

# Kids Don't Float Activity Book



Color and play games while learning  
to be safe and have fun around water.

## Hey Safe Boater Kids!

There's no place like Alaska for fun on the water. However, like all outdoor activities, boating comes with some risks. The biggest risk to Alaska's boaters is a fall overboard or a boat capsizing (flips over). Alaska's cold water can quickly take your breath away and make swimming really hard. The most important thing is to **ALWAYS WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET** when in an open boat or on deck. By wearing your life jacket you can stay afloat so you can breathe, rescue yourself, or be more easily seen by others so you can be rescued.

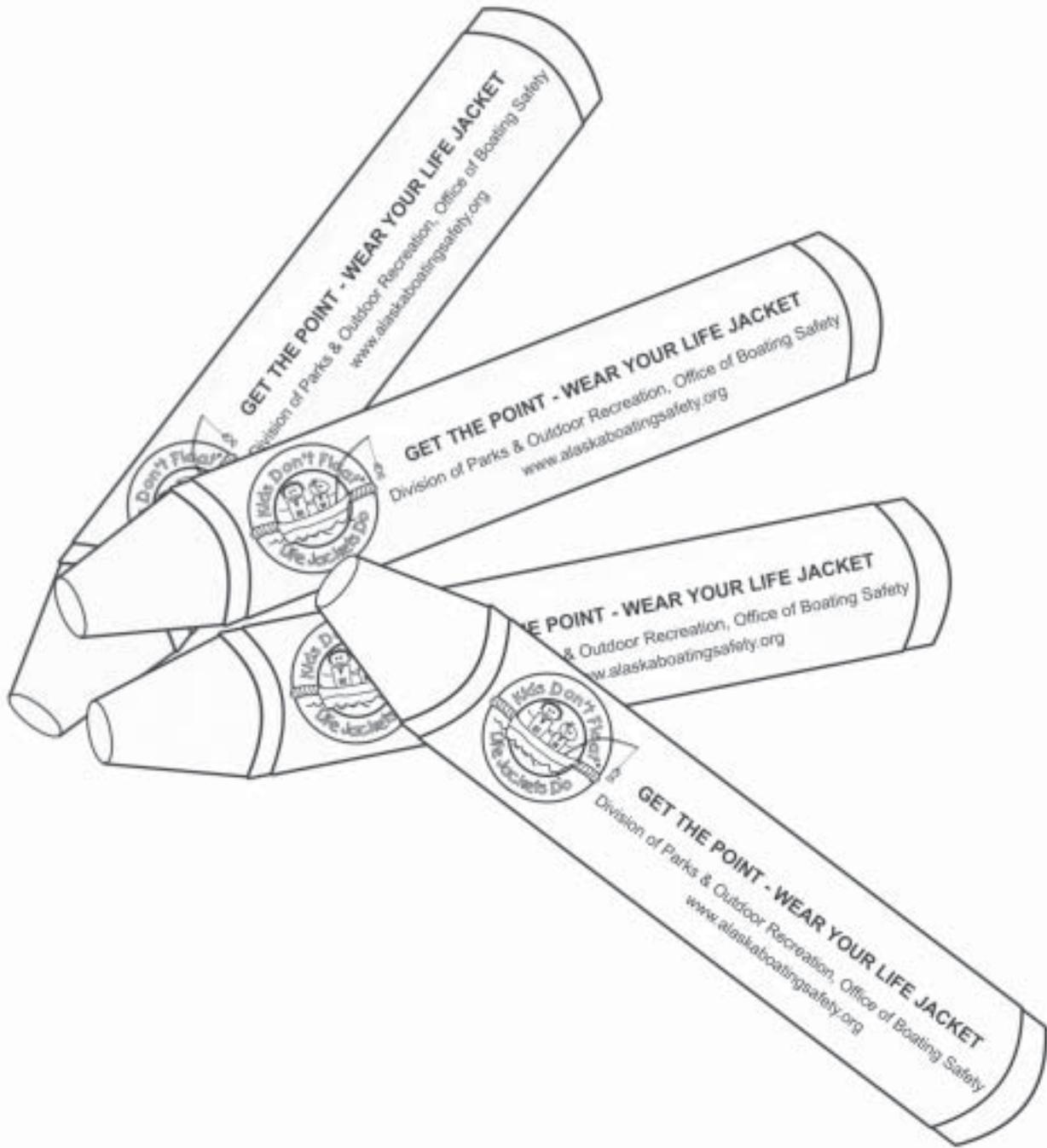
In this book you'll find all sorts of things to do, with tips that help make boating both safer and more fun. We hope you enjoy it.

Remember, Kids Don't Float,  
Life Jackets Do!

Ranger Joe

P.S. If you're out on the water this summer and we see you wearing your life jacket, we may have a special prize for you!





This Alaska Boater Kids' Activity Book  
belongs to \_\_\_\_\_





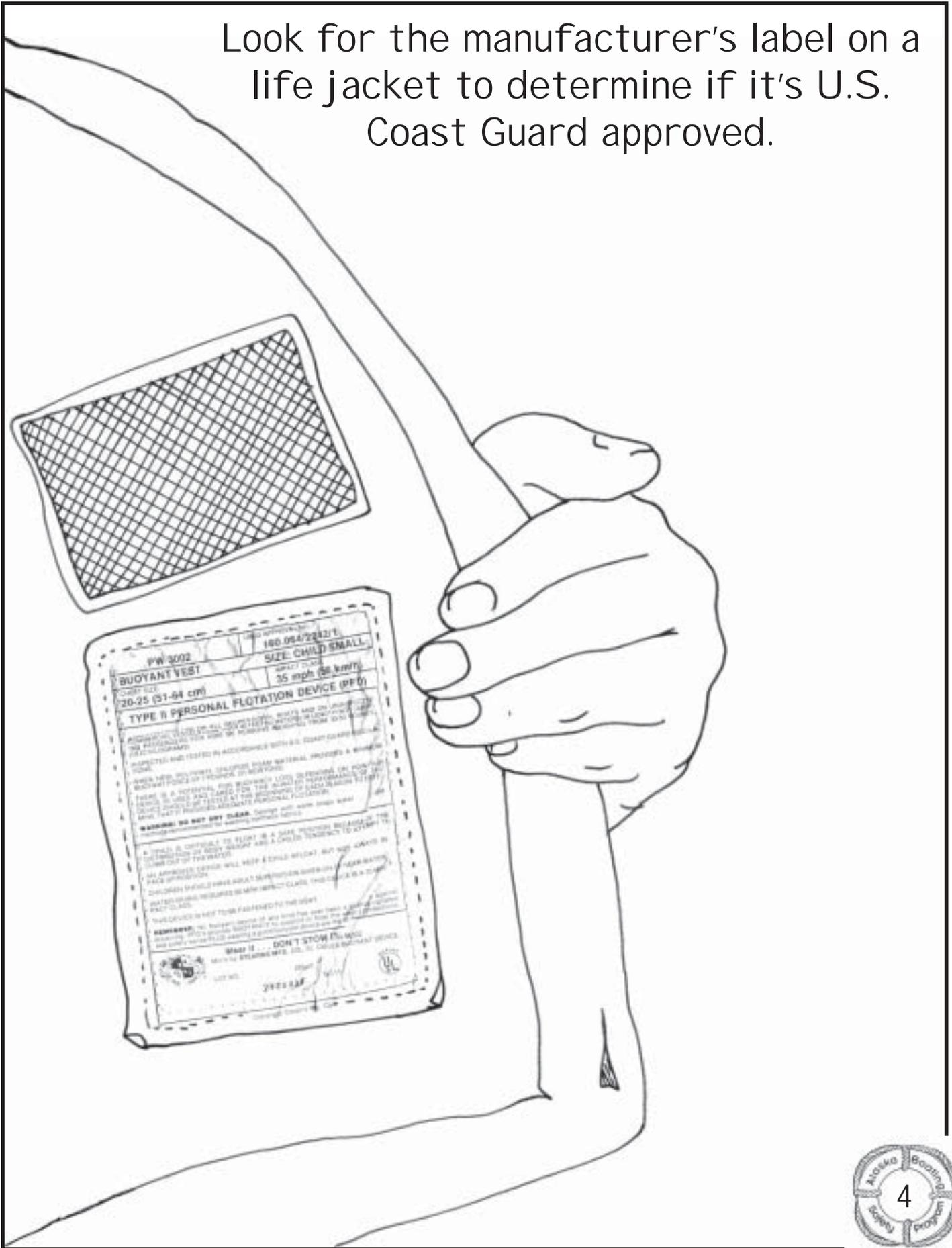
Always wear your life jacket when in a boat or near the water!

The best life jacket is...



the one you wear!

Look for the manufacturer's label on a life jacket to determine if it's U.S. Coast Guard approved.

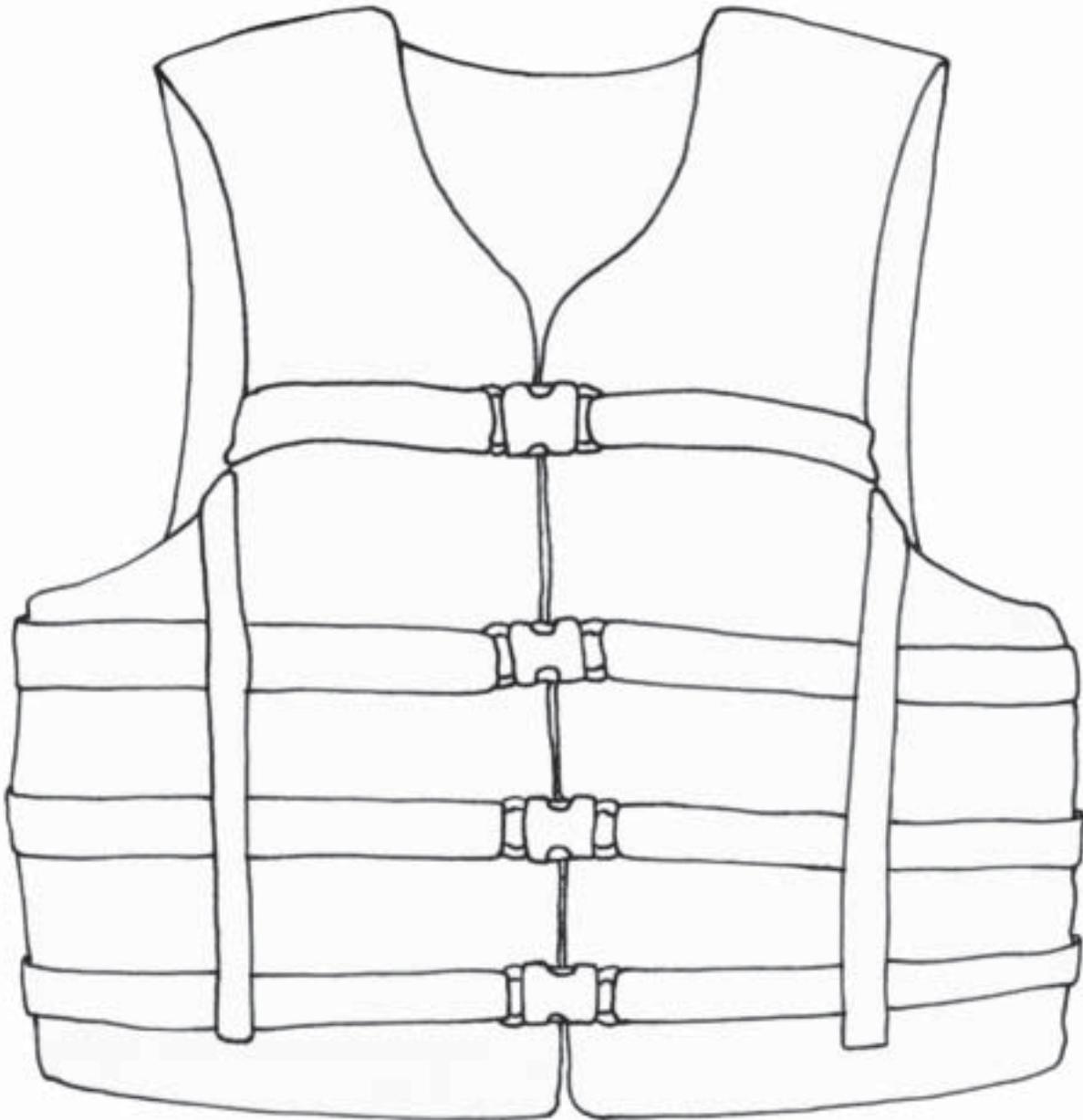


Ranger Roger wants to know if you think this life jacket is in serviceable condition.



If not, why?

Here is an example of a really good life jacket.



Color it brightly!

# Kids Don't Float...

# Life Jackets Do!



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Draw lines matching the life jacket to the person it will fit best.





Circle the kid who has the best fitting life jacket.

Does yours fit?

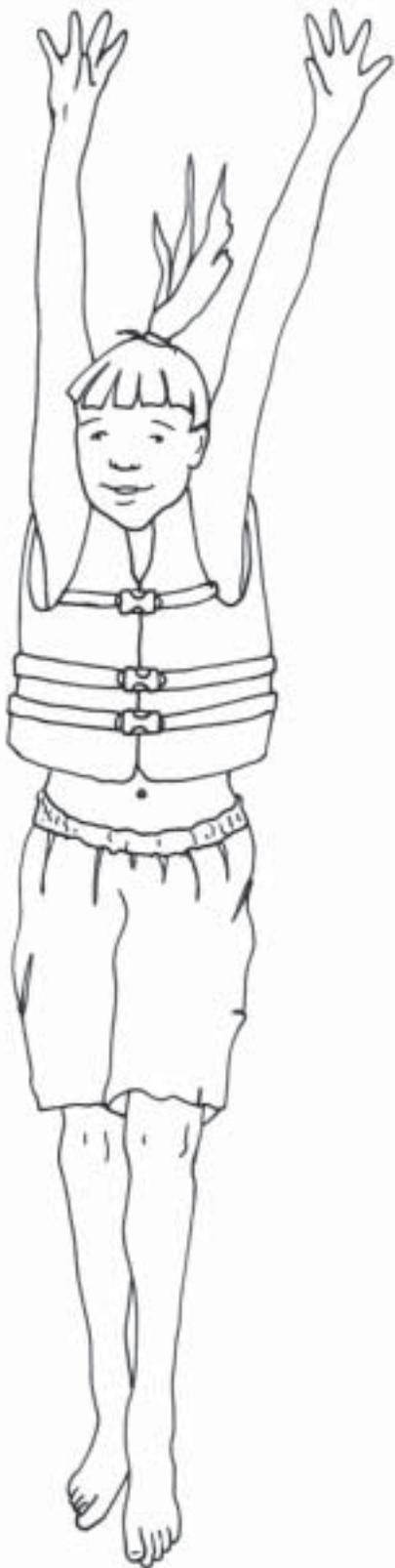


Make sure your life jacket is on correctly and all the buckles fastened.



If you can't get your life jacket on correctly, ask someone to help.

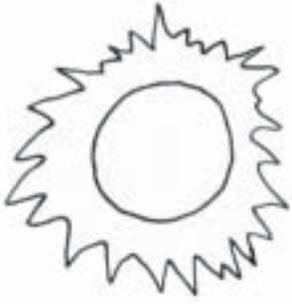




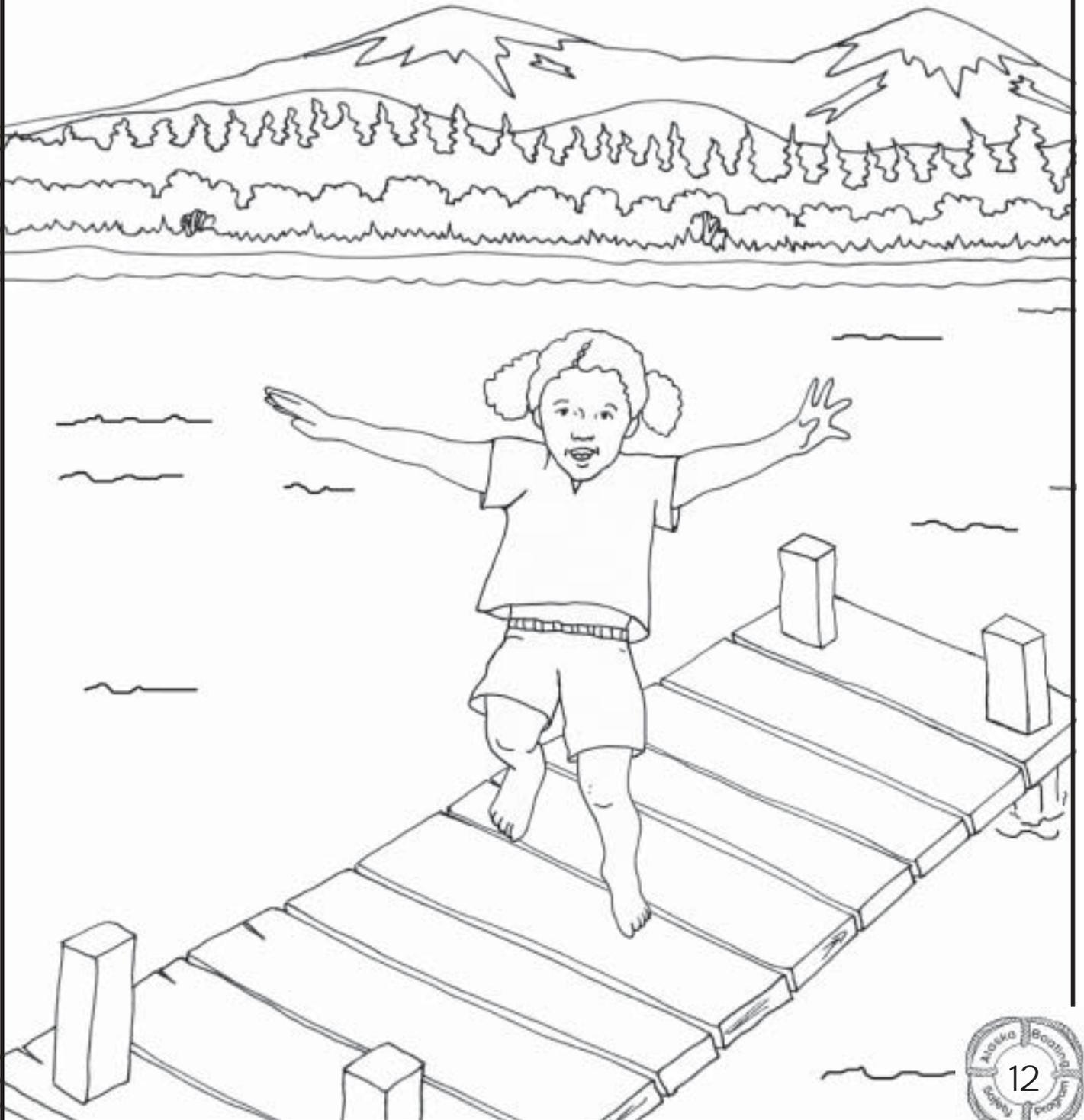
## Do the life jacket "touchdown" test.

1. Put on your life jacket. Make sure all the buckles are fastened.
2. Raise your arms above your head, just like a referee signaling a touchdown.
3. Have a grownup pull up on the shoulders. If the life jacket stays in place, it fits. If it touches your ears, it's too loose. Now turn your head. If it touches your chin, it's too loose.

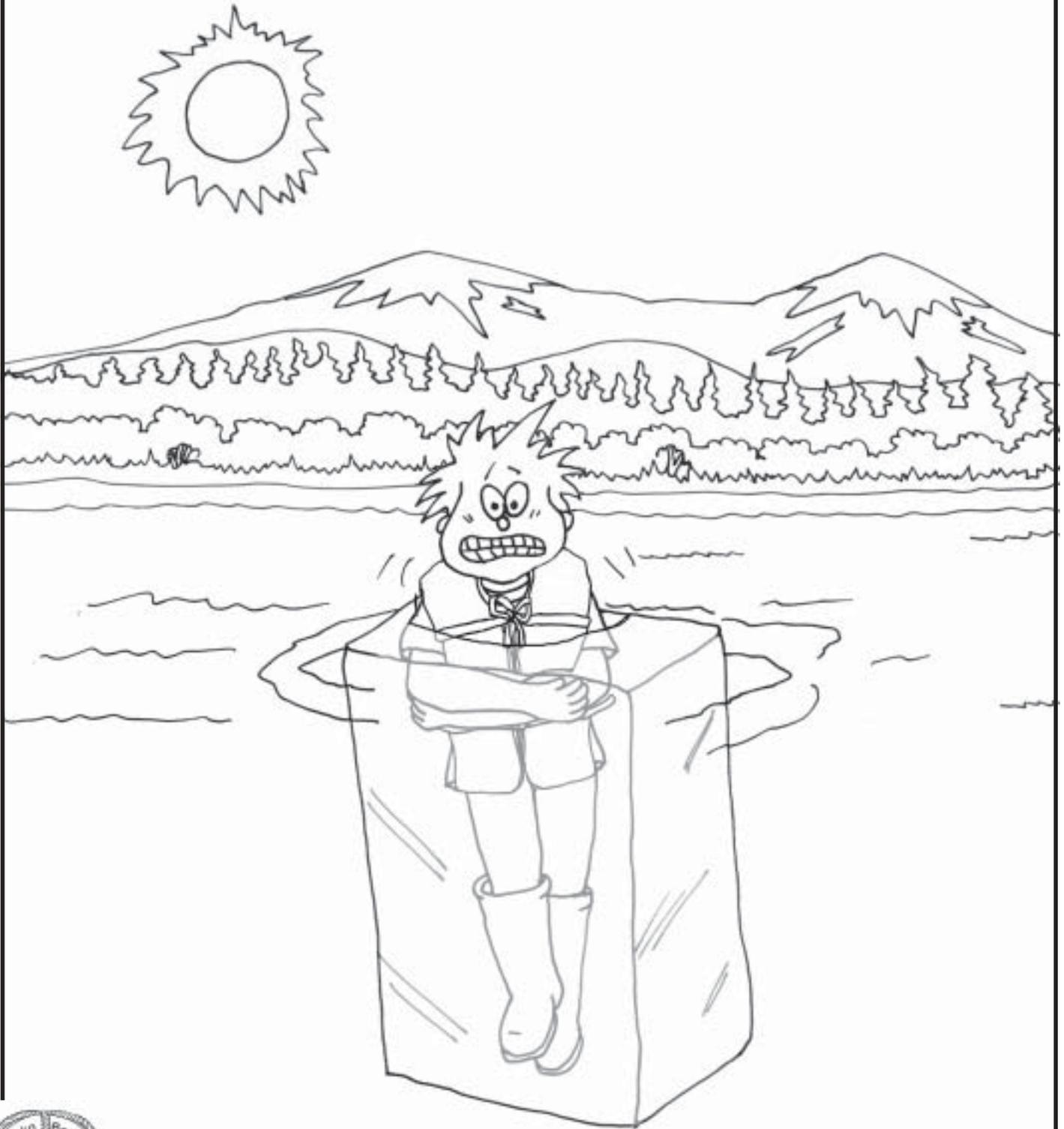




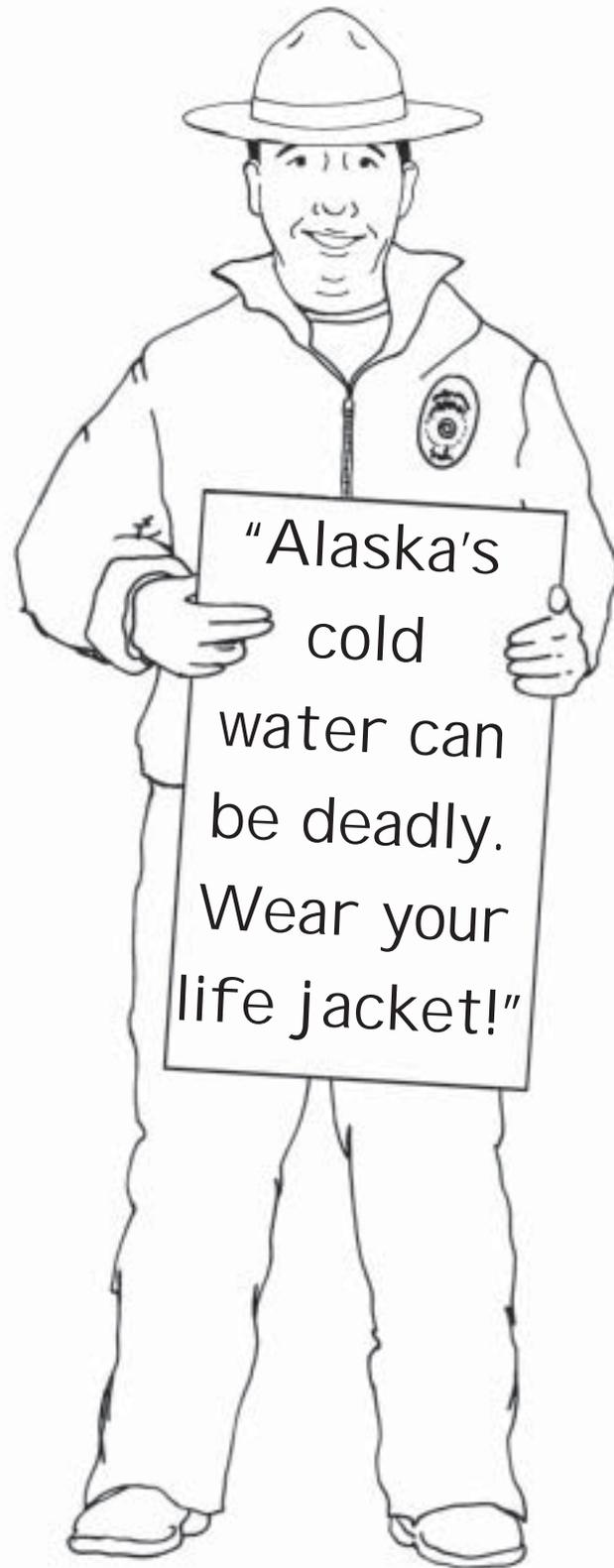
Can you draw something  
to make her safer?



Life jackets help protect us because  
Alaska's water is \_ \_ \_ \_.

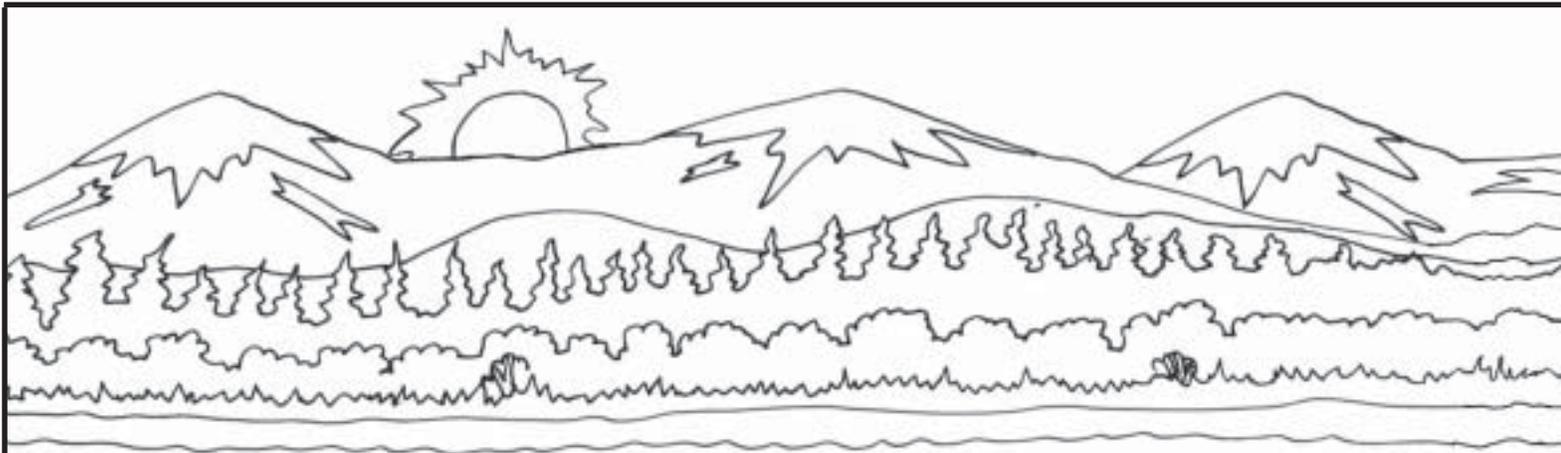


# Ranger Joe says...

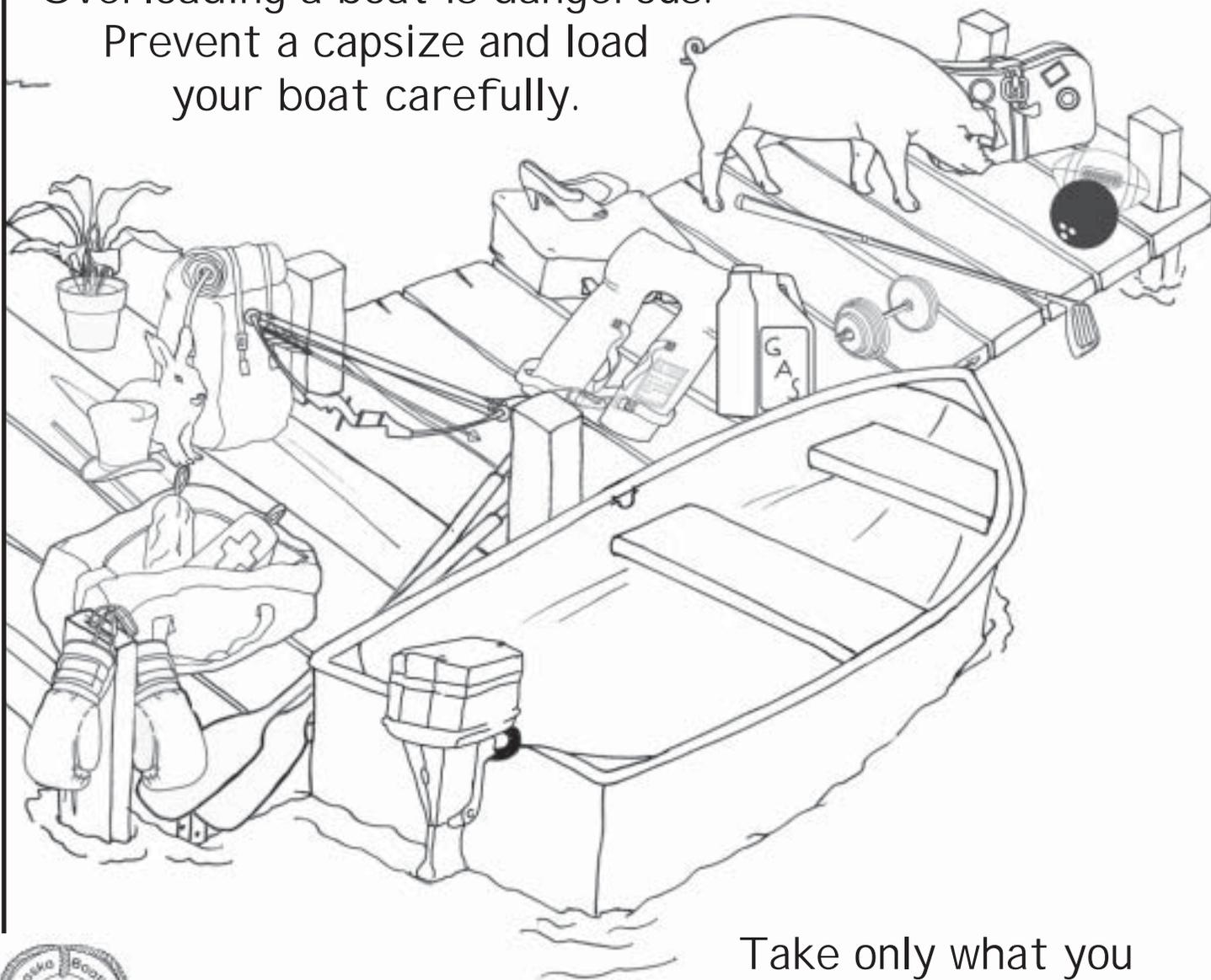


Ranger Joe is wearing a life jacket called a "float coat."

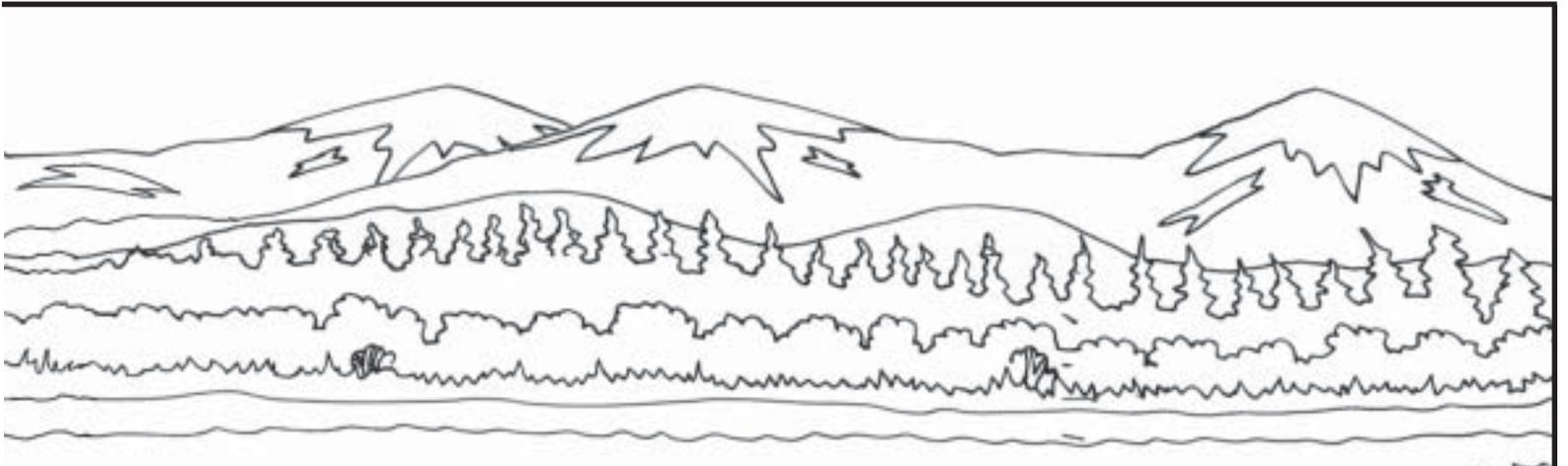




Overloading a boat is dangerous.  
Prevent a capsizing and load  
your boat carefully.



Take only what you  
need to be safe.



Circle the SIX items you'd take boating.



dress shoes



pig



type IV throwable  
seat cushion



bowling ball  
and football



life jacket



dumb bell



bow and arrow



potted plant



boxing gloves



gas can



extra clothes in  
waterproof bag



suitcase



golf club



portable  
magic act

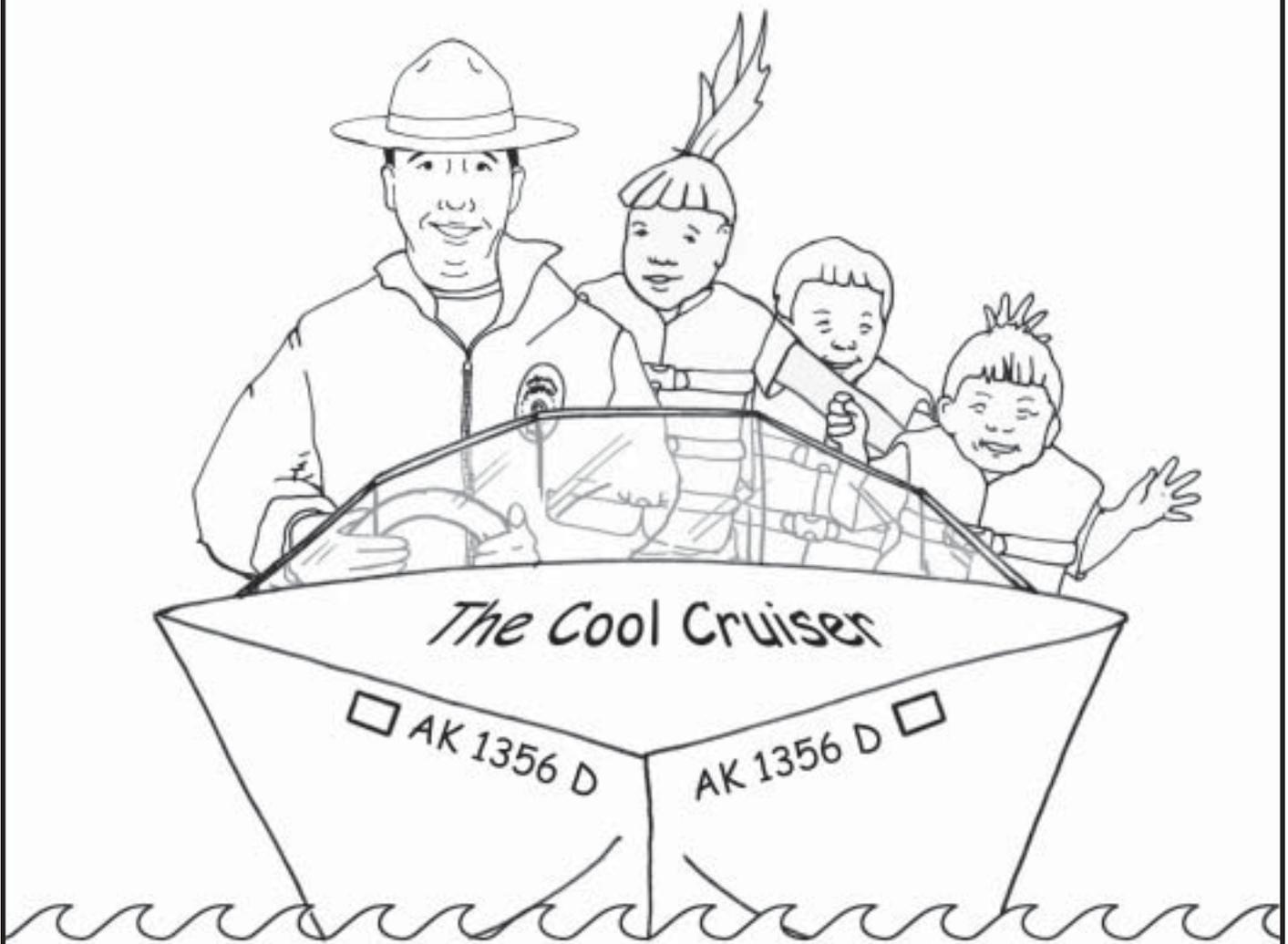


Oars  
(in case motor fails)



first aid kit

In which boat do you think you'd be safer?



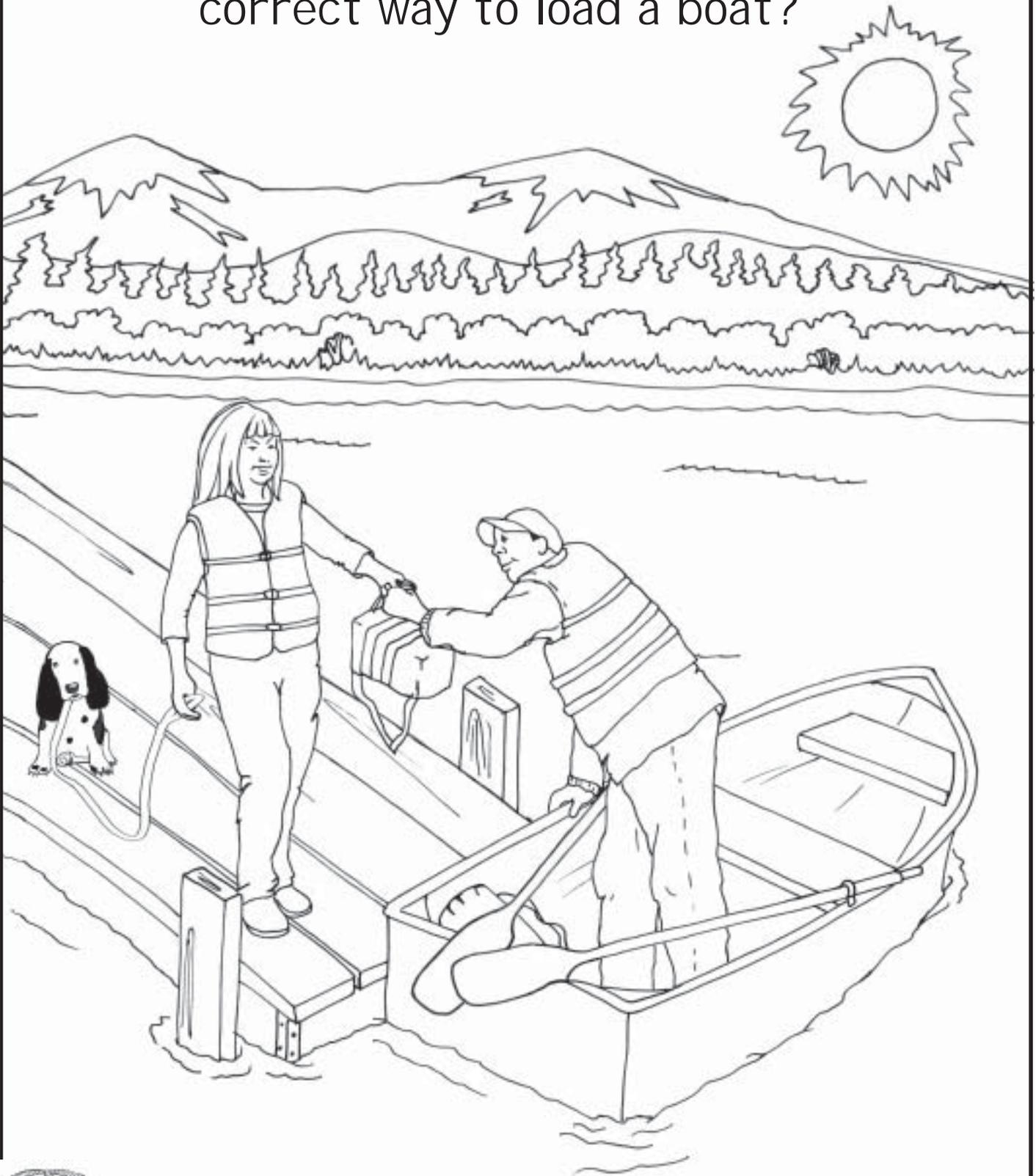
Boat 1

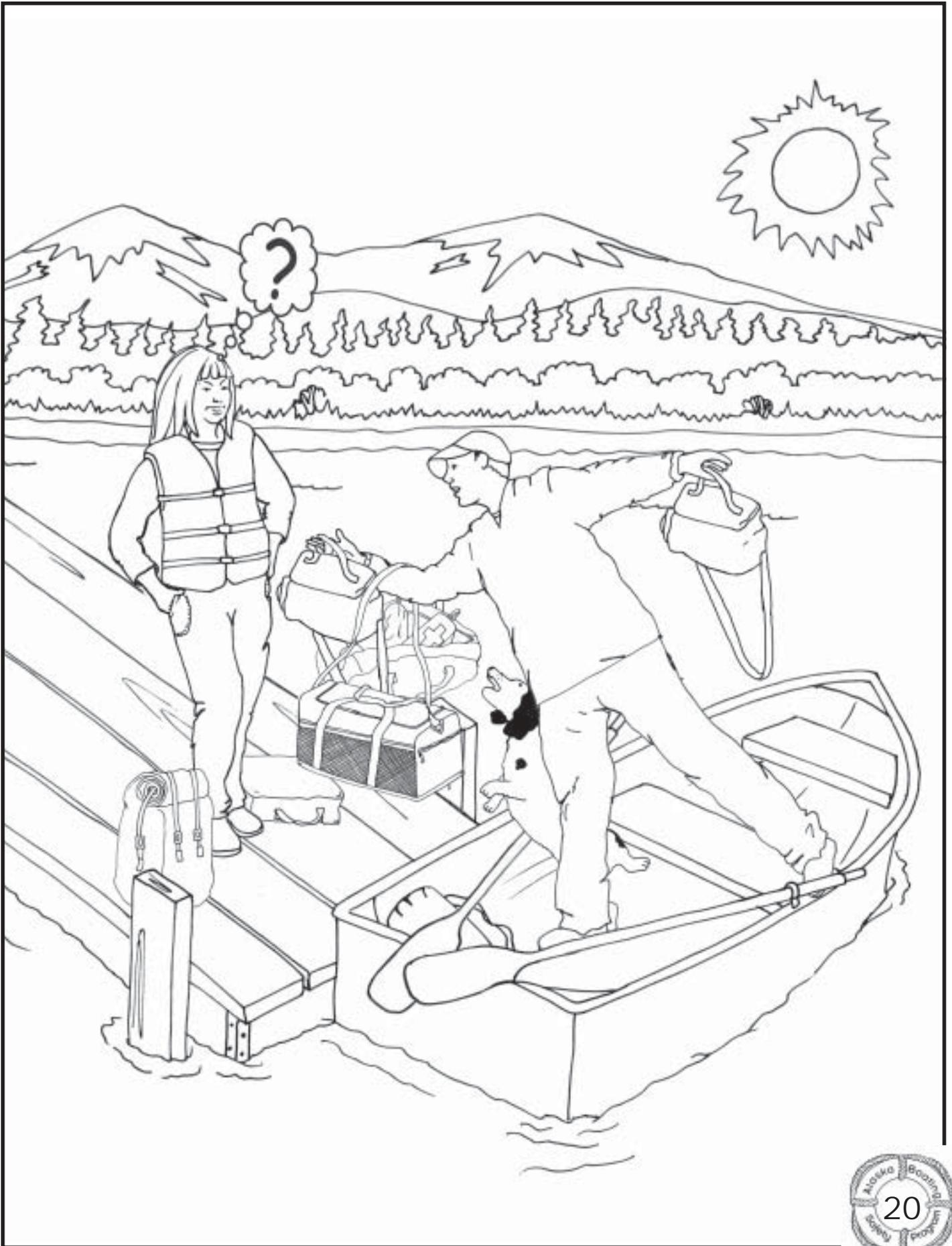
Circle one:  
Boat 1 - The Cool Cruiser or  
Boat 2 - The Misadventure



Boat 2

Which of these two pictures shows the correct way to load a boat?

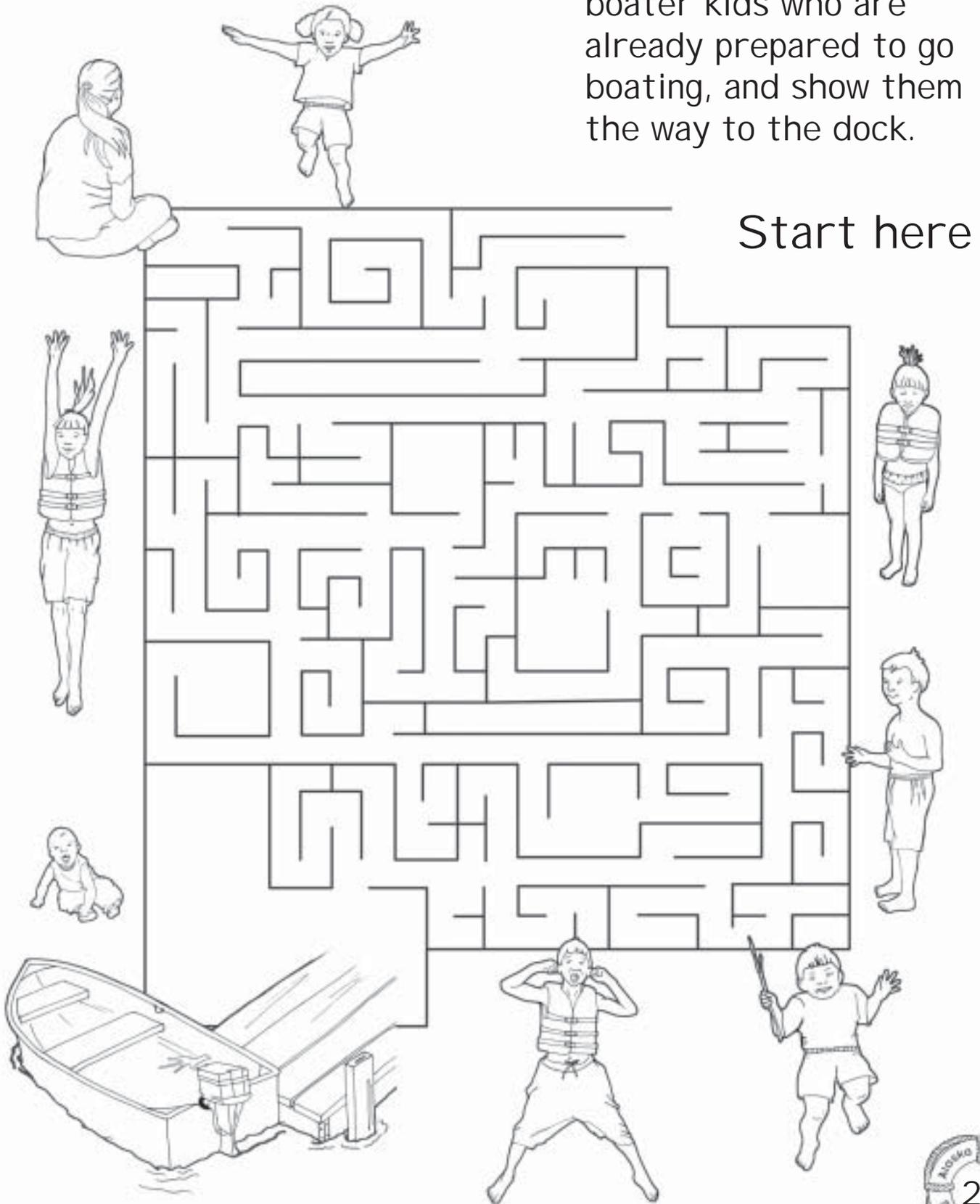






**PARENTS:**  
**It's the LAW!**  
Persons under the  
age of thirteen  
**MUST** wear their  
PFD in an open boat  
or on a deck.

Everybody wants to go boating, but this small boat only has room for three people at a time. Circle the three safe boater kids who are already prepared to go boating, and show them the way to the dock.





aft, anchor, bail, bell, boat, bucket, buckle, buoy, buoyancy, chart, cold water, deck, dock, emergency, extinguisher, fire, first aid kit, flare, horn, hull, kayak, kid, ~~kids don't float~~, life jacket, moor, oar, paddle, PFD (2 x), port, radio, row, safe, sail, sea, ship, signal, skiff, stern, throwable, wake, wave, whistle

Find and circle the words in the above list as shown. Words can intersect, read vertically, horizontally and even diagonally!

# Boating Safety Messages

## Break the Code!

Count the letters in your first name.

Subtract 4 if your name has 6 or more letters

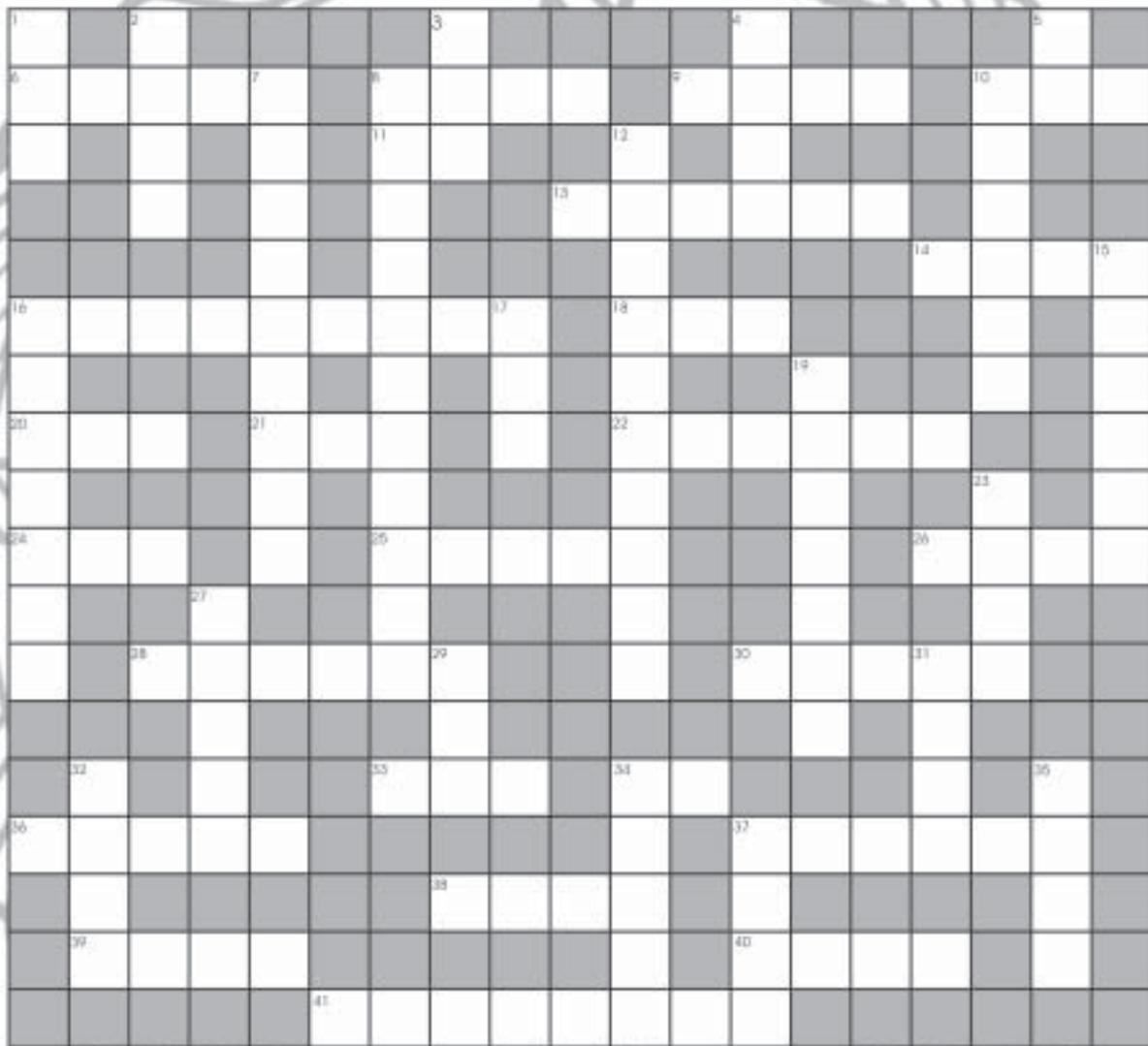
Add 3 if your name has less than 6 letters

The number you get is your code number. Circle all the letters under your code number to find the message just for you.

6	3	8	2	5	4	7	2	5	9	4	2	7	5	9
D	T	D	W	D	M	S	E	O	K	O	A	T	N	E
9	8	6	8	4	3	4	9	7	5	2	4	3	6	4
E	R	O	I	V	A	E	P	A	O	R	S	K	N	L
9	5	3	9	6	4	7	8	4	3	9	4	6	8	3
F	T	E	I	O	O	Y	V	W	T	R	L	T	E	U
3	4	8	2	7	5	2	8	6	4	9	8	5	4	5
R	Y	C	Y	A	D	O	A	H	A	E	R	R	N	I
6	7	5	9	3	4	5	3	8	2	3	4	5	2	3
A	L	N	A	N	D	K	S	E	U	S	C	A	R	T
4	5	3	8	6	9	3	5	4	7	8	3	6	4	5
A	L	E	F	N	W	P	C	R	E	U	P	G	E	O
8	6	8	2	5	4	6	3	9	3	5	6	9	8	3
L	O	L	P	H	F	V	I	A	N	O	E	Y	Y	G
3	5	6	7	9	3	2	3	5	6	9	3	5	6	5
O	L	R	R	F	N	F	A	W	T	R	N	H	H	E
5	9	4	9	3	6	4	5	6	3	2	9	6	5	7
N	O	U	M	D	E	L	B	S	O	D	F	I	O	T
6	9	3	5	9	5	3	5	6	4	9	5	2	4	5
D	U	F	A	E	T	F	I	E	L	L	N	S	Y	G

# Alaska Boater Kids' CROSSWORD

Test your knowledge of boating terms!



## ACROSS

6. Kids Don't \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Choose a life jacket that \_\_\_\_\_.
9. To tie-off a boat to a dock or buoy
10. Can limit your visibility on the water
11. A person under 13 is required by law to wear a life jacket when \_\_\_ a boat or on an open deck.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ for help in an emergency.
14. Signal for \_\_\_\_\_ in an emergency.
16. The #1 threat to Alaska's boaters (two words)
18. The stern is the back \_\_\_\_\_ of a boat.
20. Along with #16 down, this can help you find your way
21. A person who drinks alcohol and drives a car may be arrested for driving while intoxicated (DWI). If driving a boat, this is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
22. An important object attached to a boat by chain or rope
24. When a person in a boat is facing toward the stern they are looking \_\_\_\_\_.
25. Small boat propelled by double bladed paddle
26. Turbulence left by something moving through the water
28. Freedom from danger
30. A signaling device that burns brightly
33. A boat that tows other boats is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
34. To rescue someone in the water you should reach, throw, row but never \_\_\_\_.
36. Small boat paddled by one or more persons
37. When you wear your life jacket, don't forget to \_\_\_\_\_ up.
38. Motorboats should always carry an extinguisher in case of a \_\_\_\_\_.
39. A rope, when used on a boat, is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
40. Used to row a boat
41. \_\_\_\_\_ is the force that keeps something afloat.

## DOWN

1. Personal Flotation Device (abb.)
2. Place to moor your boat
3. To use a fire extinguisher, you must first pull the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. A good life jacket is NOT \_\_\_\_\_ (see page 5)
5. Kids don't float, life jackets \_\_\_\_.
7. A \_\_\_\_\_ device (type IV) is designed to be tossed to someone in the water.
8. For use in medical emergency (three words)
10. A life jacket is your best \_\_\_\_\_."
12. Another name for Personal Flotation Device (two words)
15. An implement having a blade at one or both ends
16. Device used to determine direction of travel
17. To propel a boat with oars
19. Signaling device with a piercing sound
23. Swell or ridge that crests on the surface of the water
27. A wireless transmitter
29. \_\_\_\_\_ should always wear a life jacket when in a boat.
31. "Don't \_\_\_\_\_ the boat."
32. To remove water from a boat
34. If the buoys on your right are red, the buoys on your left are \_\_\_\_\_.
35. "The best life jacket is the one you \_\_\_\_\_."
37. Floating object used to mark something

# Kids Don't Float Examination

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Circle the BEST answer

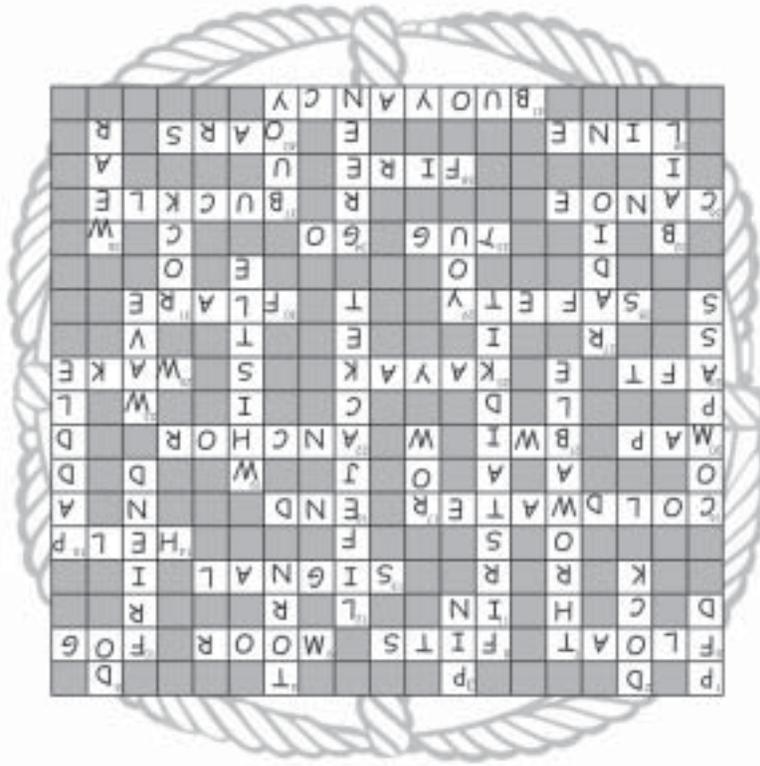
1. Why should **everyone** wear life jackets when in an open boat or on an open deck?
  - a. they are Coast Guard approved
  - b. they keep you afloat in cold water
  - c. they keep you from falling overboard
  - d. it's the law
  
2. What is an example of a risky behavior when boating?
  - a. water skiing
  - b. operating personal watercraft
  - c. yelling and waving
  - d. sitting on your life jacket
  
3. The manufacturer's label on a life jacket provides what kind of information?
  - a. the price and where it was purchased
  - b. how well it will float the wearer
  - c. who the jacket belongs to
  - d. the kinds of uses that it is approved for
  
4. What is the best life jacket?
  - a. the one that you will wear
  - b. the one that's the newest
  - c. an inflatable
  - d. a non-inflatable
  
5. What does serviceable condition mean as it relates to life jackets?
  - a. the expiration date has not passed
  - b. it is free of serious damage, and all the fasteners work
  - c. it has plenty of pockets
  - d. the label says it is Coast Guard approved

6. Alaska law requires a person under what age to wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved PFD when in an open boat or on the deck of a boat?
  - a. 11
  - b. 12
  - c. 13
  - d. 14
  
7. What is one way to prevent a cold water immersion from happening?
  - a. wearing a life jacket
  - b. knowing how to swim
  - c. wearing warm clothing and eating a good meal
  - d. practicing safe behavior in a boat
  
8. What is one of the ways cold water can kill?
  - a. frostbite
  - b. gasp reflex
  - c. giardiasis
  - d. acidosis
  
9. What is one way a life jacket can help in the event of a cold water immersion?
  - a. assists with breath control
  - b. keeps you comfortable
  - c. stops heat loss
  - d. keeps you dry
  
10. What is an example of safe behavior in a boat?
  - a. reaching overboard for an object
  - b. riding on the bow of the boat
  - c. seating everyone on the same side
  - d. staying seated and keeping the boat balanced

ANSWERS  
1. b, 2. d, 3. d, 4. a, 5. b, 6. c, 7. d, 8. b, 9. a, 10. d



# Answer Key



Page 25 and 26 - Crossword answers

Page 19 and 20 - The people on page 19 know the correct way to load a boat.

Pages 17 and 18 - Boat 1 is the safer.

Page 13 - Alaska's water is C O L D!

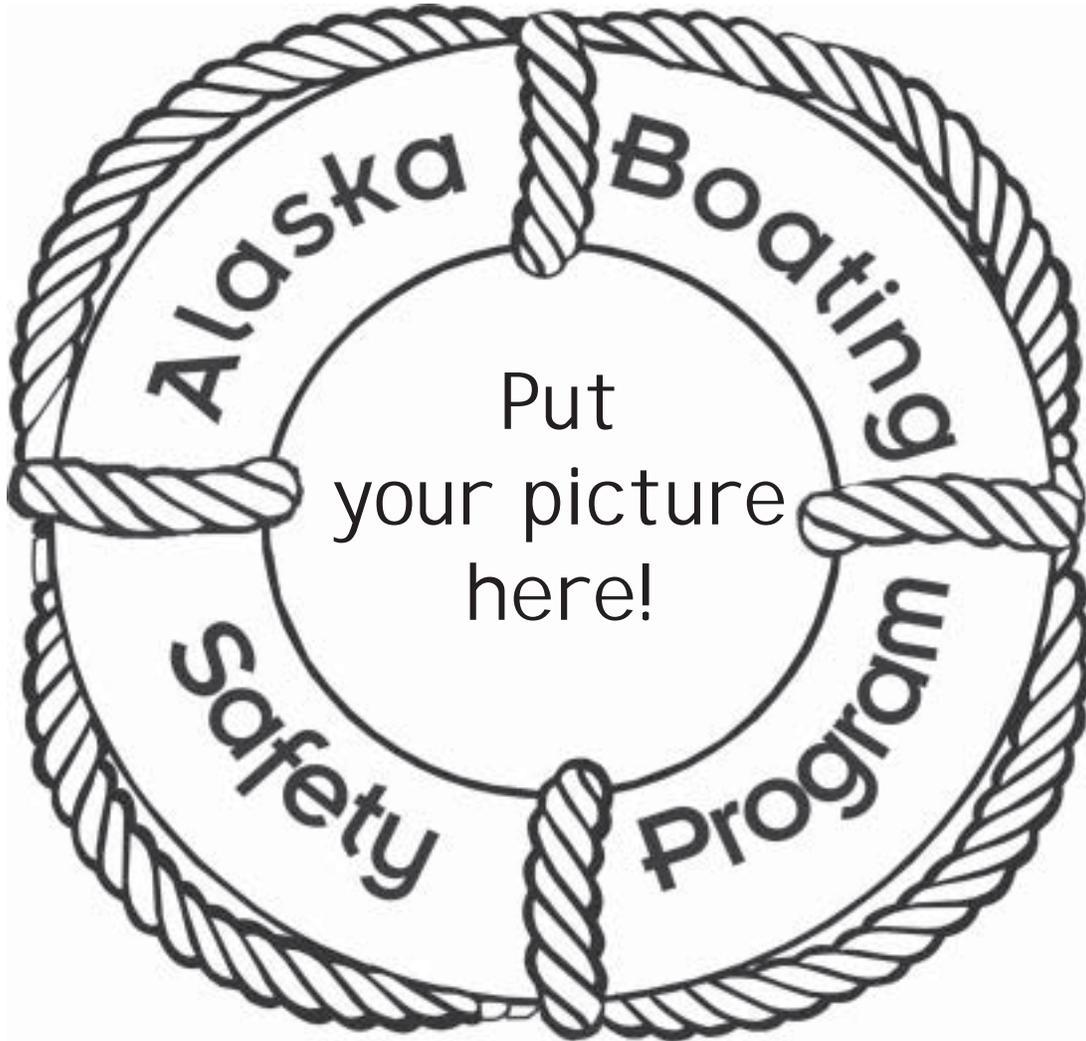
Pages 15 and 16 - If you're going boating you should take a life jacket, throwable seat cushion, gas can (and gas), oars (in case you run out of gas or have engine failure), extra clothes in a water-proof bag, and a first aid kit.

Page 12 - Draw a life jacket on the little girl.

Page 8 - The girl in the bottom left corner has a life jacket that fits.

Page 7 - The adult needs the life jacket in the middle, the infant needs the life jacket on the right, and the little girl needs the one the adult is holding.

I am a Safe Boater Kid.



WoW!

You've learned a lot!

Now that you know about boating safety, tell your family and friends.





[www.alaskaboatingsafety.org](http://www.alaskaboatingsafety.org)