

# Marine fish habitat activity booklet



Queensland  
Government

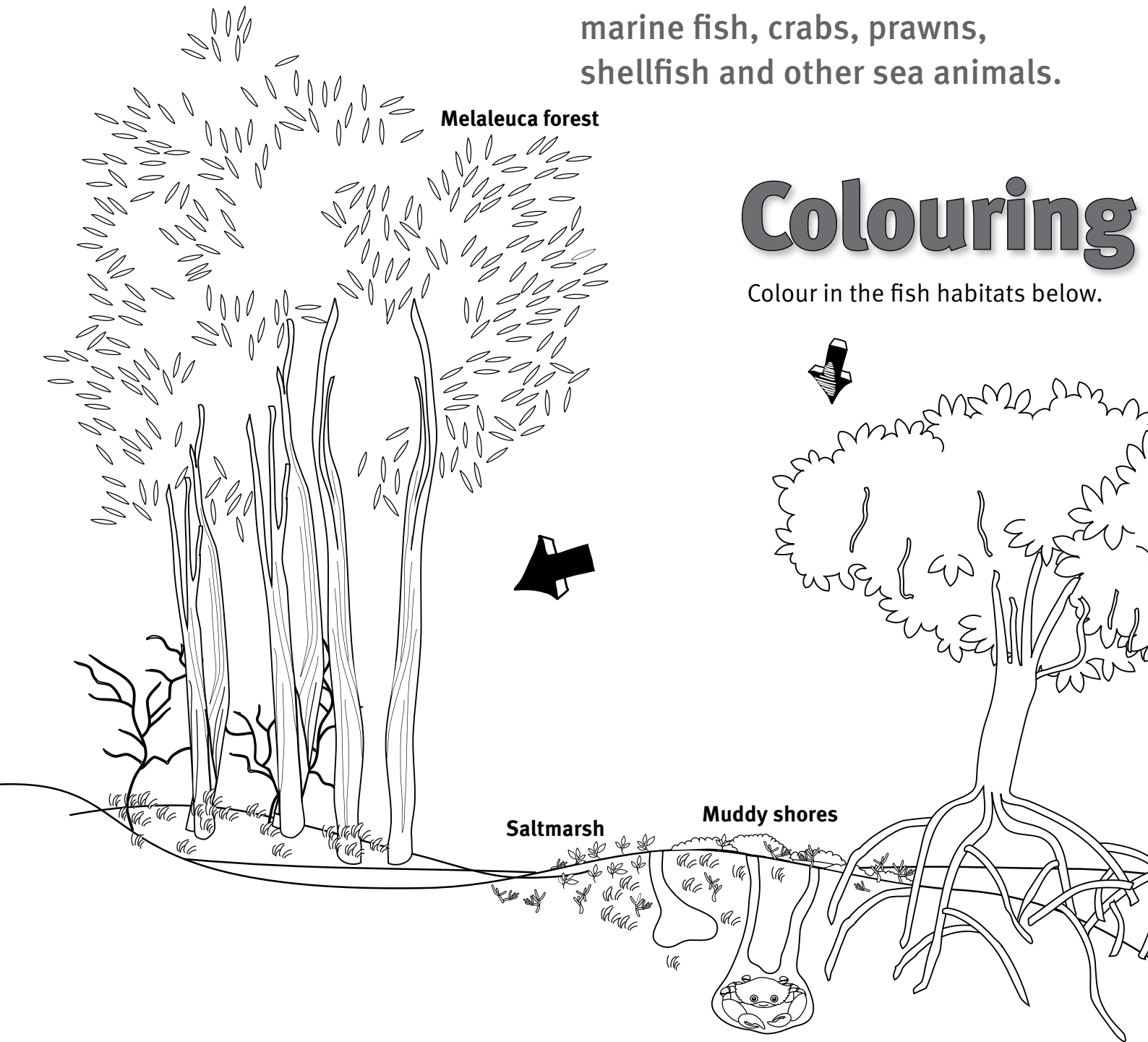
# What are fish habitats?

Fish habitats are homes for all marine fish, crabs, prawns, shellfish and other sea animals.

Melaleuca forest

## Colouring

Colour in the fish habitats below.

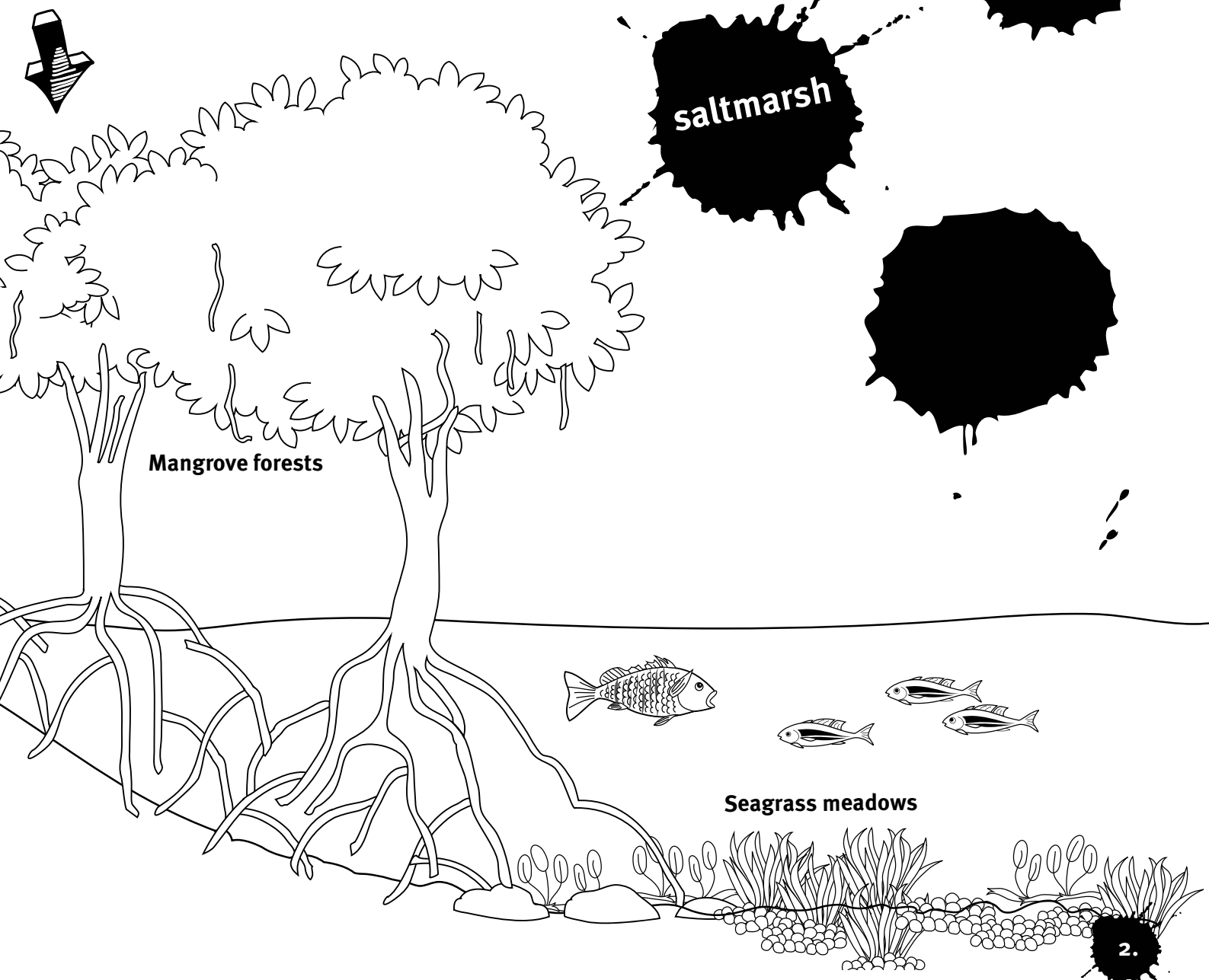


You can find fish habitats inshore or all the way out in the ocean.

The different habitats are made up of plants, muddy shores, sandbanks and rocky reefs.

When you go fishing, exploring or swimming along the coastline you are visiting different types of fish habitats. There are six types along the coastline. →

in!



# Why are fish habitats important?

Fish habitats are important because they provide shelter, food and nursery areas for fish, crabs, prawns and other sea animals.

Without habitats, we would not be able to go fishing, catch and eat tasty seafood, or purchase beautiful pet marine fish from aquarium shops.

The plants that make up the fish habitats help to keep water clean by filtering

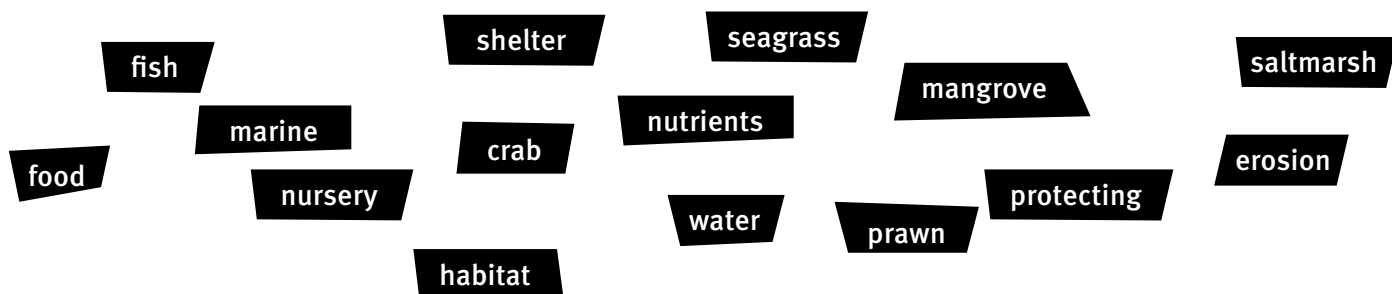
nutrients, slowing down water currents and protecting banks from erosion.

Together, all the roles of a habitat support our fish, crabs, prawns and other sea animals.



# Word search

Find the words listed below. They appear in the puzzle horizontally, diagonally, vertically and even backwards.



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



# Did you know marine plants and fish habitats are protected?

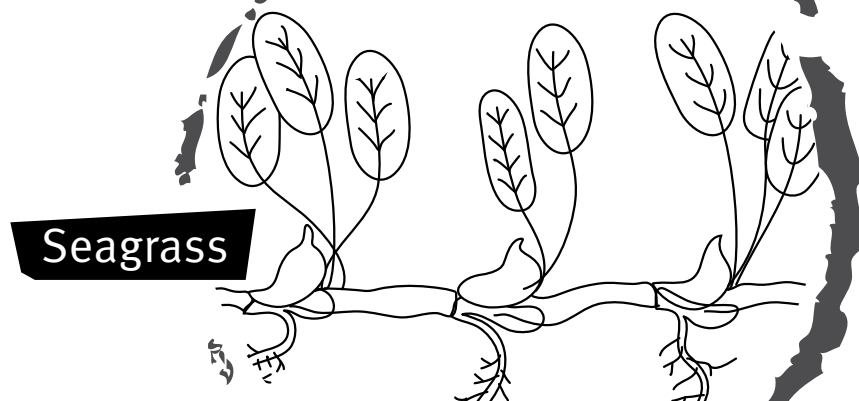
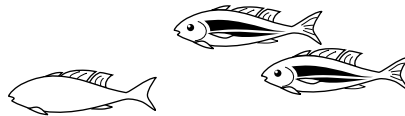
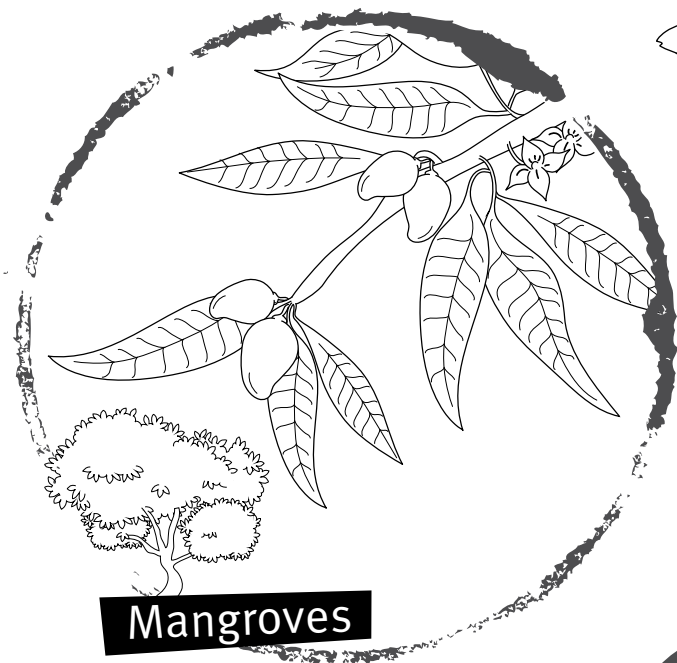


Fish habitats are made up of lots of plants, which are protected under fisheries law.

These special plants provide most of the food, shelter and nursery grounds that are so important for fish, crabs, prawns and other sea animals that live in the habitats. Because of this, marine plants cannot be disturbed or removed without permission.

Another way that fish habitats are protected is through areas called declared Fish Habitat Areas.

These areas protect all of the fish habitats including muddy shores, sandbanks and rocky reefs, as well as all the marine plants.



# Colouring in!

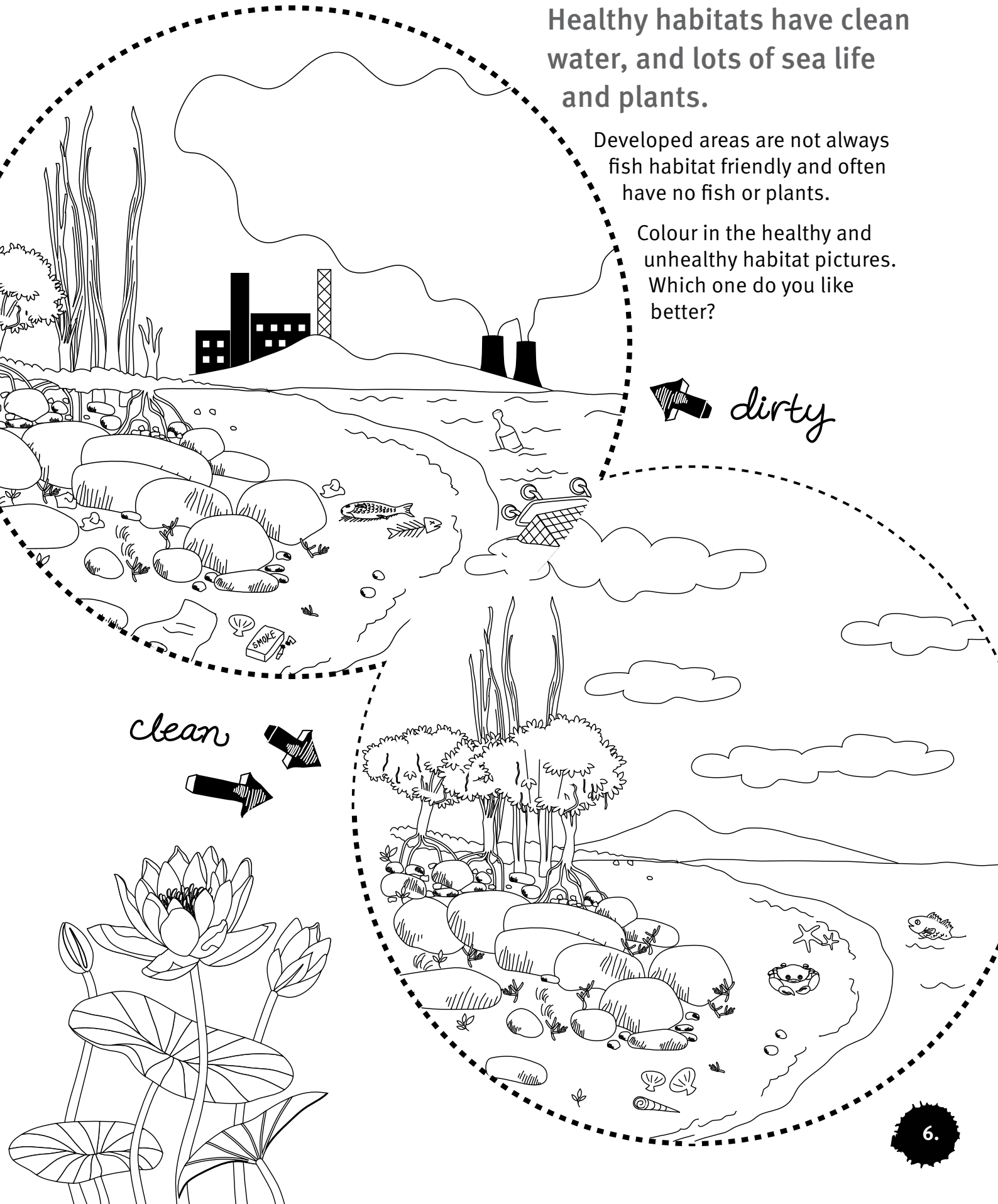
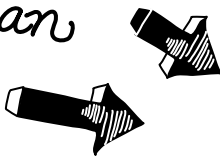
Healthy habitats have clean water, and lots of sea life and plants.

Developed areas are not always fish habitat friendly and often have no fish or plants.

Colour in the healthy and unhealthy habitat pictures. Which one do you like better?

 *dirty*

*clean*



# Fisheries food chain

Food chains connect all animals and plants.

Each habitat has its own food web, with every animal having its place, whether it is a prawn eating the algae on seagrass leaves or a fish eating crab larvae.

Each food chain depends on having healthy habitats for survival, growth and spawning. Spawning is when sea animals (for example a fish) release eggs into the water. The eggs are fertilised and grow into baby sea animals.

