

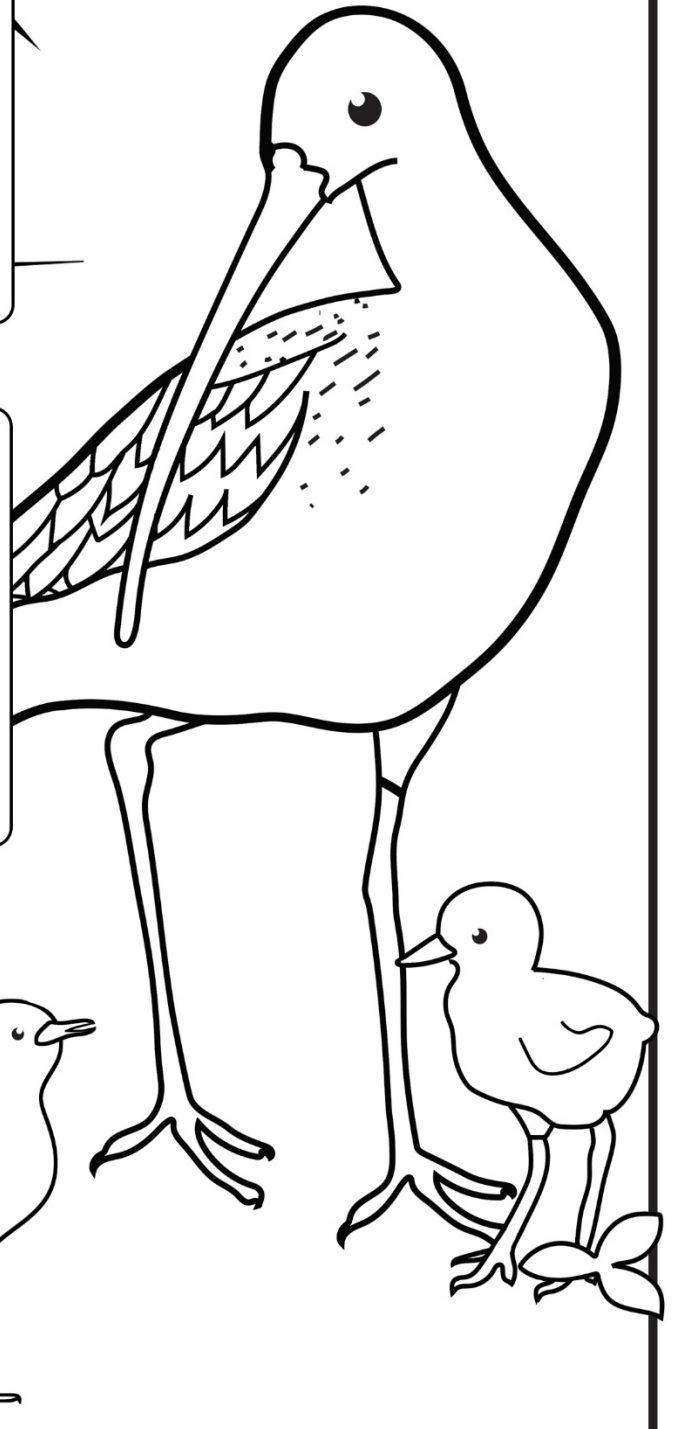
Curlew / Cuirliún / Crotach



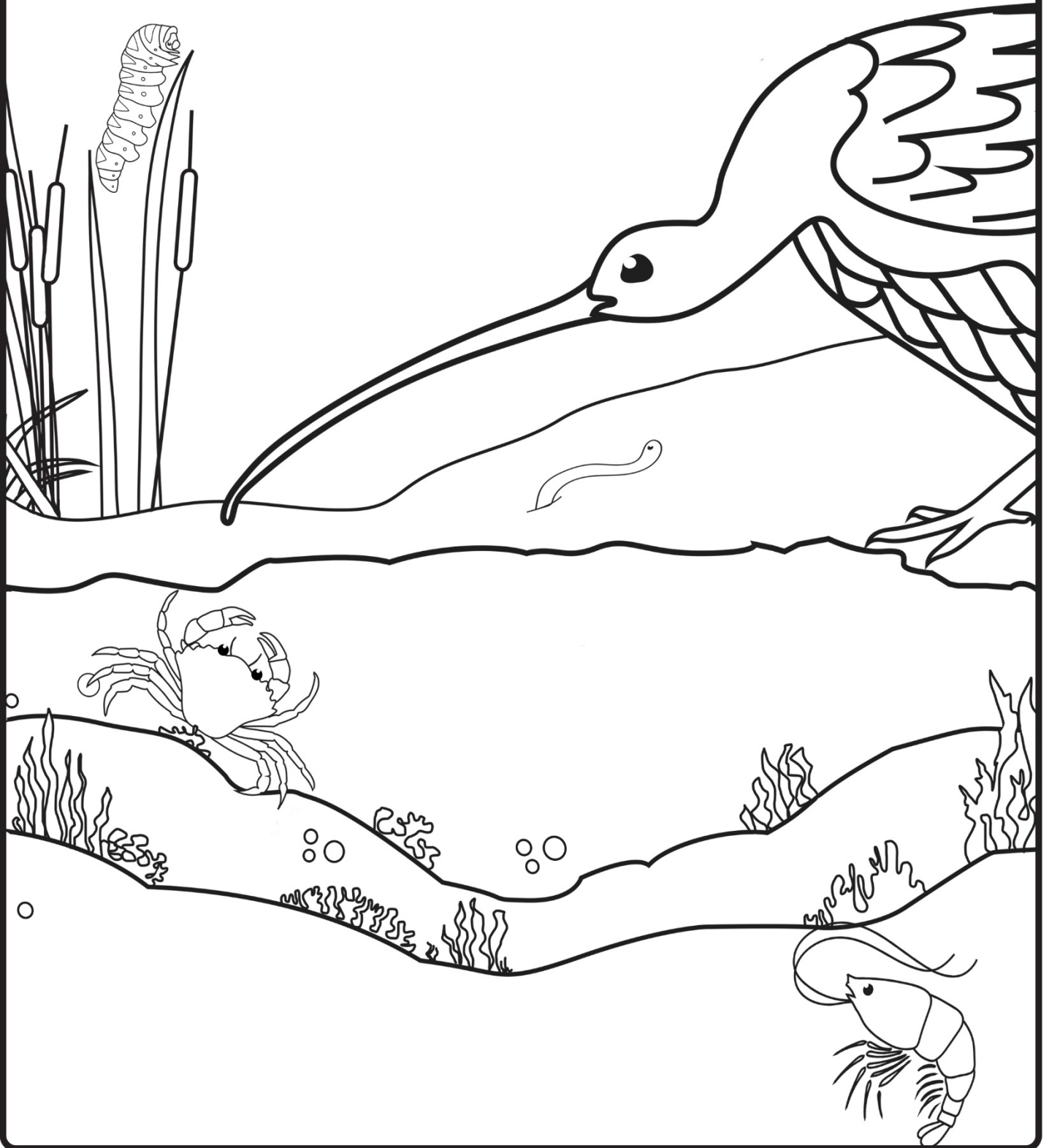
The Curlew is Ireland's largest wader. A wader is a long-legged bird that 'wades' in shallow water or muddy ground to look for food. In Munster Irish, we say Cuirliún, but you can also say Crotach. Curlews have a very long beak (also called a bill). This helps them find food in soft ground, wet mud and shallow water.

The end of a curlew's bill is sensitive and acts like tweezers which allows it to feel around in the mud for food. Curlews like to eat worms, caterpillars, crabs, shrimps, spiders, insects, and other types of creepy crawlies. Curlews like to lay their eggs in bogs and meadows in the spring and summer. In autumn and winter, they feed in wetland areas such as estuaries, tidal shores and nearby fields.

Most curlews that you see in winter in Ireland have arrived here from colder northern climates to feed during our milder winters. They stay from September to April and then migrate back to their home countries to have their chicks. Irish breeding curlews are very rare and very important! Those that remain here to breed lay their eggs in mid-April. If you hear their distinctive 'bubbling' call: 'kur-leeeee – kur-lee – kur-leeeee', you know you are listening to a very special but, sadly, endangered bird.



Curlew / Cuirliún / Crotach



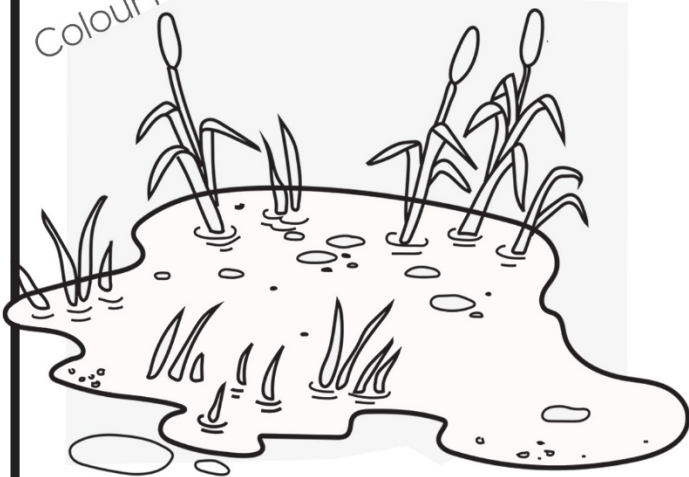
Curlew / Cuirliún / Crotach

Try drawing one!

Name 3 things Curlews like to eat

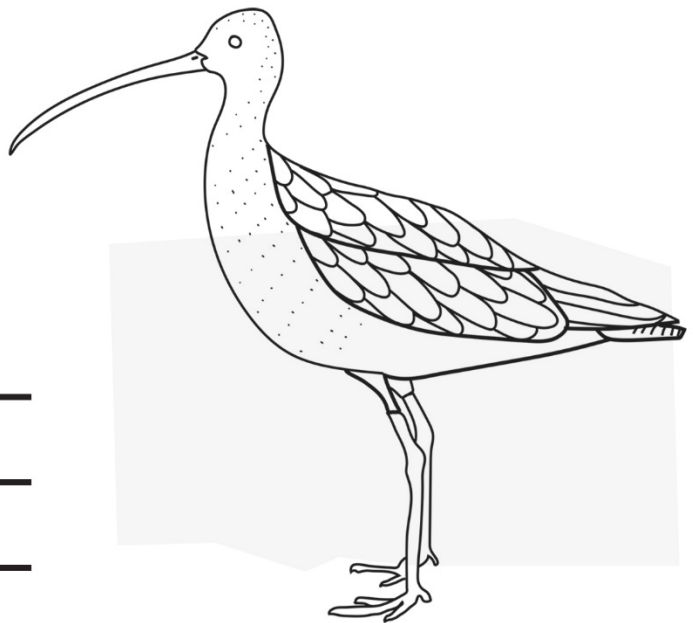


Colour me in!

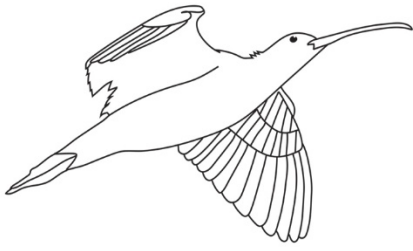


Name 3 places you might find Curlews

Write 3 things you have learned about Curlews



Curlew / Cuirliún / Crotach



Curlew Wordsearch

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

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘

BILL
BIRD
CONSERVATION
CURLEW
CURVED
EGGS
ENDANGERED

FEATHER
FIELDS
FLIGHT
FLOCK
HATCHLING
NEST

SHORELINE

TIDE
WADER
WETLAND
WING
WORMS

