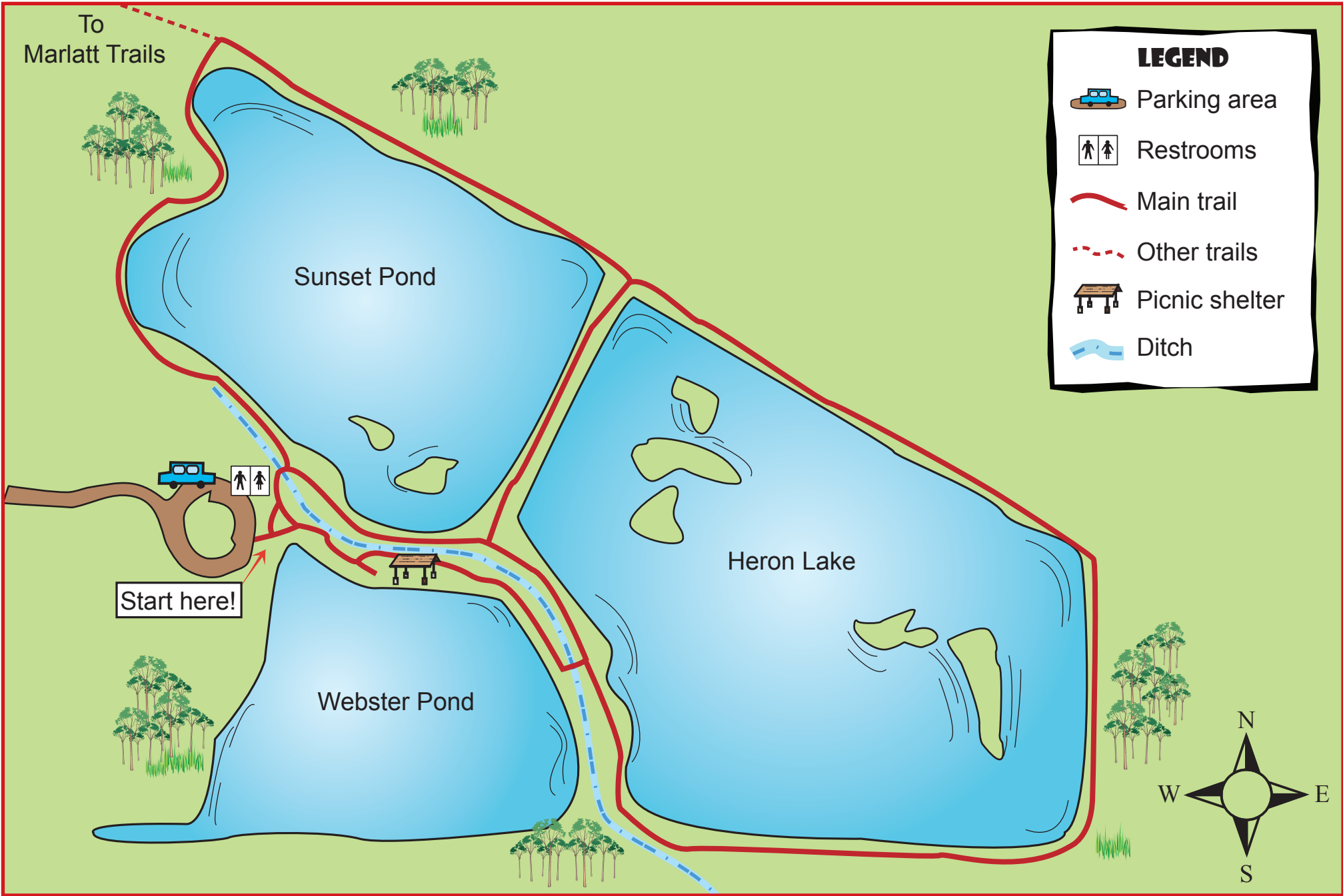


PELLA CROSSING NATURE DETECTIVES MAP

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 _____


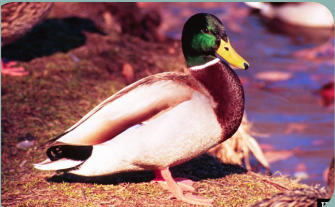
I smell _____

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


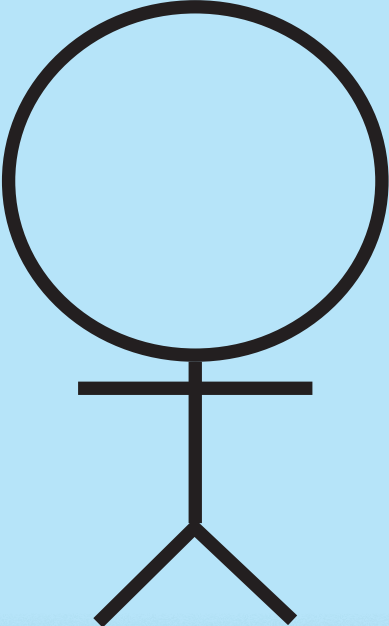
NOSE

SCALES

HAIR

GILLS

TEETH



What do you use for shelter?

What do you eat?

What creatures might eat you?

What do you do during winter?

Find and watch an insect for a few minutes. What insect is it? (You can make up a name if you don't know it!)

Imagine you are that insect and answer the questions below.

2

Insect Interview

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

Touch a Pond

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

1

Write here!

Write here!

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!

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.

Nature Detectives Club

Mystery Guides can be found at:

1) Agricultural Heritage Center

2) Anne U. White Trail

3) Bald Mountain Scenic Area

4) Betasso Preserve

5) Caribou Ranch Open Space

6) Carolyn Holmberg Preserve

7) Heil Valley Ranch

8) Mud Lake Open Space

9) Pella Crossing

10) Walden Ponds Wildlife Habitat

Drop completed mystery guides in the Nature Detectives Club mailbox at each park. If you need to finish at home, mail to:
Nature Detectives Club, Boulder County Parks & Open Space, 5201 St. Vrain Road, Longmont, CO 80503

Complete the information below so we can send you prizes and return your mystery guides!

Grown-ups, please provide the following information:

Detective's name:

Age:

Address:

City, State:

Zip code:


Phone:

Look for Nature Detective inserts and activities in each issue of Images.

BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org

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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!

(Intended for ages 4-11)