



South Florida
WILDLIFE CENTER
Saving Wildlife in Our Urban Jungle

ROLLIN' ON THE WILD SIDE



A WILDLIFE EDUCATIONAL COLORING BOOK



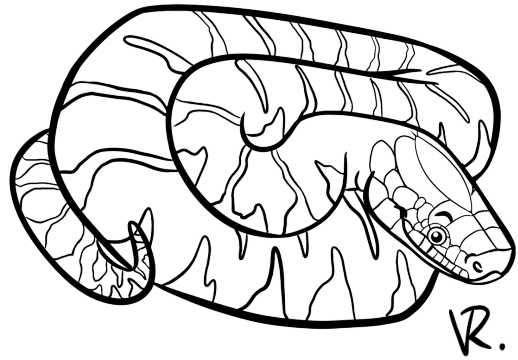
The South Florida Wildlife Center is a non-profit wildlife hospital located in Fort Lauderdale, Florida with a mission to rescue and rehabilitate sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife to give them a second chance in their natural environment.

Enjoy these wildlife stories and how these animals came to call SFWC home. They are a part of the Wildlife Education Ambassador Program and assist our Outreach Department in educating the community about wildlife and how each of us can peacefully coexist with our wild neighbors.

For more information on SFWC, please visit our website
www.southfloridawildlifecenter.org



FLORIDA KINGSNAKE

**Scientific Name:**

Lampropeltis floridana

Distribution:

Florida peninsula, excluding the Keys

Life Span:

10-15 years

Body Length:

Up to 4 feet

Habitat:

Pinelands, hardwood hammocks, prairies, marshes, and estuaries

Diet:

Small mammals, birds, amphibians, other reptiles and their eggs

Kingsley is a male Florida Kingsnake that was a surrendered pet. His previous owners were not aware of his protein-only diet and fed him fruit and veggies.

This reptile has colors that vary from brown to yellow with more than 40 thick yellow crossbands.

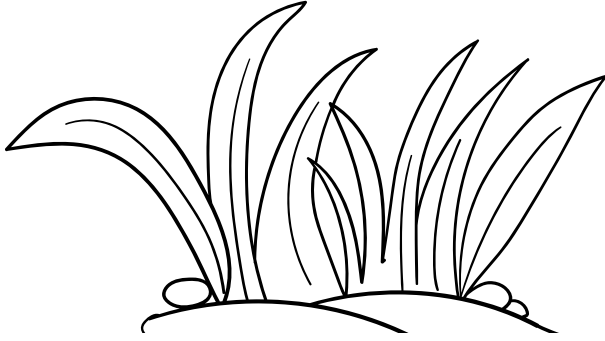
Although his species is native to Florida, animals that have been kept as pets should not be released in the wild.

Not only would Kingsley not be able to fend for himself, but his release could also have introduced diseases to wild populations.

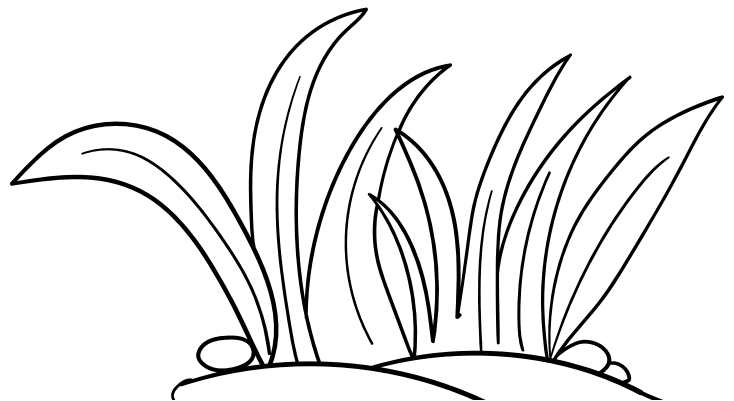
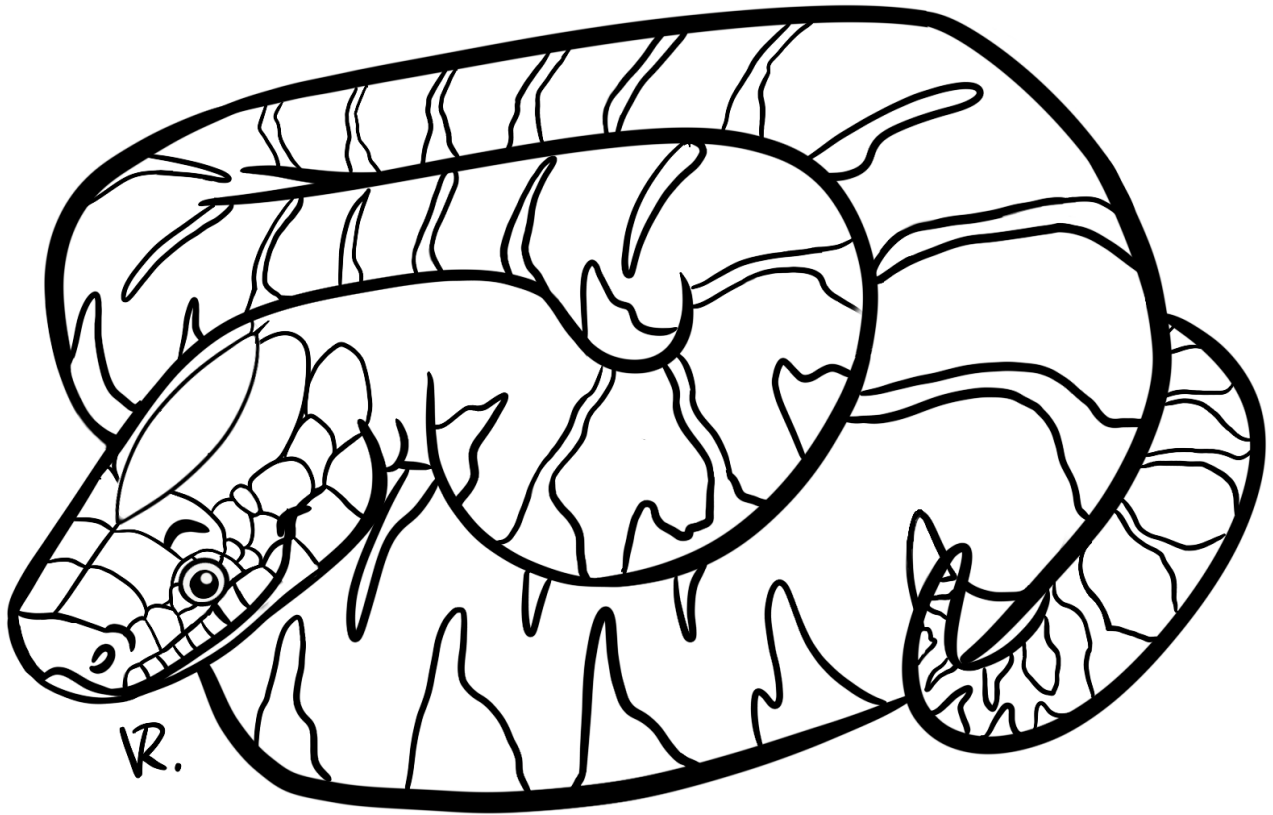
Did you know?

Kingsnakes have been called the "King of all Snakes" because they eat other snakes, including venomous species.





KINGSLEY



VIRGINIA OPOSSUM

**Scientific Name:**

Didelphis virginiana

Distribution:

Found throughout North and Central America

Life Span:

1-2 years

Body Length:

16 inches, with a tail up to 11 inches

Habitat:

Wetlands, meadows, woodlands, and thickets

Diet:

Small mammals, birds, insects, and plant material

Cabbage is a male Virginia Opossum who was found abandoned in a local backyard.

He was in poor health, infested with fleas, missing his tail, and too small to be on his own.

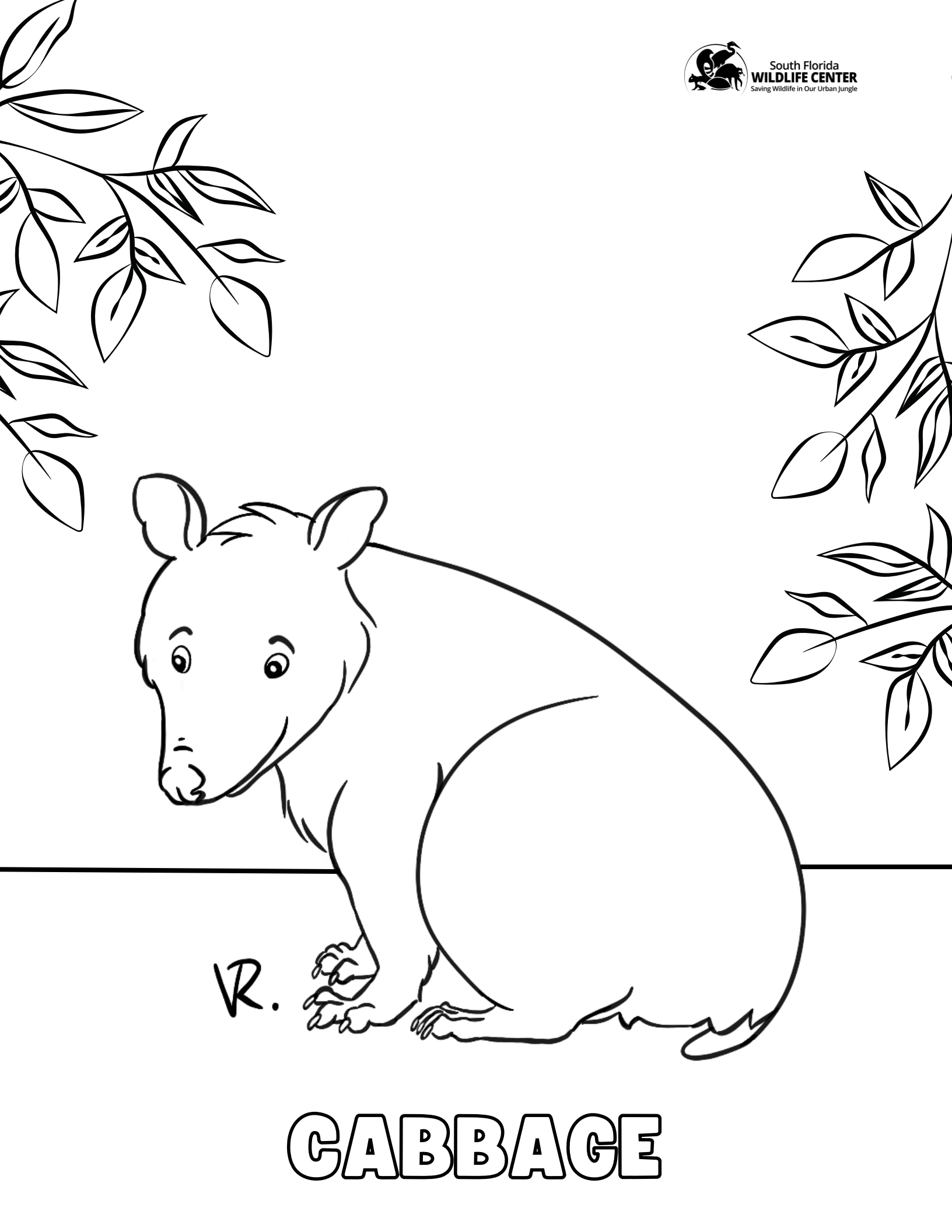
Opossums rely on their tails to survive in the wild. They use their tails as tools for climbing and grasping.

Cabbage's missing tail, along with his small size and general poor health, were factors that determined he could not be released back into the wild.

Did you know?

Virginia Opossums are solitary and crepuscular, staying active between dawn and dusk.





R.

CABBAGE

VIRGINIA OPOSSUM

**Scientific Name:**

Didelphis virginiana

Distribution:

Found throughout North and Central America

Life Span:

1-2 years

Body Length:

16 inches, with a tail up to 11 inches

Habitat:

Wetlands, meadows, woodlands, and thickets

Diet:

Small mammals, birds, insects, and plant material

Brussel Sprout is a male Virginia Opossum that was found orphaned and brought to SFWC for rehabilitation.

He had no obvious injuries and was transferred to our Nursery for rearing and preparation for release.

Staff noticed Brussel Sprout was curious and had no natural fear of people.

Because of his friendly nature, he would not have been successful in the wild.

Did you know?

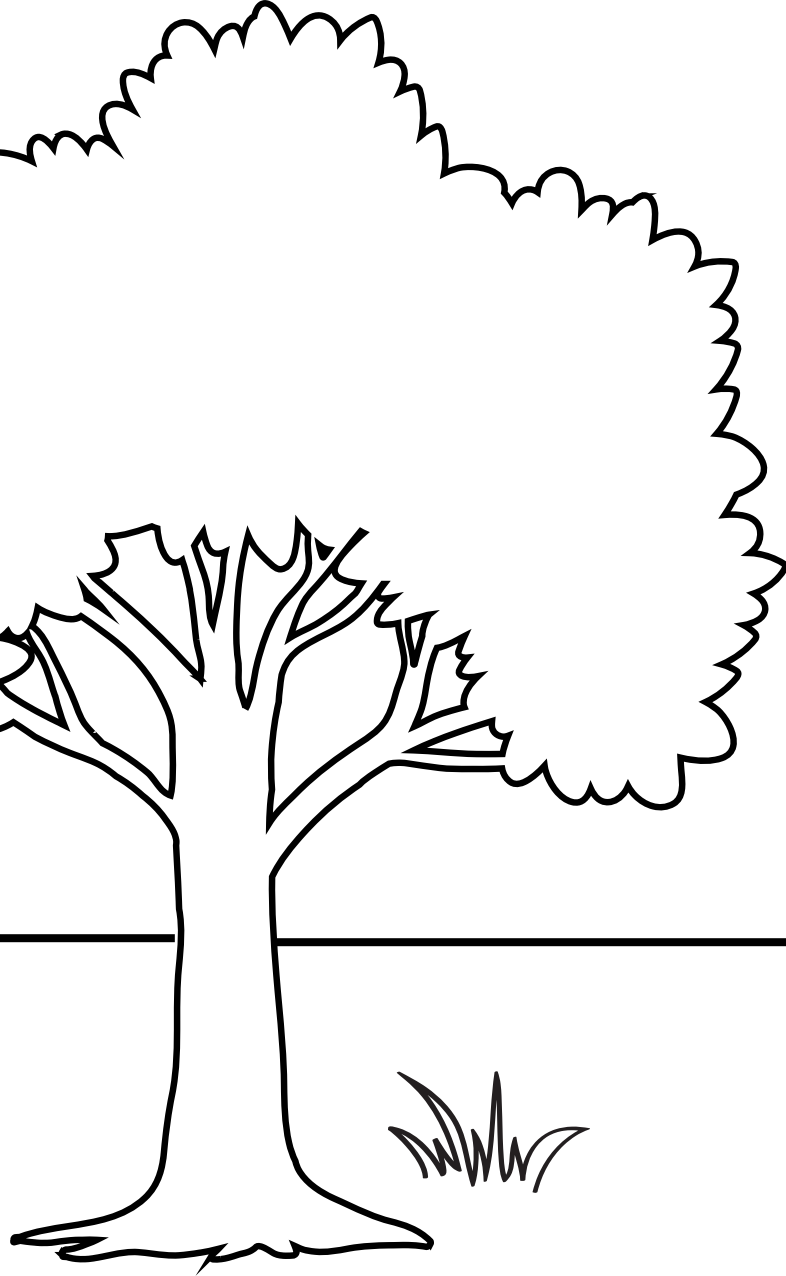
Virginia Opossums are mammals known for playing dead whenever they feel threatened or scared. They will also show their teeth and hiss!





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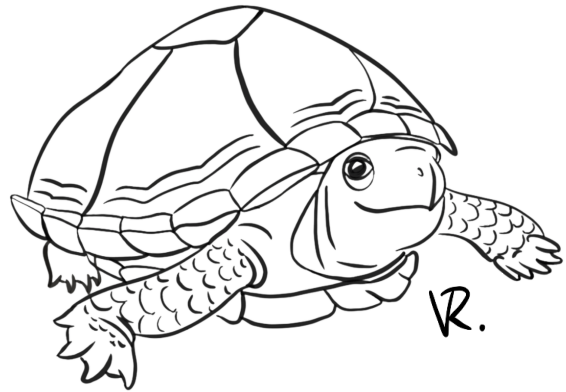
BRUSSEL SPROUT



R.



EASTERN BOX TURTLE

**Scientific Name:**

Terrapene carolina carolina

Distribution:

Found along the eastern United States from Maine to Florida and west to the Great Lakes and Texas

Life Span:

25-35 years

Body Length:

4-6 inches

Habitat:

Vegetated areas near streams or ponds

Diet:

Plants, mushrooms, fruits, insects, small amphibians, and eggs.

Lime is a female Eastern Box Turtle who was found in the wild, kept as a pet and surrendered to SFWC.

Unfortunately, she was not fed the proper diet or provided the right living space.

This improper care led to multiple shell deformities.

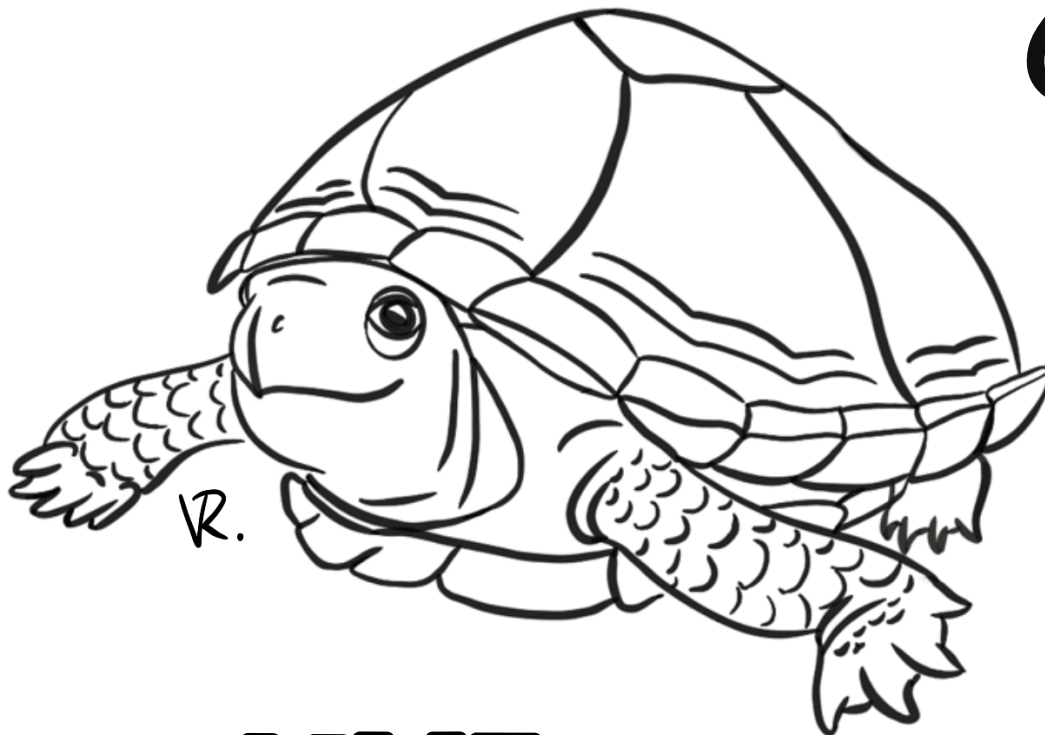
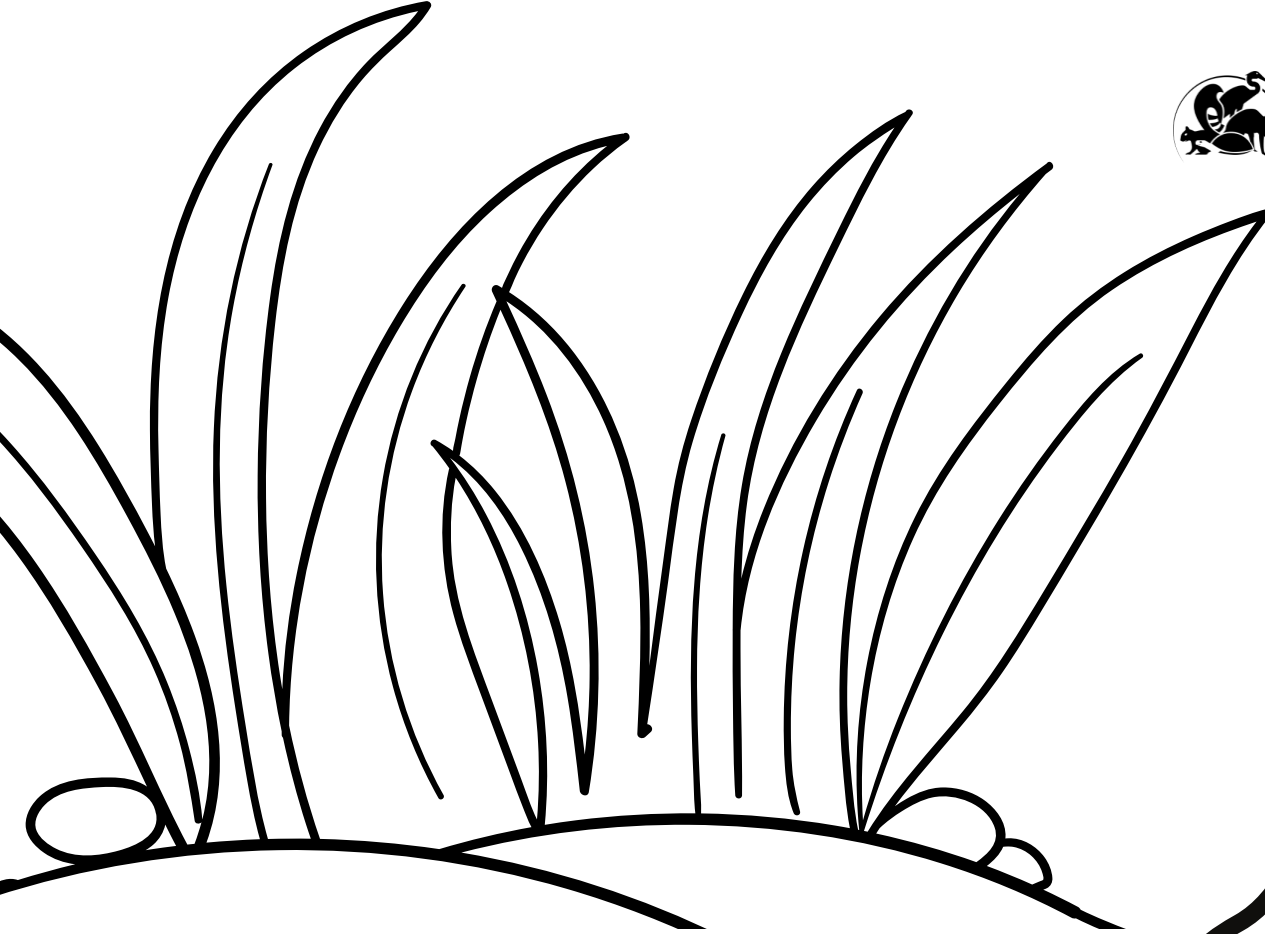
Because of her shell deformities, she is unable to close her shell like she should.

Did you know?

Box turtles have a hinge on the underside of their shell that allows them to almost completely close their shell when threatened.



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R.

LIME



EASTERN SCREECH OWL

**Scientific Name:**

Megascops asio

Distribution:

Found east of the Rocky Mountains in the United States

Life Span:

8-10 years

Body Length:

6-9 inches

Habitat:

Evergreen and deciduous forests near water

Diet:

Mammals, birds, earthworms, insects, crawfish, tadpoles, frogs and lizards

Olive is a female Eastern Screech Owl that was found as a juvenile.

After the finders attempted to raise her as a pet, they ultimately surrendered her to another wildlife facility.

She was transferred to SFWC where staff discovered Olive had imprinted on her human handlers.

Animals that imprint on humans are less likely to thrive on their own when released in the wild.

Did you know?

Their unique feather patterns help them camouflage with tree bark. When threatened, they will extend their bodies to look like a branch.



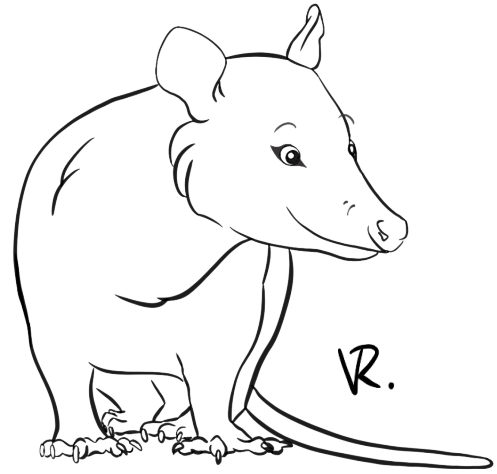


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OLIVE



VIRGINIA OPOSSUM

**Scientific Name:**

Didelphis virginiana

Distribution:

Found throughout North and Central America

Life Span:

1-2 years

Body Length:

16 inches, with a tail up to 11 inches

Habitat:

Wetlands, meadows, woodlands, and thickets

Diet:

Small mammals, birds, insects, and plant material

Cauliflower is a female Virginia Opossum that arrived to SFWC with her babies after getting hit by a car.

It is common for wildlife to be impacted by vehicles as they attempt to cross the road at night.

While her babies were able to be rehabilitated and released back into the wild, Cauliflower suffered head trauma that prevented her from returning to her natural environment.

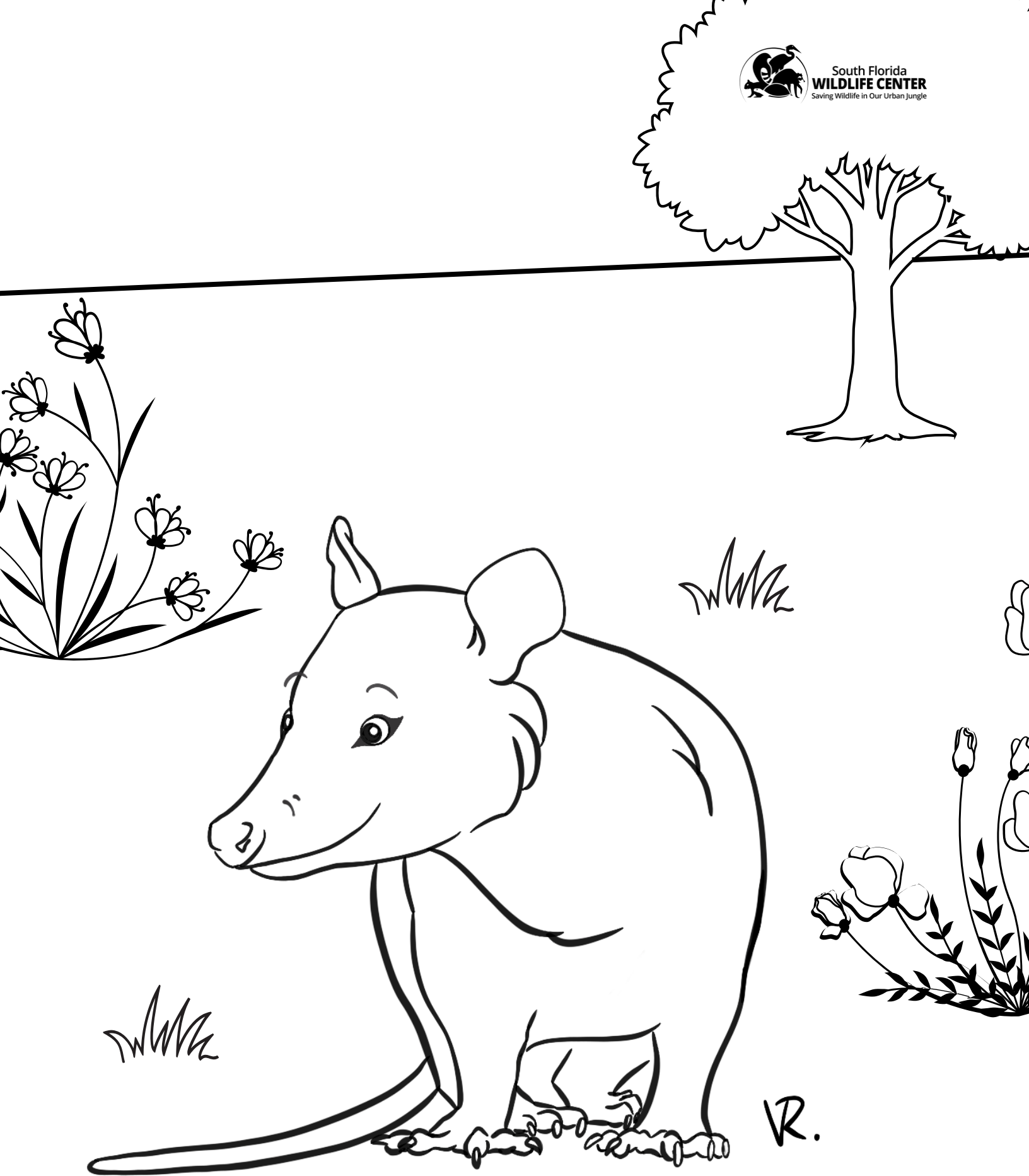
Did you know?

Virginia Opossums are the only marsupial in North America. This means they carry their babies in a pouch!





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CAULIFLOWER

GREAT HORNED OWL

**Scientific Name:**

Bubo virginianus

Distribution:

Found throughout North, Central, and South America

Life Span:

5-15 years

Body Length:

18-25 inches

Habitat:

Deciduous and evergreen forests, swamps, desert, tundra edges, and tropical rainforest

Diet:

Mammals, birds, reptiles, insects, fish, and invertebrates

Brie is a female Great Horned Owl with a history of successful breeding. After baby season, the property owners found her on the ground injured.

Thinking she had a broken wing, they transported her to CROW Clinic in Sanibel, Florida. While her wing was only bruised, clinic staff found her toe was necrotic and required amputation before the infection spread to the rest of her foot.

Unfortunately, this digit is vital for grasping prey while hunting. Without it, she would not be successful in the wild.

Did you know?

After an owl eats its prey, it coughs up pellets that contain parts of the animal it could not digest, including bones, fur, and feathers.





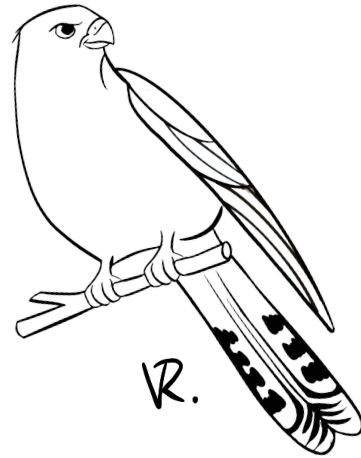
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R.

BRIE

AMERICAN KESTREL

**Scientific Name:**

Falco sparverius

Distribution:

Throughout North and South America

Life Span:

5 years

Body Length:

9-12 inches

Habitat:

Deserts, grasslands, and alpine meadows

Diet:

Mostly insects and other invertebrates, as well as small rodents and birds

Pumpkin is a female American Kestrel that was transported to the Avian Reconditioning Center in Apopka, Florida after finders discovered her as an injured fledgling.

Unfortunately, she had a compound fracture in her right wing. The injury could not be set, and the right tip of her wing had to be amputated.

With the wing amputation healed, she was unable to be released into the wild and was transferred to SFWC to join the Ambassador Animal Program.

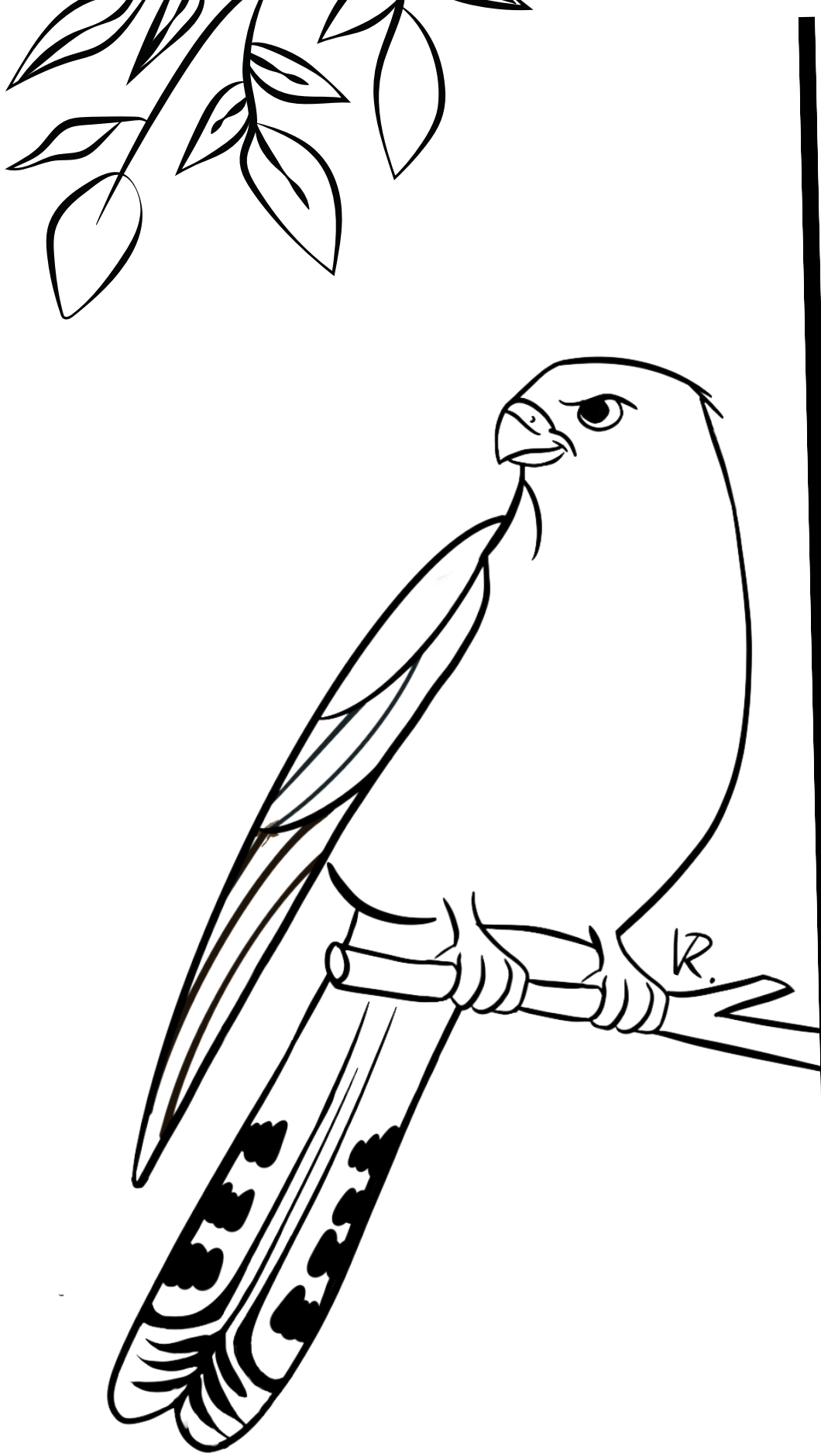
Did you know?

The American Kestrel is North America's smallest falcon!



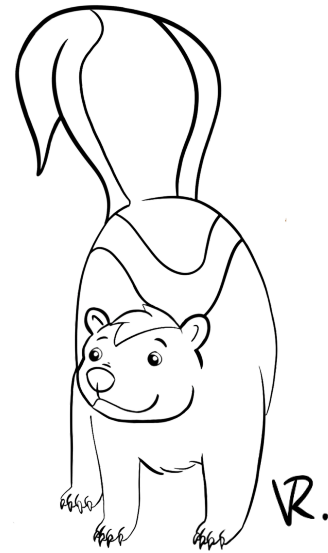


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PUMPKIN

STRIPED SKUNK

**Scientific Name:**

Mephitis mephitis

Distribution:

Common throughout North America

Life Span:

7 years

Body Length:

18-32 inches

Habitat:

Wooded areas, deserts, and plains

Diet:

Varies from insects in the spring and summer to mammals, birds, and reptiles, in the winter

Chive is a male Striped Skunk that was bred in Ohio to be a pet.

Unfortunately, the owners did not have time to dedicate to him, so he was surrendered to the Florida Skunk Rescue.

Chive was transferred to SFWC to join our Animal Ambassador team where he will receive specialized care and help educate the community about skunks in the wild.

Did you know?

These mammals are recognized by their signature stripes. Don't get too close! When threatened, they will emit a strong odor to evade predators.

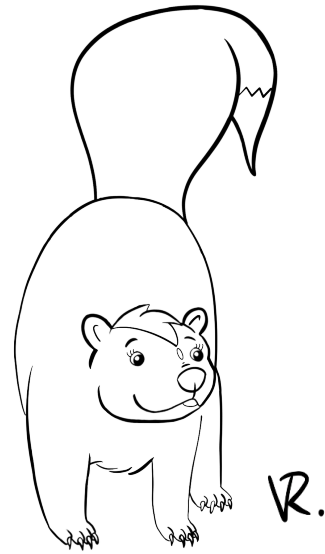


CHIVE



R.

STRIPED SKUNK

**Scientific Name:**

Mephitis mephitis

Distribution:

Common throughout North America

Life Span:

7 years

Body Length:

18-32 inches

Habitat:

Wooded areas, deserts, and plains

Diet:

Varies from insects in the spring and summer to mammals, birds, and reptiles, in the winter

Rosemary is a female Striped Skunk that was bred in Indiana to be a pet.

Unfortunately, the owners did not have time to dedicate to her, so she was surrendered to the Florida Skunk Rescue.

Rosemary was transferred to SFWC to join our Animal Ambassador team where she will receive specialized care and help educate the community about skunks in the wild.

Did you know?

The Striped Skunk can direct its spray up to 10 feet away and the smell can carry for over a mile!





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ROSEMARY

BARRED OWL

**Scientific Name:**

Strix varia

Distribution:

Common throughout North America

Life Span:

18 years

Body Length:

15-25 inches

Habitat:

Large, densely planted forests

Diet:

Small mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates

Kiwi is a female Barred Owl that was found caught in a fence.

Concerned citizens took her to an exotic pet hospital where she was stabilized and then transferred to AWARE Wildlife Center in Lithonia, Georgia.

Radiographs revealed she had a fracture in her left shoulder and elbow. While rehabilitation was attempted, unfortunately she had no use of her wing aside from aiding in balance.

Did you know?

Owls have 14 vertebrae in their necks compared to humans, that only have 7. This allows the owl to turn its head 270 degrees!



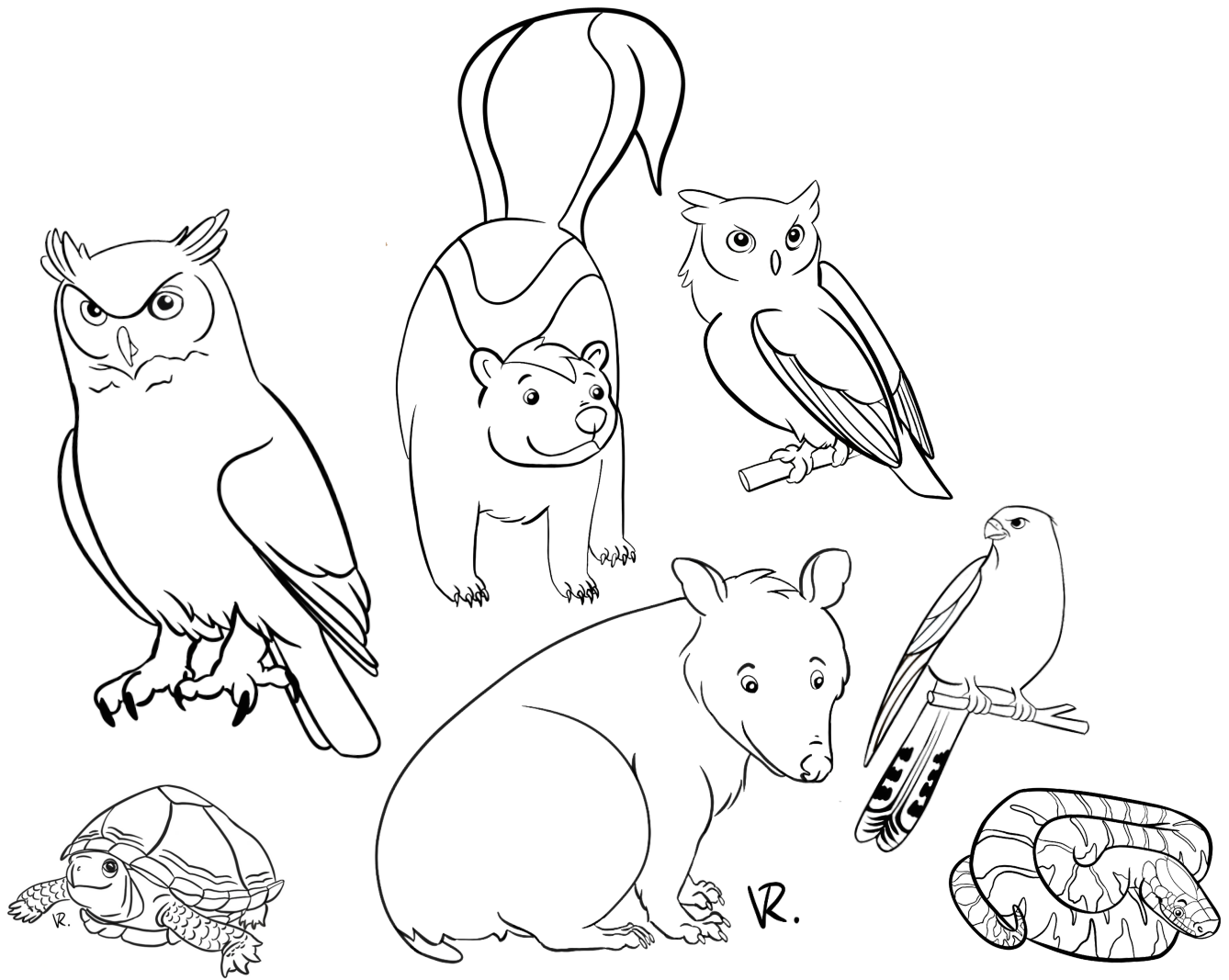


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KIWI

R.



We hope you enjoyed learning about the Animal Ambassadors that call South Florida Wildlife Center home. Every year we work to educate the community about our wild neighbors through fun, interactive and educational programming for all ages.

For current program offerings and availability, please visit our website at www.southfloridawildlifecenter.org.

This coloring book would not have been possible without Regina Vera and her beautiful drawings of our Ambassador Animals!



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Connect with us on social media!
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