

Could This Happen?

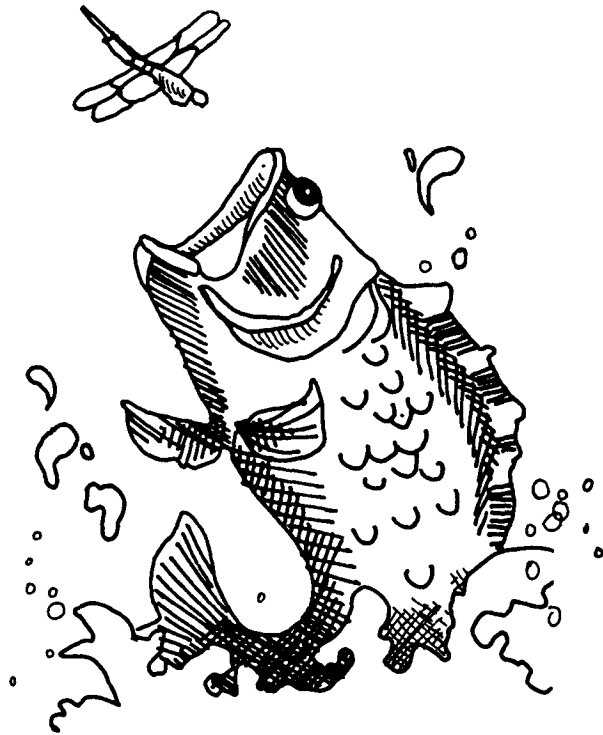
When this land was new
We thrived in great rivers,
In quiet lakes,
In rushing streams of deep woods,
In small ponds of fields and farms.

There we hatched and fed and grew
And swam in the clear, clean water.

Then people came
And came and changed the land.
People came and paved and dumped
And littered and spilled
And changed the world.

We gasped for air.
We swam to deep pools
And found them trashed and spoiled.
We looked for a place to hide and rest—
A place to breed and raise our young—
But there was none.

I swim alone!



1. What is the animal in the poem? _____
2. Were people's actions helpful to it? _____
3. Describe some things that could happen if all the water in the world suddenly became polluted.

4. How many examples of polluted water have you seen today? _____