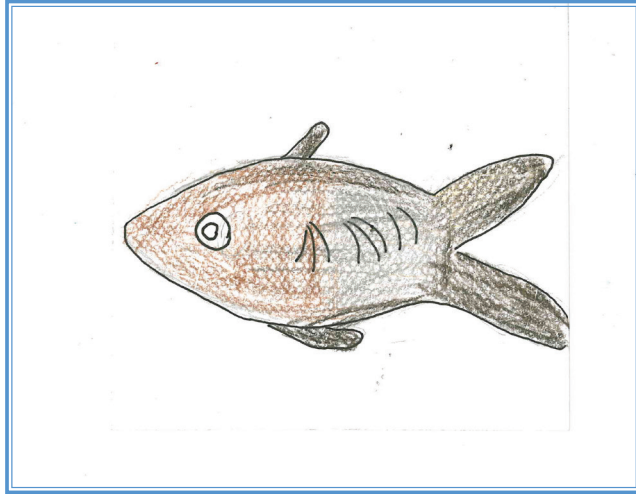
When the American Shad is in freshwater it is a small fish. Then when it goes to the ocean it gets a lot bigger. The scales of the fish sometimes look silver and sometimes look a little brown.

Habitat



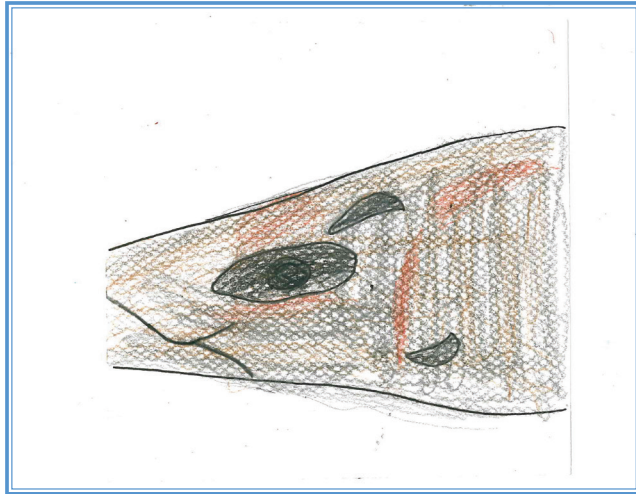
Laylani

American Shad live under water. They spend half of their lives in salt water and half in fresh water. Around Washington, D.C., they live in creeks and streams like Rock Creek. American Shad like to live in the bottom of the creek near the rocks.



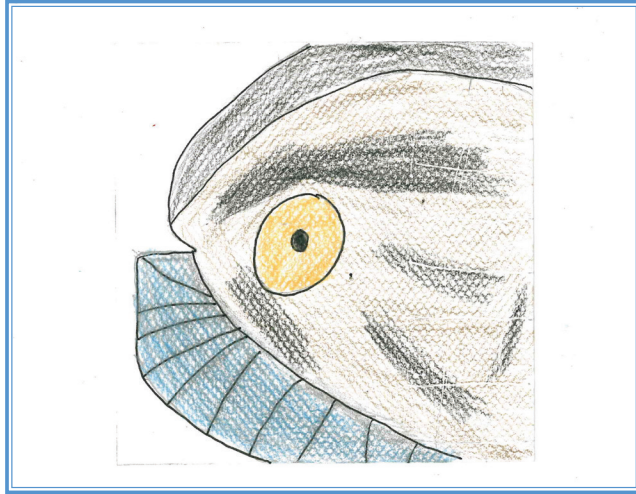
Deborah

The American Shad's body looks like a torpedo.
It helps them swim fast.



Laylani

The American Shad eyes look like a water drop.
They help them see better underwater.



Christian

The American Shad has a lower lip that sticks out. The lip helps it eat so it can swim up and get food.



Noah

The American Shad's tail helps it to swim super fast to get away from predators and to catch prey.

Blue Jay



Arielle

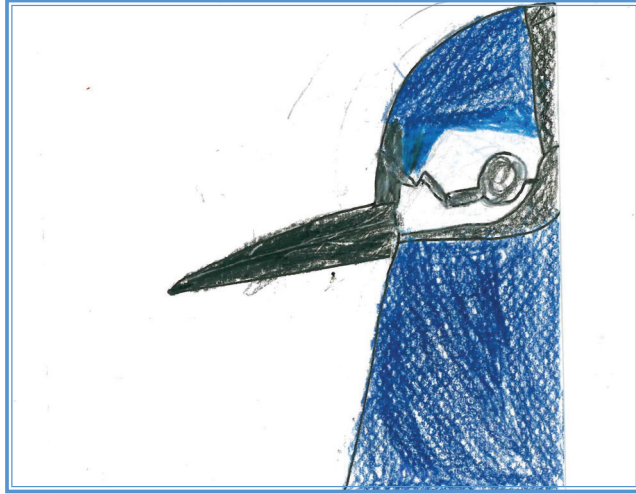
The Blue Jay is a medium sized bird. It has blue wings, a white belly, a black beak and a point at the top of its head.

Habitat



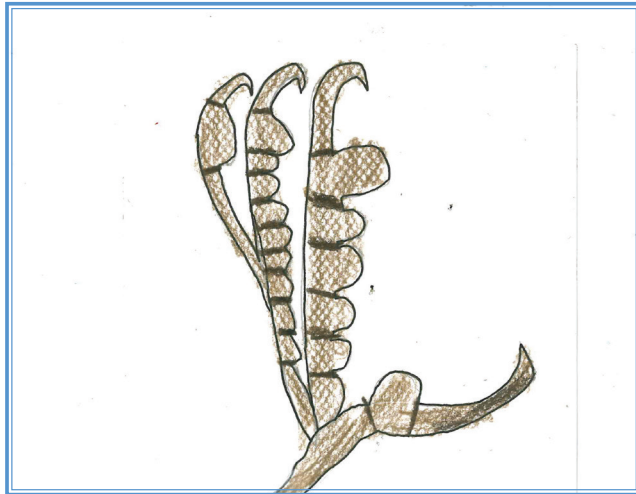
Chris

The Blue Jay lives in cities, forests and meadows.
They have their nests in tall trees. Blue Jays spend a lot of time
fly through the sky hunting and looking for materials for their nest.
There are a lot of Blue Jays in Washington, D.C.



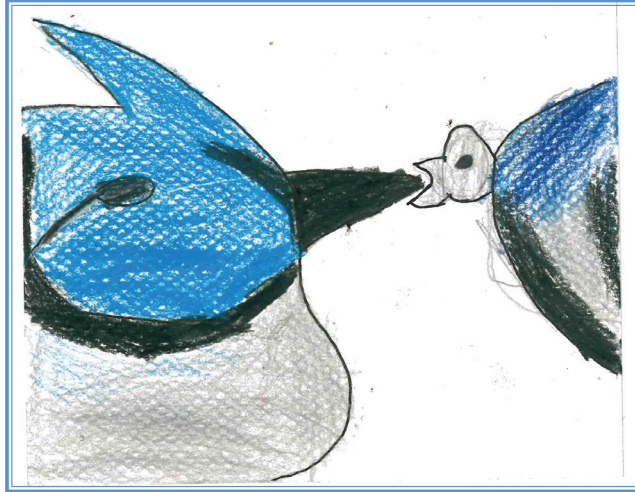
Alex

The Bluejay has a long beak so it can eat seeds and bugs.



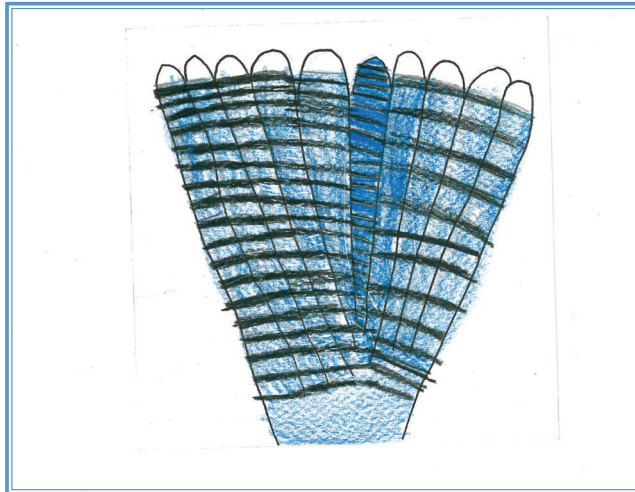
Susana

Blue Jays have sharp claws to grab things like sticks, branches and food.



Jason

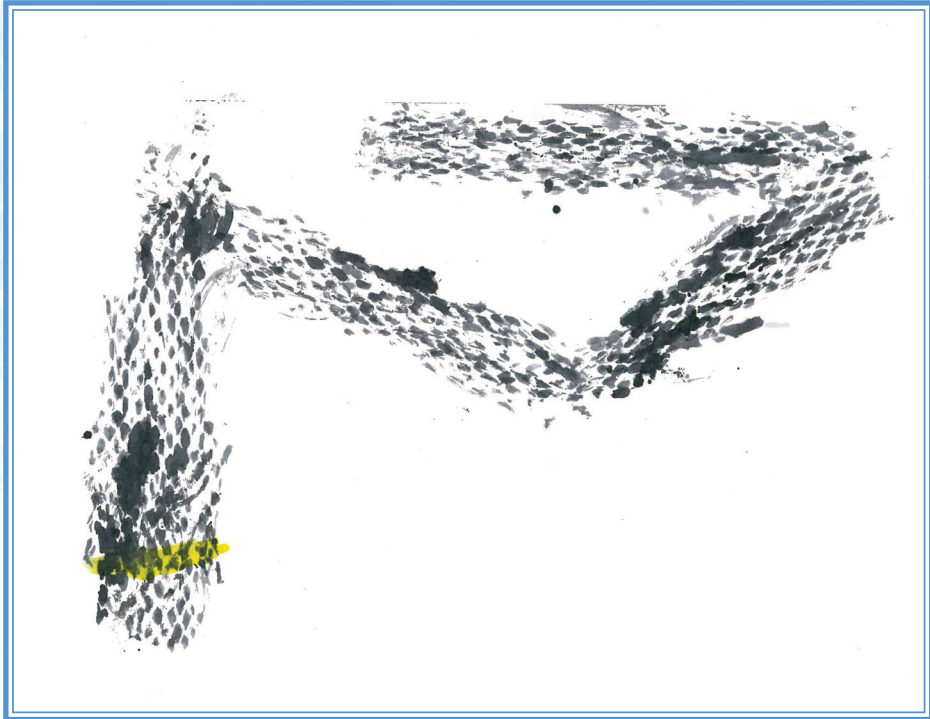
The Blue Jay dad puts the food right in the baby's mouth.



Maddie

The Blue Jay has tail feathers that help it balance, that way they do not wobble back when they are flying.

Ringneck Snake



Lola

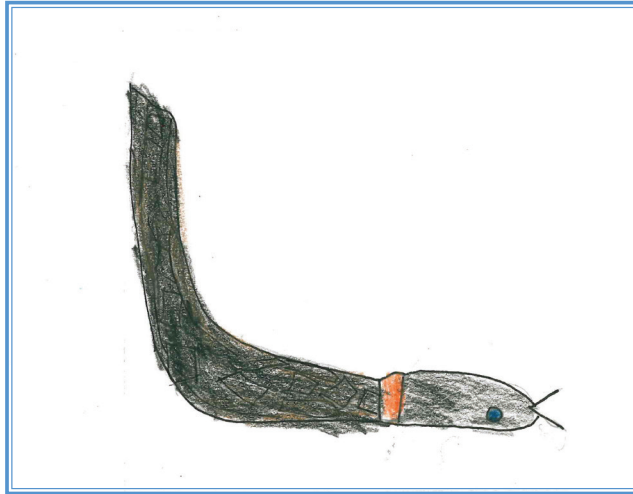
The Ringneck Snake is a small snake. It is a good hider. It has black or brown scales on the top of the body and a bright red or orange belly. The Ringneck Snake has a colorful ring around its neck.

Habitat



Eddie

The Ringneck Snake lives on the ground. It likes to hide in grass, under leaves and under rocks. It has dark scales on its body. These help it blend in with its habitat.



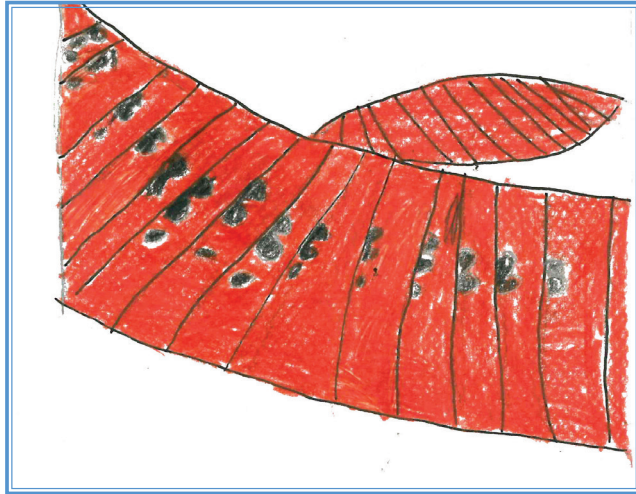
Ramzy

A Ringneck Snake has poison in its mouth to make animals sleep before the snake eats it.



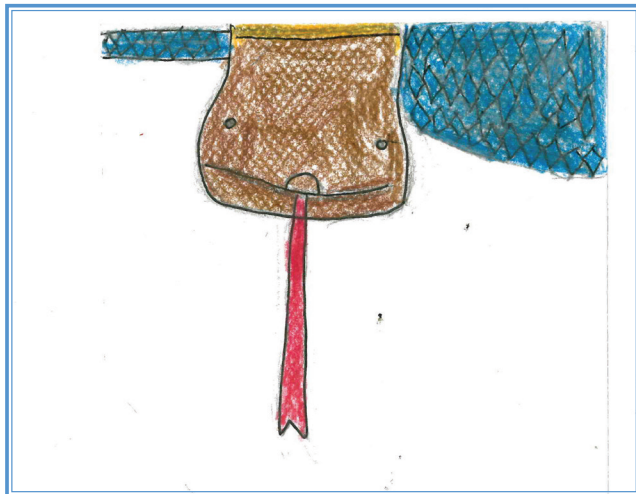
Dante

The Ringneck Snake has scales so it can protect itself.



Jasmine

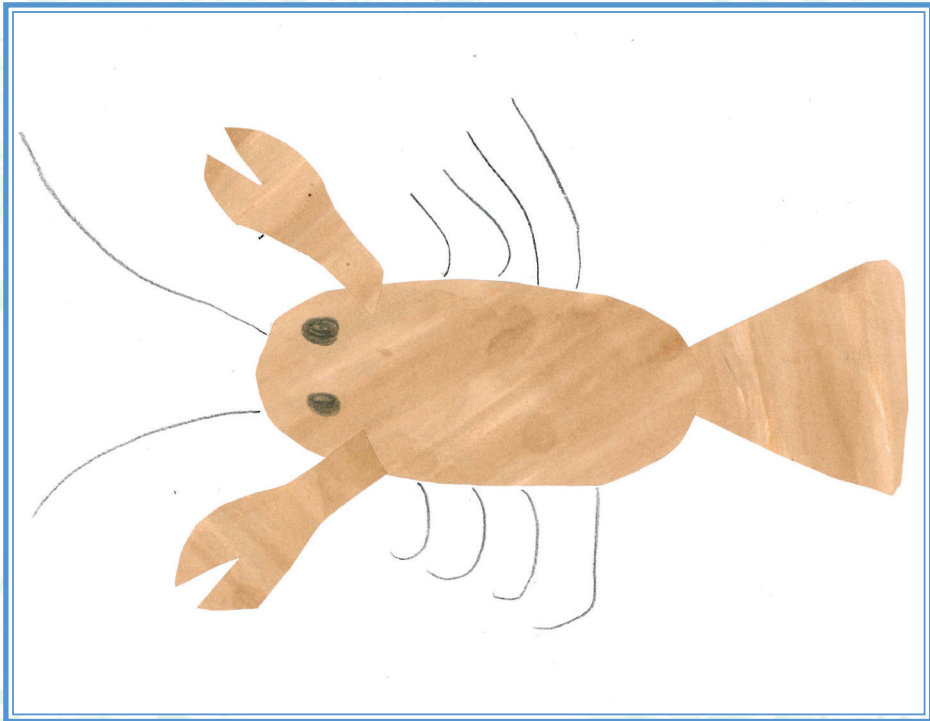
The Ring Neck Snake has a red belly.
The snake wants the predator to think it is poisonous.



Kobi

The Ringneck Snake has a split tongue so that
it can sense what is around it.

Cray Fish



Francis

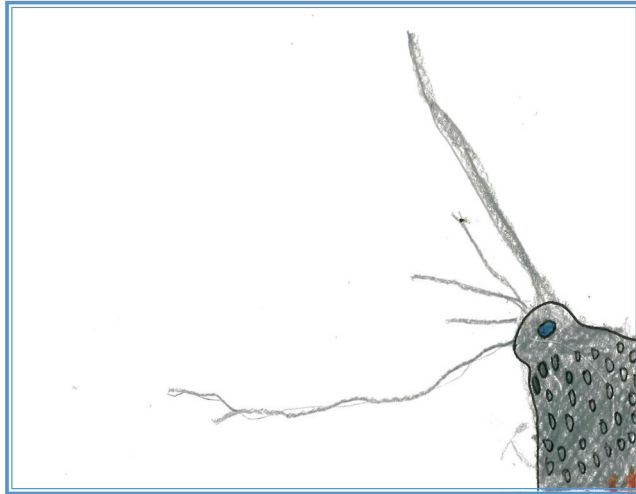
The Crayfish is a crustacean. It looks like a small lobster.
It has two claws and a powerful tail.

Habitat



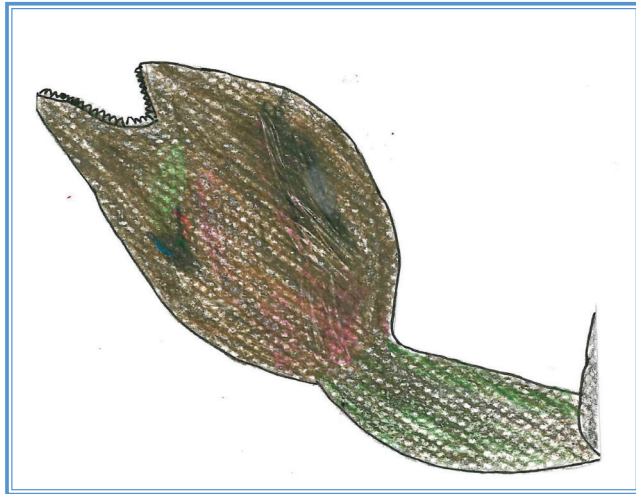
Peyton

Crayfish live in water. They live at the bottom of streams near rocks and grass. They make their homes with mud. There are crayfish in Rock Creek Park.



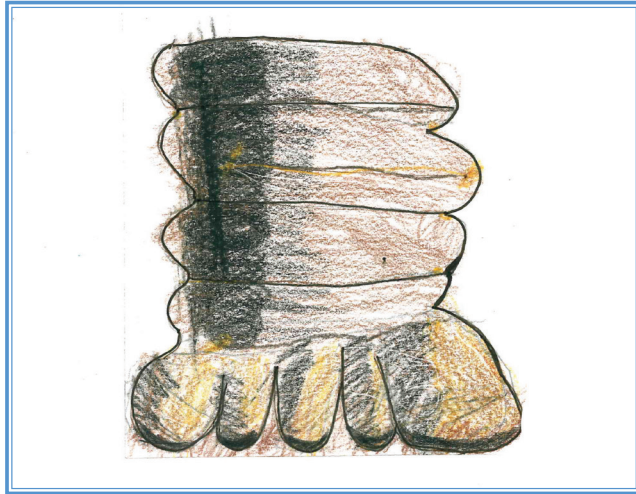
Jake

Crayfish use their antennae to feel for their food and to feel all around.



Uyi

Crayfish have sharp claws so they can catch their prey and stay safe from predators.



Max

When a predator is coming the Crayfish's tail will push the Crayfish backwards so the predator can't get them.



Ava

Crayfish have eyes that stick out to look all over their body.

Red-backed Salamander



Kelsie

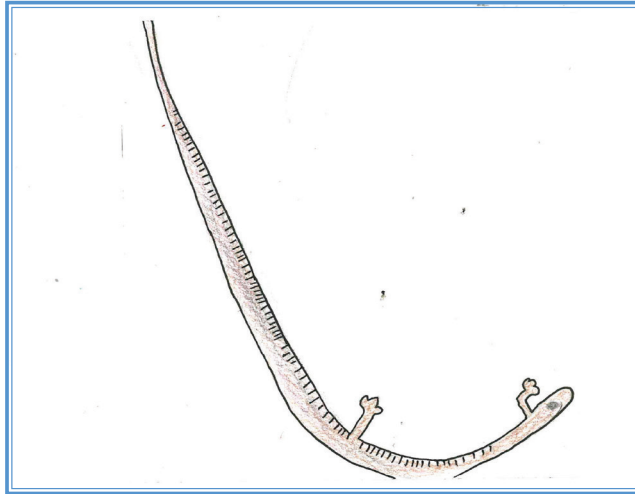
The Red-backed Salamander is an amphibian. It looks like a small snake with legs. It has a stripe down its back. Sometimes the stripe is red, sometimes it is gray.

Habitat



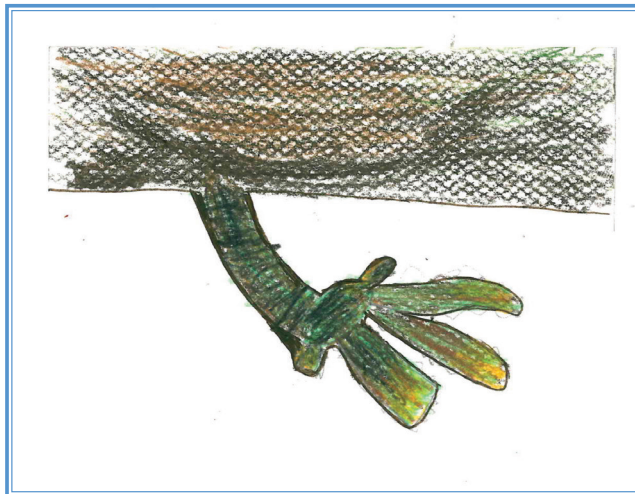
Katie

The Red-backed Salamander lives in forests and fields. It likes areas where there are lots of rocks and leaves. It has to live near water. There are tons of Red-backed Salamanders in Rock Creek Park.



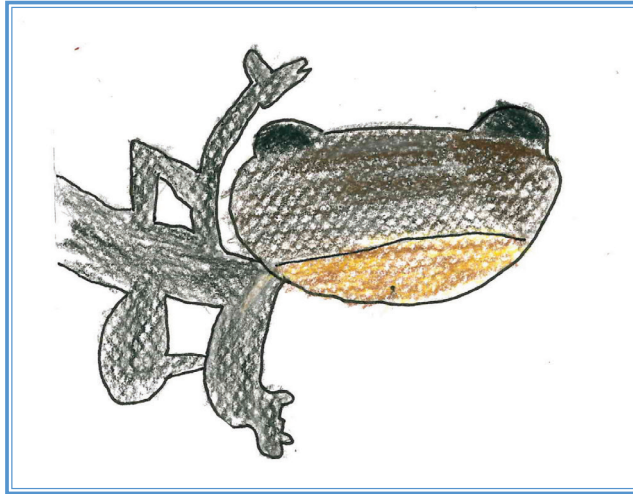
Benjamin

The Red-backed Salamander has a long tail. The tail helps it balance its body.



Jaden

The Red-backed Salamander's feet help it grip so that it can run fast so it can run away from its predators.



Amaro

The Red-backed Salamander can look up, down and around because the eyes stick out of the head.



Nahom

The Red-backed Salamander body is camouflaged so it can hide when its predators comes.

Dear Readers,
we have lots of people to say
thank you to. Thank you to
Katherine (for helping put the book
together), Amanda (for teaching us how to
revise), Romex (for the awesome
field trip), Parents who
came on our field trip
and to Ms. Laura and
Ms. Berenice. Family and
friends we are happy you helped us.
Love, The Pandas and the Elephants