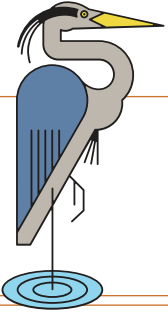


# Water WILDLIFE

• EXPLORATION •

## MATCH GAME

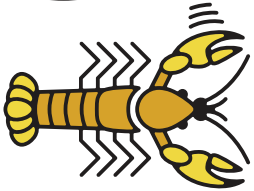
Draw a line connecting the water wildlife fact to the correct creature.



### Great Blue Heron

*Ardea herodias* (scientific)  
hokhatho (Dakota)

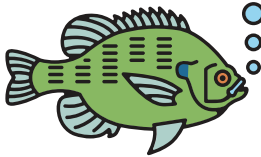
This creature creates bowl-shaped nests in sand and gravel on lake bottoms where the females lay up to 50,000 eggs!



### Calico Crayfish

*Orconectes immunis* (scientific)  
matúška (Dakota)

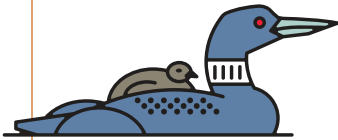
This creature is the biggest insect in Minnesota, measuring up to two inches long and one inch wide!



### Bluegill Sunfish

*Lepomis macrochirus* (scientific)  
hočáňbdaskana (Dakota)

This creature can be found in their nest high in the treetops or wading slowly in shallow waters looking for fish, insects, frogs, and small turtles to eat.



### Common Loon

*Gavia immer* (scientific)  
mdóza/bdoza (Dakota)

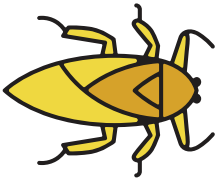
This creature eats plants, insects, tadpoles, and small fish and burrows deep into the mud during the winter to stay warm.



### Boreal Chorus Frog

*Pseudacris maculata* (scientific)  
hnašká (Dakota)

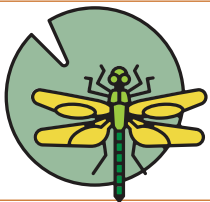
This creature begins its life underwater as an egg laid on a plant stem and then hatches to emerge from the water in a whole new body.



### Giant Water Bug

*Lethocerus americanus*  
(scientific)

These birds are iconic to Minnesota and have unique red eyes that help them see underwater to catch fish, frogs, and other lake creatures.



### Green Darner Dragonfly

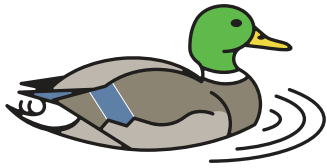
*Anax junius* (scientific)  
susběcha (Dakota)

This creature's unique call comes from their bellowing throat and sounds like a fingernail moving across a comb!



[capitolregionwd.org](http://capitolregionwd.org)





## Mallard Duck

*Anas platyrhynchos* (scientific)  
*phaǵúrta* (Dakota)

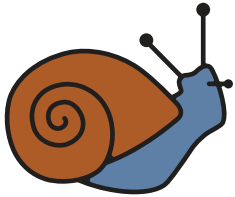
This creature is sensitive to the health of its environment and so some scientists call it an indicator species. Listen for their call near wetlands.



## Muskrat

*Ondatra zibethicus* (scientific)  
*siŋkphé* (Dakota)

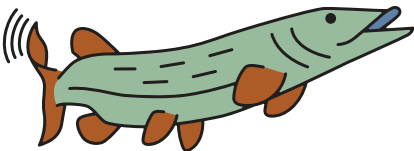
These creatures may be confused for spiders but have special water repellent hairs on their long legs that allow them to walk on water.



## Orb Snail

*Planorbidae* (scientific)  
*mniwamnúh'a* (Dakota)

These prehistoric creatures have lived in freshwater for 15 million years! Look for their red, orange, and yellow striped legs and neck for which they are named!



## Northern Pike

*Esox lucius* (scientific)  
*howákhan* (Dakota)

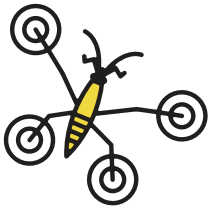
These creatures live in lodges built on the shores of lakes and ponds where they spend winters huddling together to keep warm.



## Northern Leopard Frog

*Lithobates pipiens* (scientific)  
*hnašká* (Dakota)

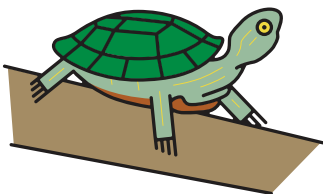
These creatures carry a small air supply under their wing so they can breathe underwater while hunting for tadpoles, small fish, and other insects to eat.



## Water Strider

*Gerridae* (scientific)

These creatures like to swim together in large groups. You'll notice the males' green head and shiny blue feathers. Females are mostly brown to keep camouflaged while protecting their nests.



## Painted Turtle

*Chrysemys picta* (scientific)  
*phatkáša* (Dakota)

This creature is one of the fastest growing freshwater fish and can grow up to 4 feet long and live over 20 years!



## Predacious Diving Beetle

*Insecta Dytiscidae* (scientific)

These creatures carry their homes on their backs in the form of a swirly shell. They eat decaying plants and algae and scientists use them to help tell how healthy the environment is.