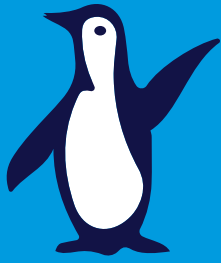


STAY HOME



with  SHEDD AQUARIUM



Pledge to Conserve with Shedd Aquarium



There are many actions children and adults can take to help conserve and protect our local natural resources. Will you pledge to take action to conserve the biodiversity in your neighborhood?

To learn how you can protect local wildlife, read Shedd's "Be an Animal Protector" comic on page 2 and choose ways your group can take action for animals. Then you can make a personal conservation pledge that you can display in your home.

Activities for youths (grades K–5) on pages 2–3 and 5. >

Activities for teens (grades 6–12) on page 4–5. >



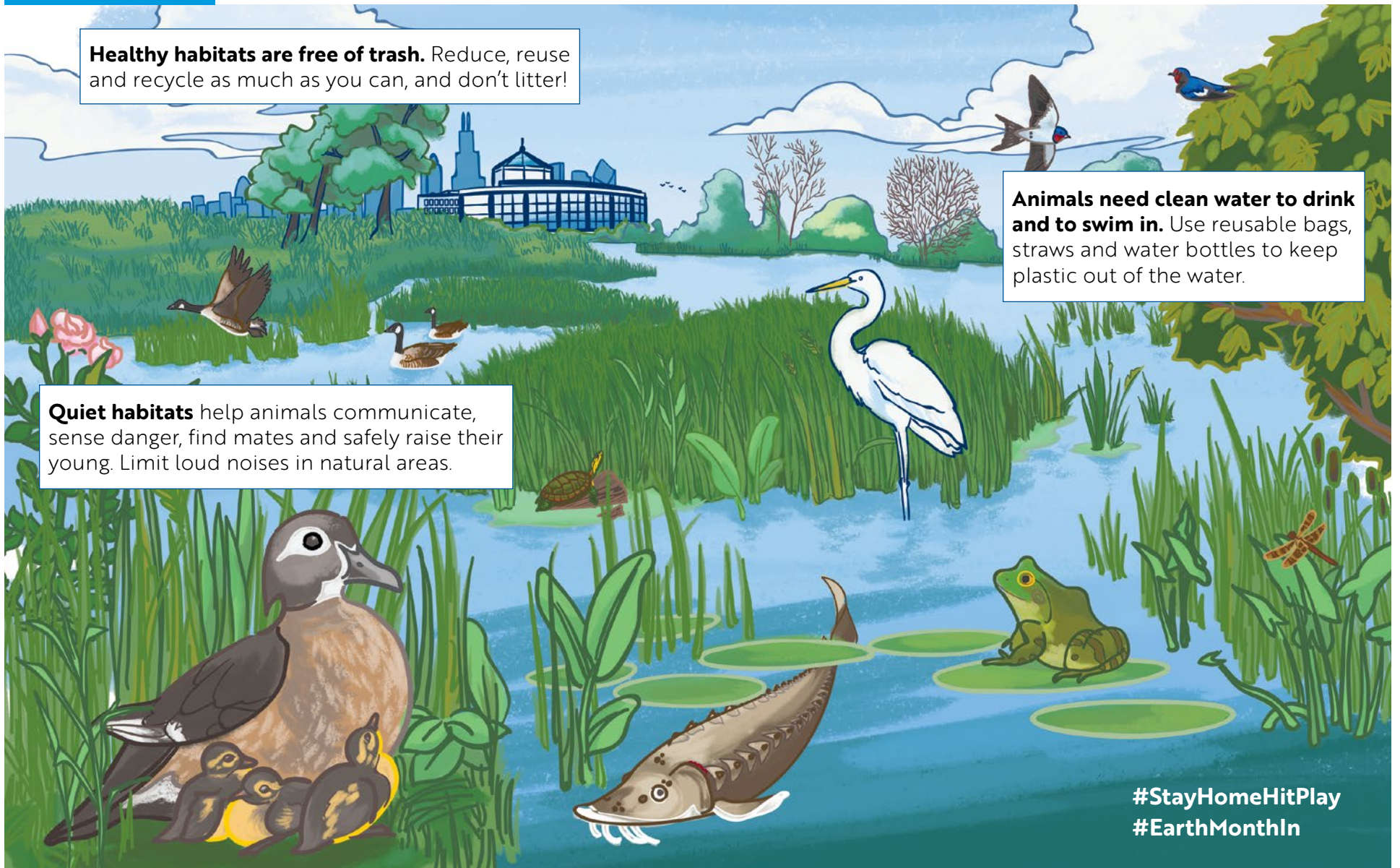
STAY HOME WITH SHEDD • YOUTH ACTIVITY

Pledge to Conserve with Shedd Aquarium

Healthy habitats are free of trash. Reduce, reuse and recycle as much as you can, and don't litter!

Animals need clean water to drink and to swim in. Use reusable bags, straws and water bottles to keep plastic out of the water.

Quiet habitats help animals communicate, sense danger, find mates and safely raise their young. Limit loud noises in natural areas.

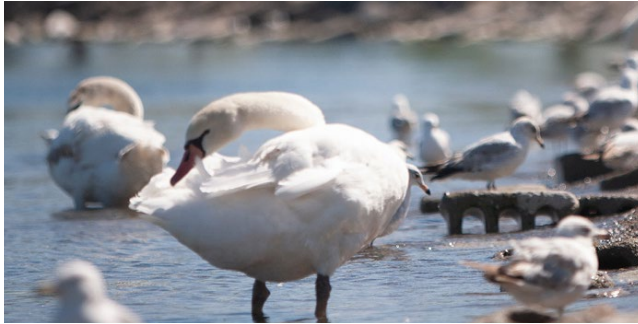


#StayHomeHitPlay
#EarthMonthIn



STAY HOME WITH SHEDD • YOUTH ACTIVITY

Pledge to Conserve with Shedd Aquarium



START A DISCUSSION

Print the comic on the previous page or view it on an electronic device and discuss the listed conservation actions that can help local wildlife.

DISCUSSION POINTS:

- **Reducing sound pollution:** Sound pollution is extra noise in the environment created by human activity. Animals need to communicate to find food, find mates, avoid predators and take care of their young, and sound pollution can get in the way of these activities. You can reduce sound pollution by being mindful about the kinds of transportation you take and the tools, electronics and machines you use.
- **Throwing away trash properly and recycling:** Animals may mistake trash for food or get stuck in packaging, nets and litter. You can reduce trash in natural spaces by making sure it gets thrown in a proper trash can and by *reducing* the amount of waste you produce. You can also recycle certain items, or even compost food and plant waste.
- **Using reusable items to reduce plastic pollution:** Unlike food and plant waste, plastics take a very long time to break down in soil. This can even be hundreds of years! You can reduce plastic pollution by switching to reusable water bottles, reusable straws and reusable grocery or lunch bags, and recycling plastics when you can.
- **Show off your group's commitment to conservation!** Fill out the certificate on page 5 with your pledge to take action for animals.

CHANGE HAPPENS WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER!

Take a picture of your certificate and pledge and share it with us **@SheddLearning** and **@HitPlayChicago** using hashtags **#StayHomeHitPlay** and **#EarthMonthIn**. Look to see what other people have shared. Together we can make a difference!

Pledge to Conserve with Shedd Aquarium



TEEN ACTIVITIES

- **Audit your plastic use.** For one hour, morning, or day, make a list of every plastic item you use. Circle the ones that are single use. Could you replace those items with anything? Make a pledge to reduce your use of your most numerous single-use items.
- **Raise your voice!** People of all ages can share with elected representatives the issues that are important to them. Find out who your representatives are. Who are your alderman, your state senator, your congressmen? Start a letter-writing campaign to let policymakers know about the environmental issues you care about. Learn more at sheddaquarium.org/raiseyourvoice and sheddaquarium.org/takeaction.
- **You can effect change in areas far from Chicago as well!** Sharks live in ecosystems around the world and are crucial species for maintaining ocean health. Read more about sharks and how we all can help [Keep Sharks Swimming](#). Watch the 360° videos on Shedd's website, [read about the work Shedd researchers are doing](#), [check out the work teens have done to study sharks](#) and [sign the petition](#) to support shark sanctuaries in the Bahamas.
- Please visit our **Teen Learning Lab** webpage at sheddaquarium.org/teenlab to find out about upcoming teen virtual connections and workshops.
- **Show off your commitment to conservation!** Fill out the certificate on page 5 with your pledge to take action for animals.



STAY HOME WITH SHEDD

Pledge to Conserve with Shedd Aquarium

YOUR NAME HERE

pledges to

CONSERVATION ACTION



**#StayHomeHitPlay
#EarthMonthIn**