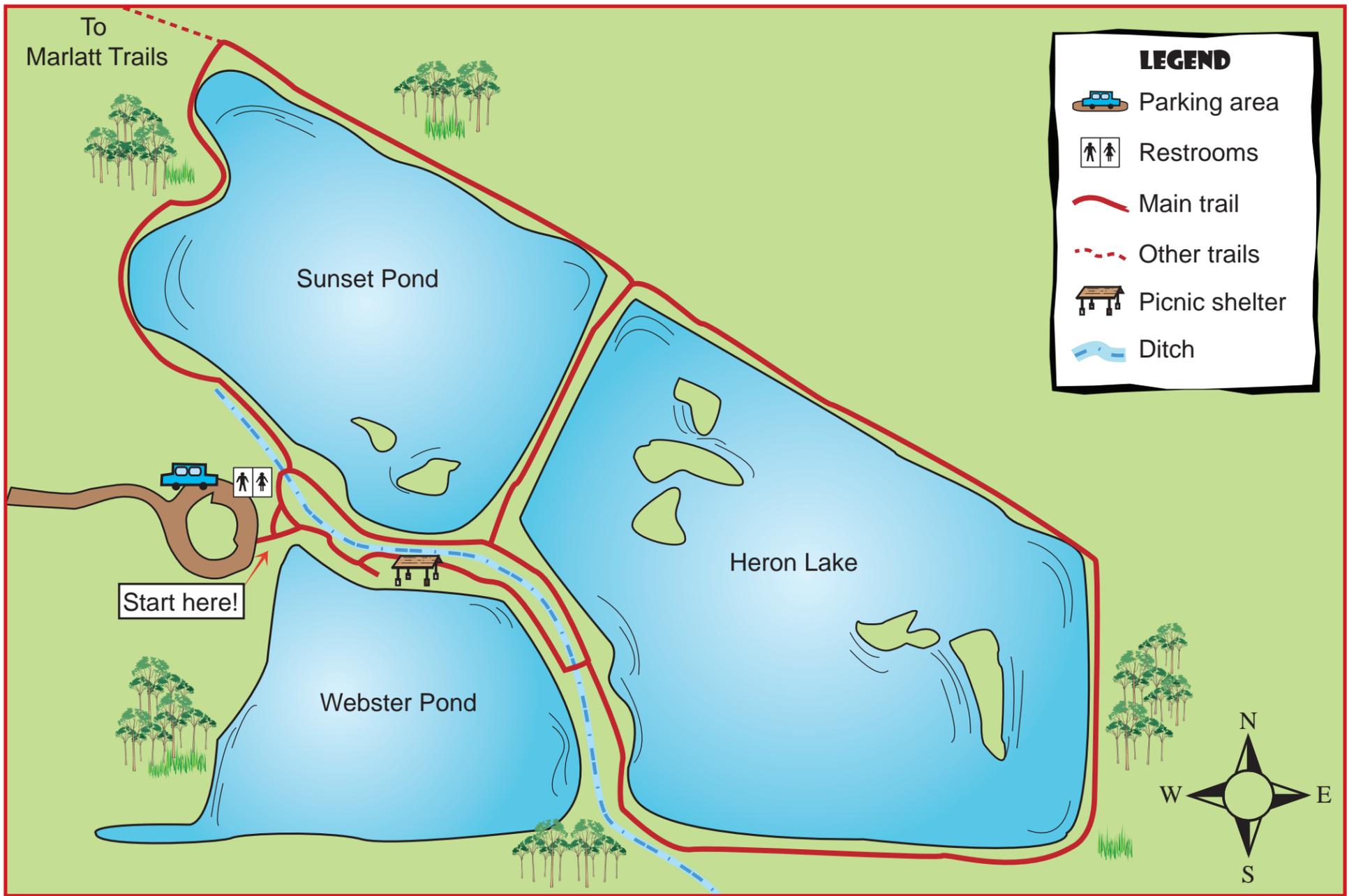


PELLA CROSSING NATURE DETECTIVES MAP

Feel free to write or draw on your map!



3 **What a View!**
Find a comfortable spot to sit with a nice view. Complete the sentences below.

I see _____

I hear _____

I smell _____

I feel _____

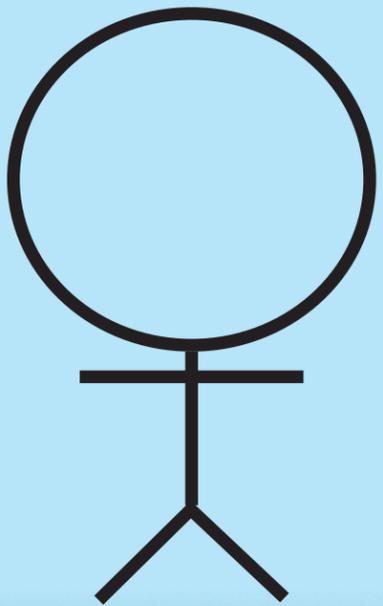
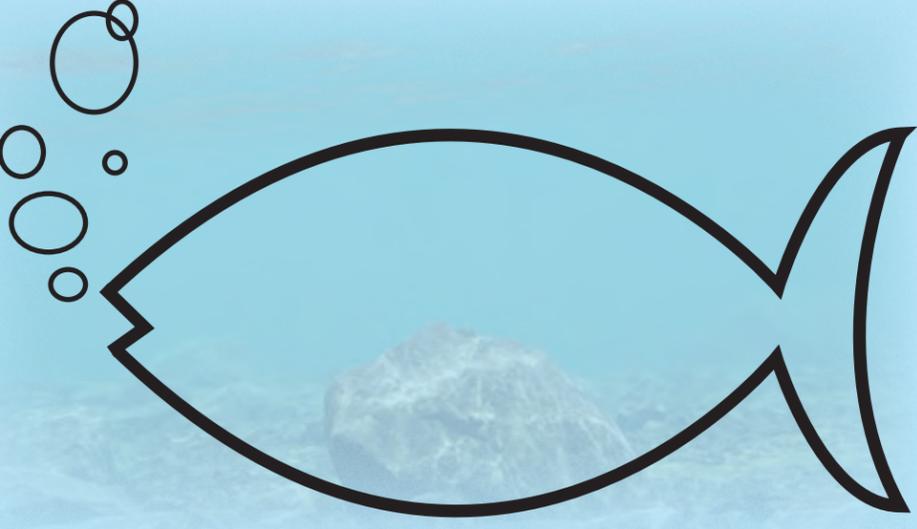
4 **Masters of Disguise**
“Camouflage” is when something has a similar color or pattern to its surroundings. Camouflage helps prey animals to hide from danger, and helps predators sneak up on prey. The pictures below show a male and female mallard duck. Circle the one with better camouflage.




Bonus: How would you camouflage yourself in a pond environment?

5 **Fish or Human?**
Can you spot any fish in the water? Fish and humans have some body features in common, and some that are different. Draw each of the following features on the human, the fish, or both.

FEET
FINS
EYES
HANDS
NOSE
SCALES
HAIR
GILLS
TEETH!

Imagine you are that insect and answer the questions below.

What insect is it? (You can make up a name if you don't know it!)

Find and watch an insect for a few minutes.

Insect Interview

What do you use for shelter?

What do you eat?

What creatures might eat you?

What do you do during winter?

Write here!

Now think of a mountain stream. Would the temperature feel different? Why?

Touch a Pond

Write here!

Find a safe spot to put your fingers or hand into the water. How would you describe the temperature?

Start here!

MYSTERY GUIDE

- Take this Mystery Guide and a pen or pencil with you as you explore. To complete your Nature Detective training at this park, complete at least 3 of the 5 activities.
- Inside you will find a map of the park, which will serve as a guide. Some activities correspond to locations on the map, and some activities can be done anywhere.
- Feel free to get help from grown-ups on this, but remember, these activities are for you! You can write or draw anywhere in this mystery guide. The more thoughtful and artistic, the better!

**Nature Detectives Club
Mystery Guides can be found at:**

- 1) Agricultural Heritage Center
- 2) Bald Mountain Scenic Area
- 3) Betasso Preserve
- 4) Caribou Ranch Open Space
- 5) Carolyn Holmberg Preserve
- 6) Heil Valley Ranch
- 7) Mud Lake Open Space
- 8) Pella Crossing
- 9) Walden Ponds Wildlife Habitat

Drop completed mystery guides at the Nature Detectives Club office at Pella Crossing. We hope you enjoy exploring the park with this Nature Detective mystery guide! Due to safety concerns for your family and our staff during the pandemic, we are temporarily suspending the collection of mystery guides and distribution of prizes.

Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Zip code: _____

Phone: _____



NATURE DETECTIVES CLUB



PELLA CROSSING

A mystery awaits in this county park full of clues!

- Your mission is to become a young Nature Detective, collecting clues from the world around you, and solving mysteries of the forest, prairie, wetlands, and mountains.
- After completing a mystery guide we will send you a useful tool for your future outdoor adventures.
- All right detective, let's go!

**YOUR CASE:
PELLA CROSSING**

Pella Crossing has six man-made ponds that provide important habitat for animals such as box turtles, owls, ducks, skunks, coyotes, and fish such as bluegill and smallmouth bass. Though the ponds were damaged during the 2013 flood, plants and animals continued to make Pella Crossing their home.