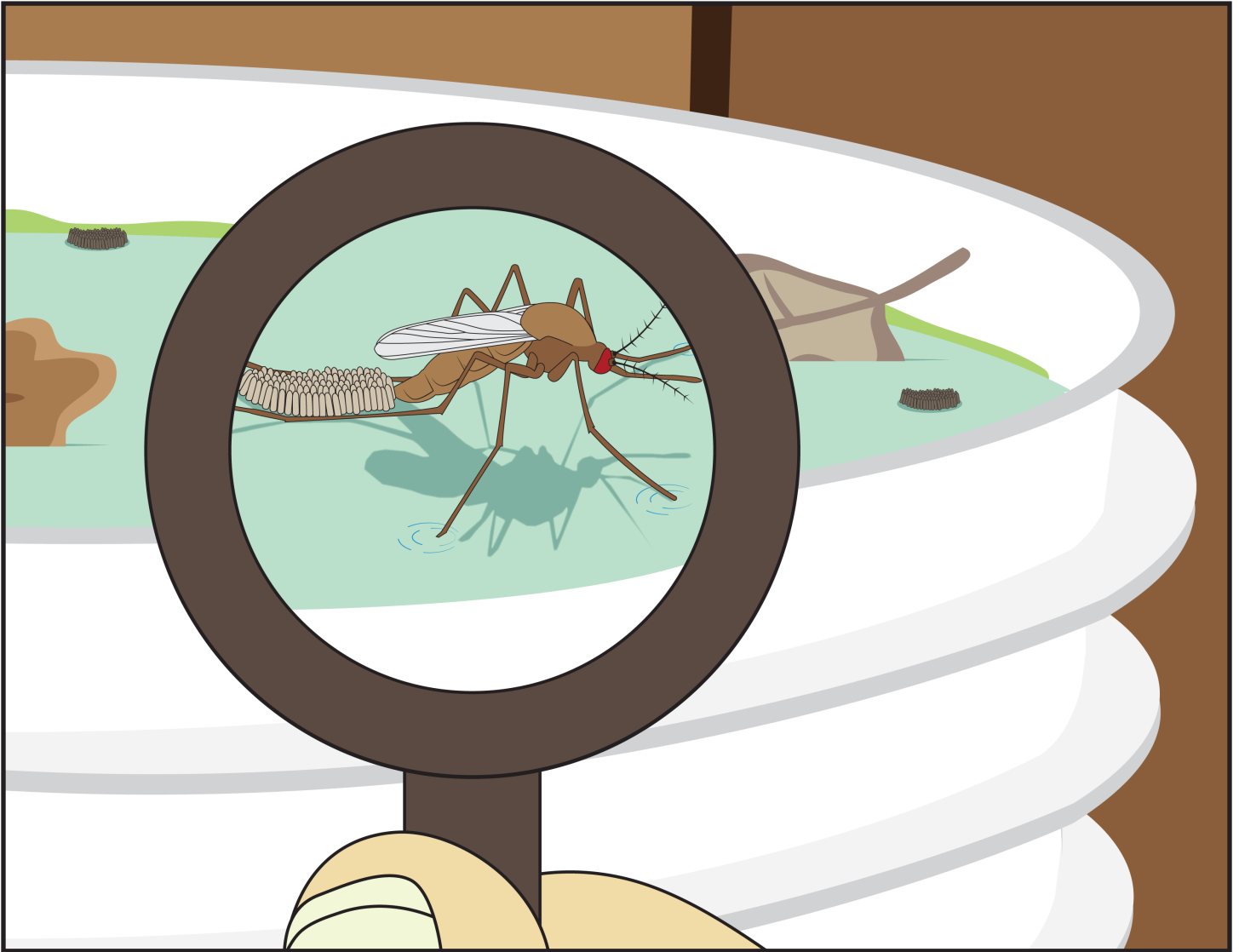


# Mosquito Life Cycle

## Observation Journal



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Instructions (for adults)

- During the classroom presentation, we read “Backyard Mysteries: The case of the mysterious itchy insect bites”. The journal has questions related to the story and is also designed to be used with a mosquito life cycle kit.
- The life cycle kit will remain in the class for two weeks, and activities are provided for each week.
- Students should start **Week 1 Activities** as soon as is convenient, and **Week 2 Activities** anytime during the second week after there are adult mosquitoes in the cage.

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### Week 1 Activity

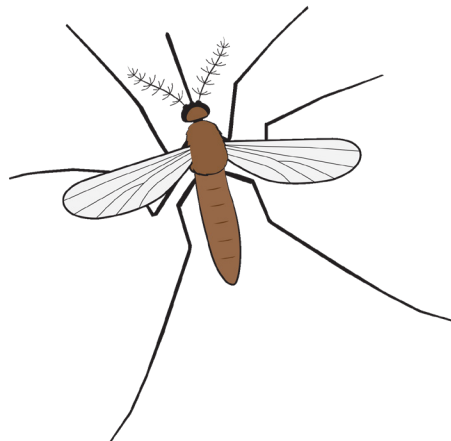
## Questions about the story

Circle the correct answers

1. In the story we read, what was biting people?



1 Tick



Mosquito



Yellowjacket

# More questions about the story...

2. When were people being bitten?



Daytime



At night

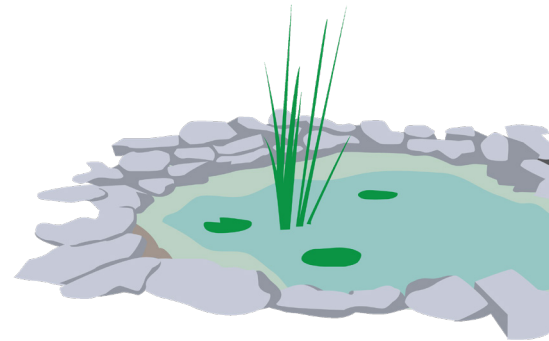
3. Where were the mosquitoes growing?



Flower pot



Bucket

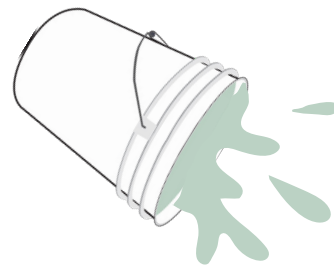


Pond

4. How could you stop mosquitoes before they grow their legs and wings?



Swat them!

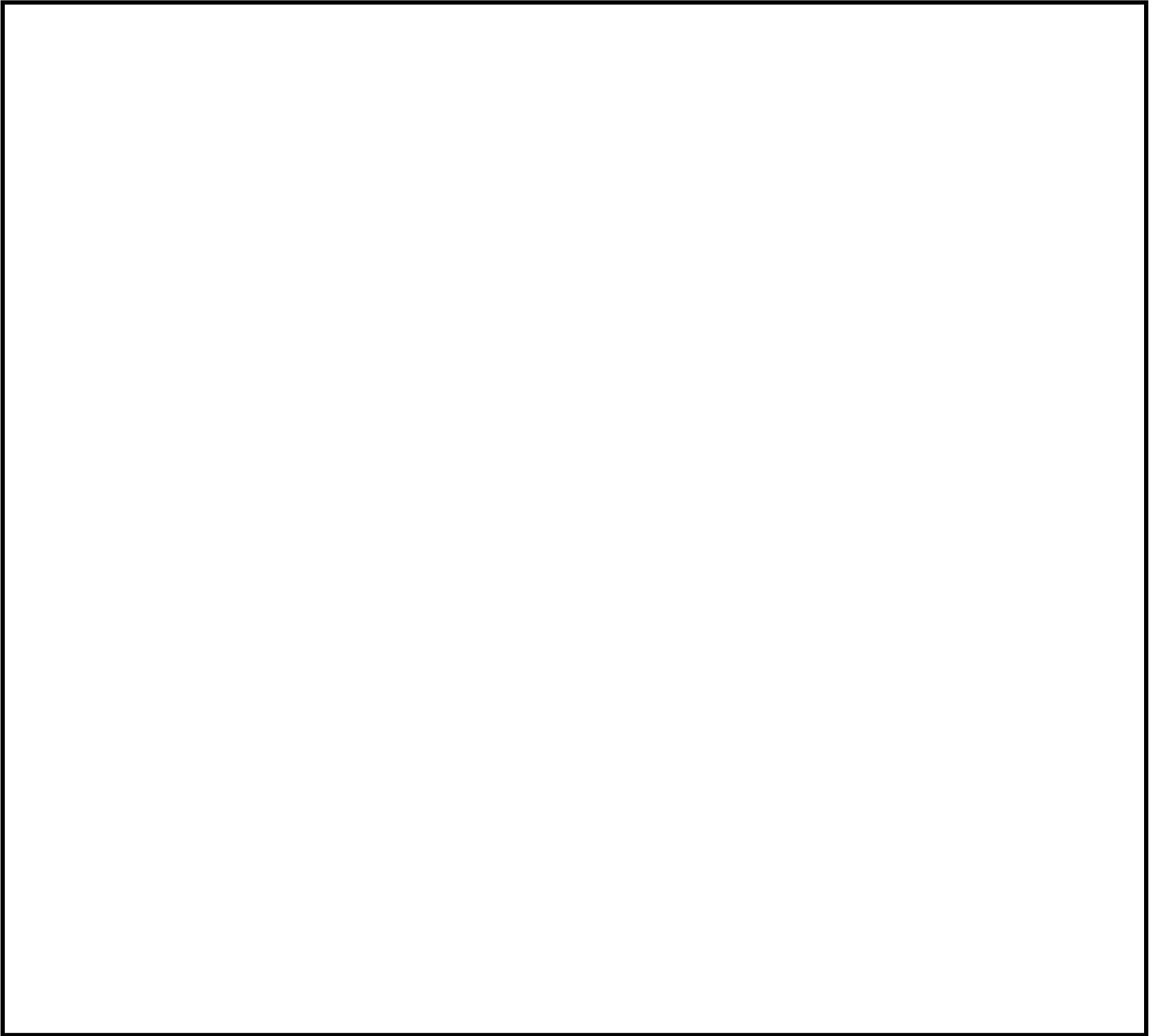


Find where they grow  
and dump out the water!

Week 1 Activity

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Draw what you see in the mosquito cage.

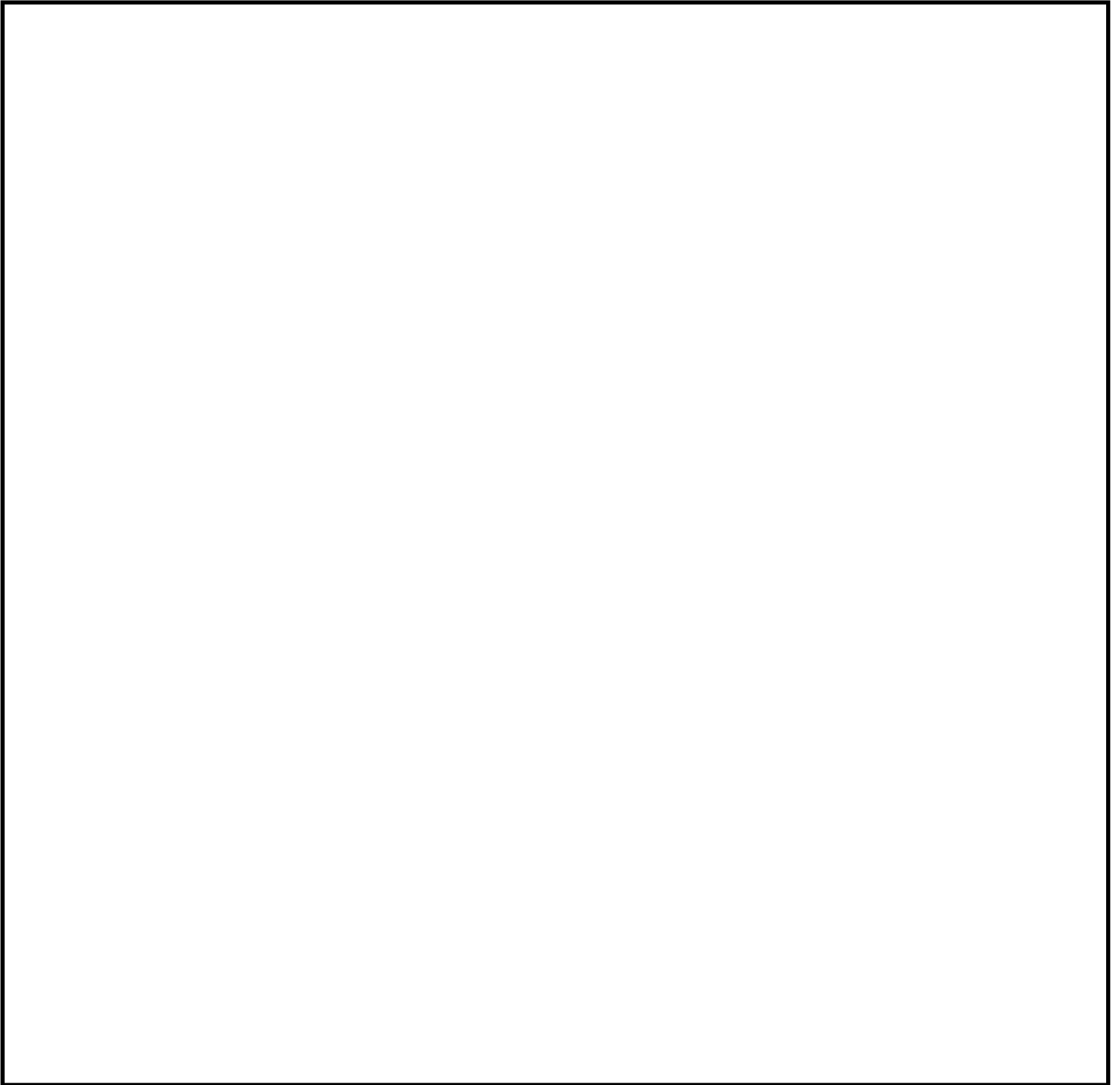


How many adult mosquitoes do you see?

3 \_\_\_\_\_

## Week 1 Activity

Draw what you see in the mosquitofish habitat.

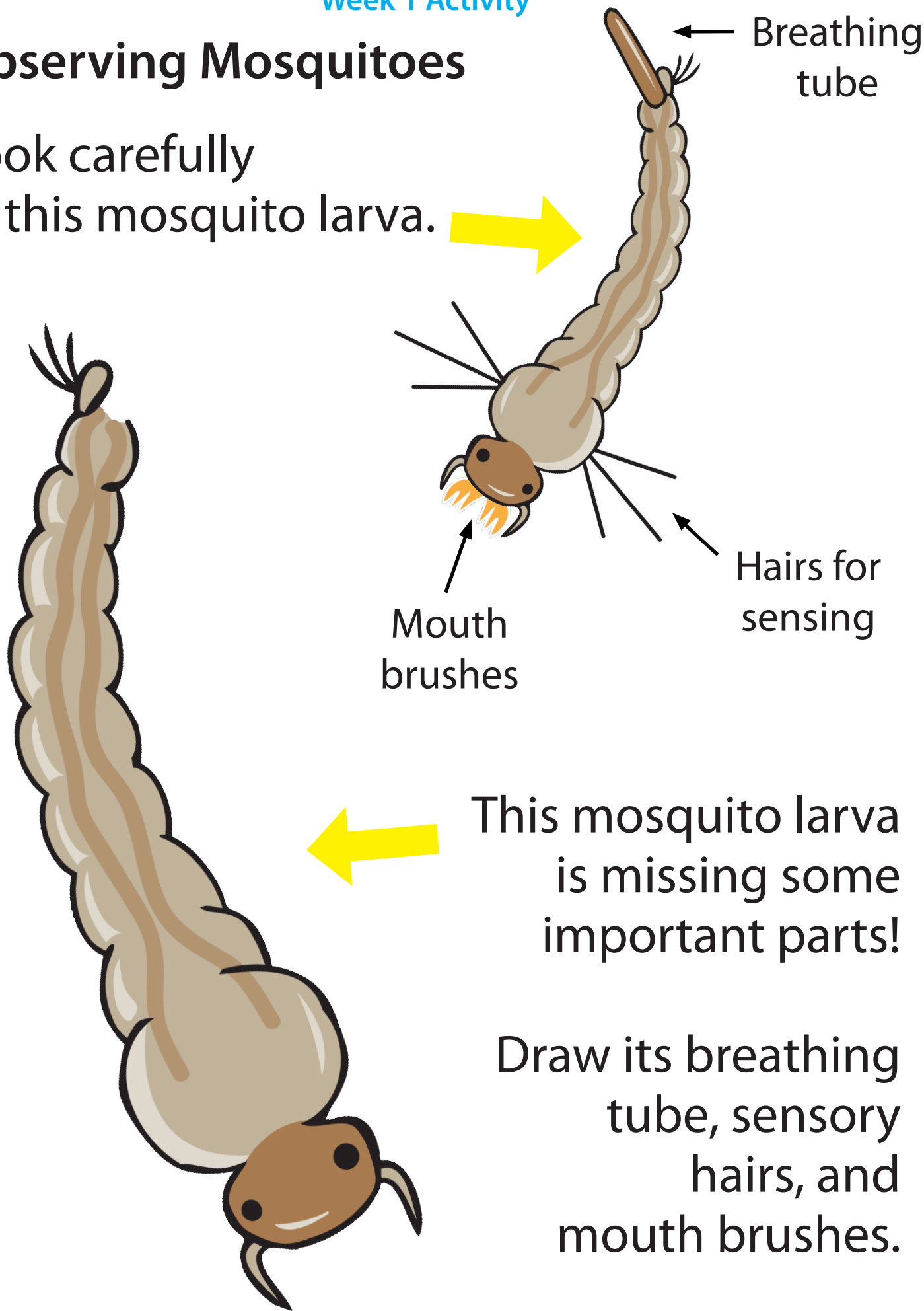


How many mosquitofish do you see?

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# Observing Mosquitoes

Look carefully at this mosquito larva.

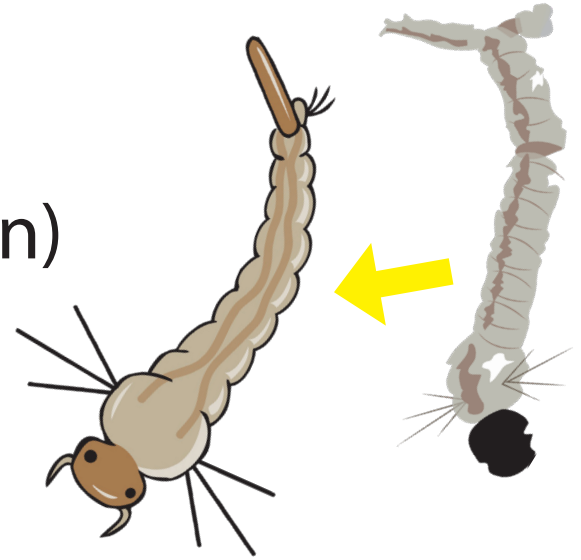


This mosquito larva is missing some important parts!

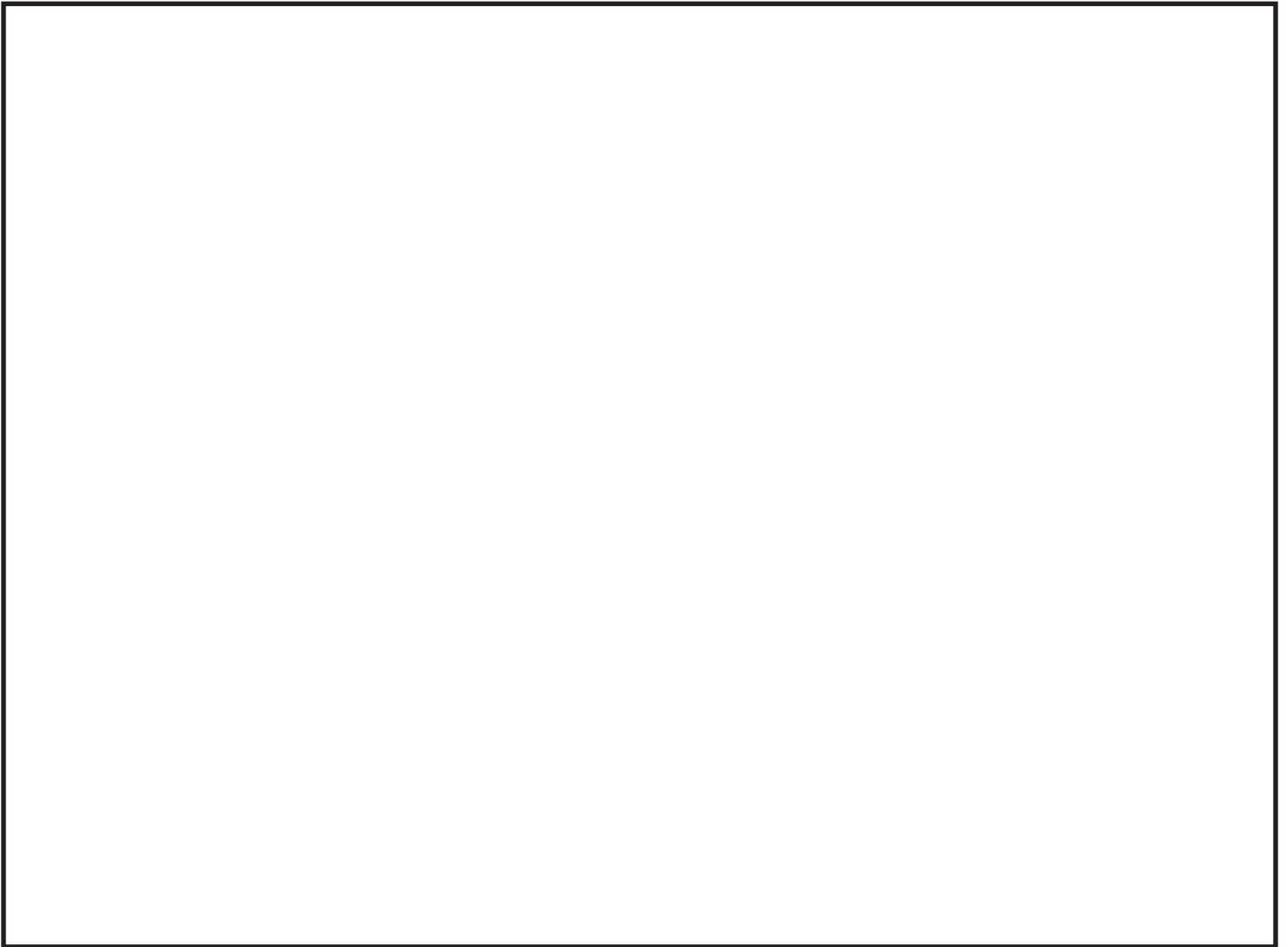
Draw its breathing tube, sensory hairs, and mouth brushes.

## Beginning of Week 2 Activities

When a mosquito grows,  
it leaves its skin (exoskeleton)  
behind in the water!



Look in the mosquito cage  
and see if you can find any shed skins.



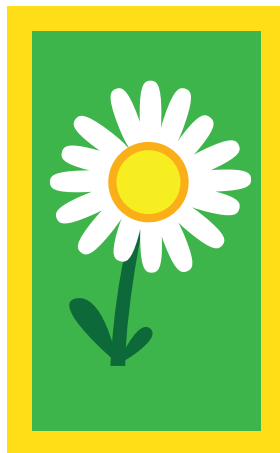
Draw a mosquito larva shedding its skin. 6

What do adult mosquitoes sip from flowers?

N \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

What does the female (mom) mosquito need so that she can lay eggs?

B \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

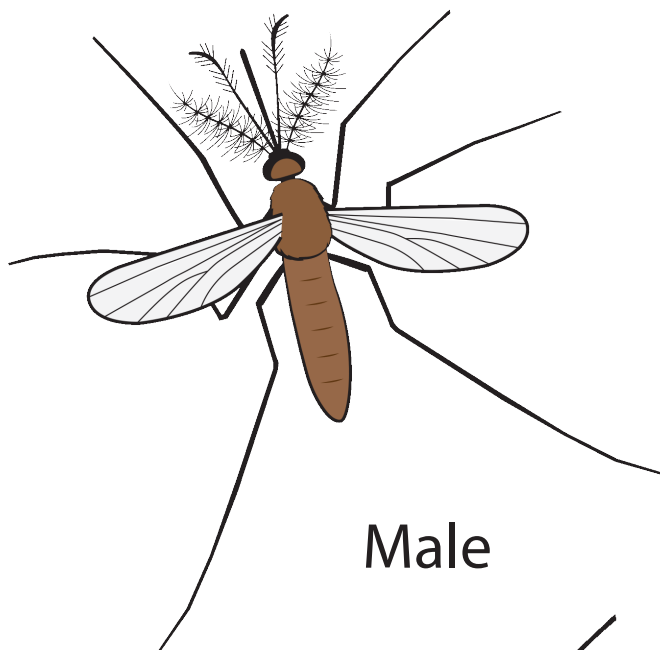
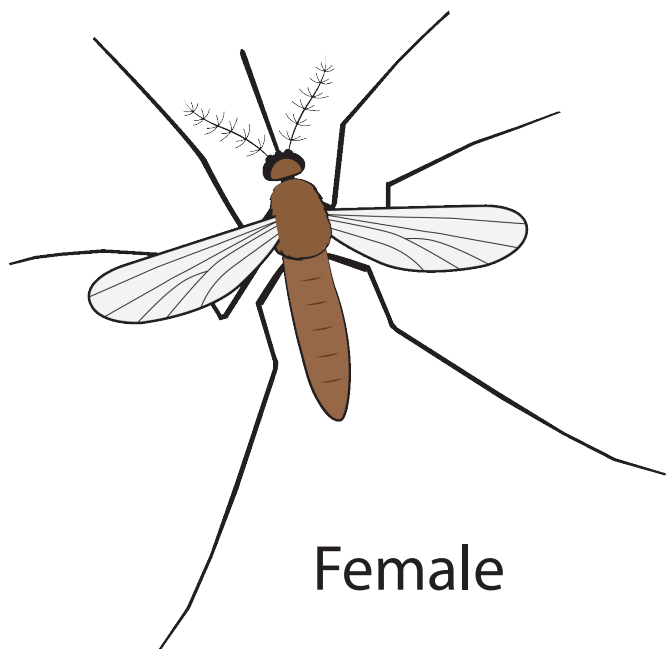


The words are hidden at the bottom of page 10.



Week 2 Activity

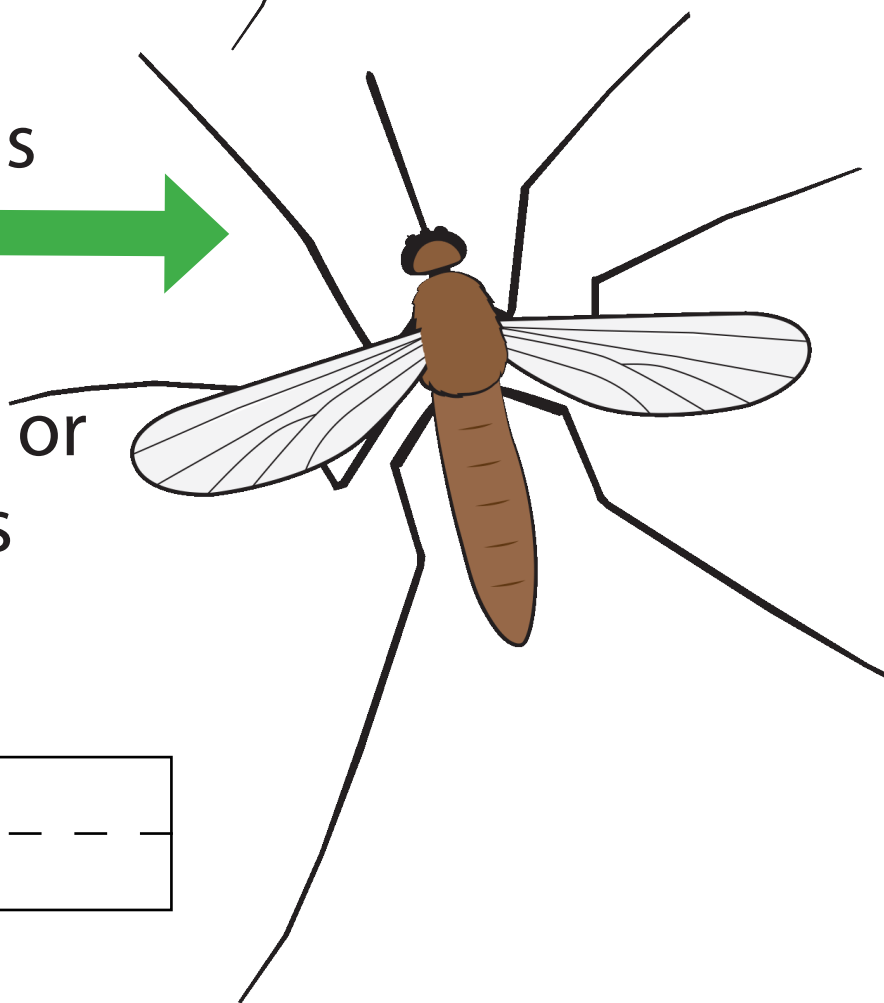
Adult male mosquitoes have very fuzzy antennae and females do not.



This mosquito needs antennae!



Choose if it's a male or female, and draw its antennae.



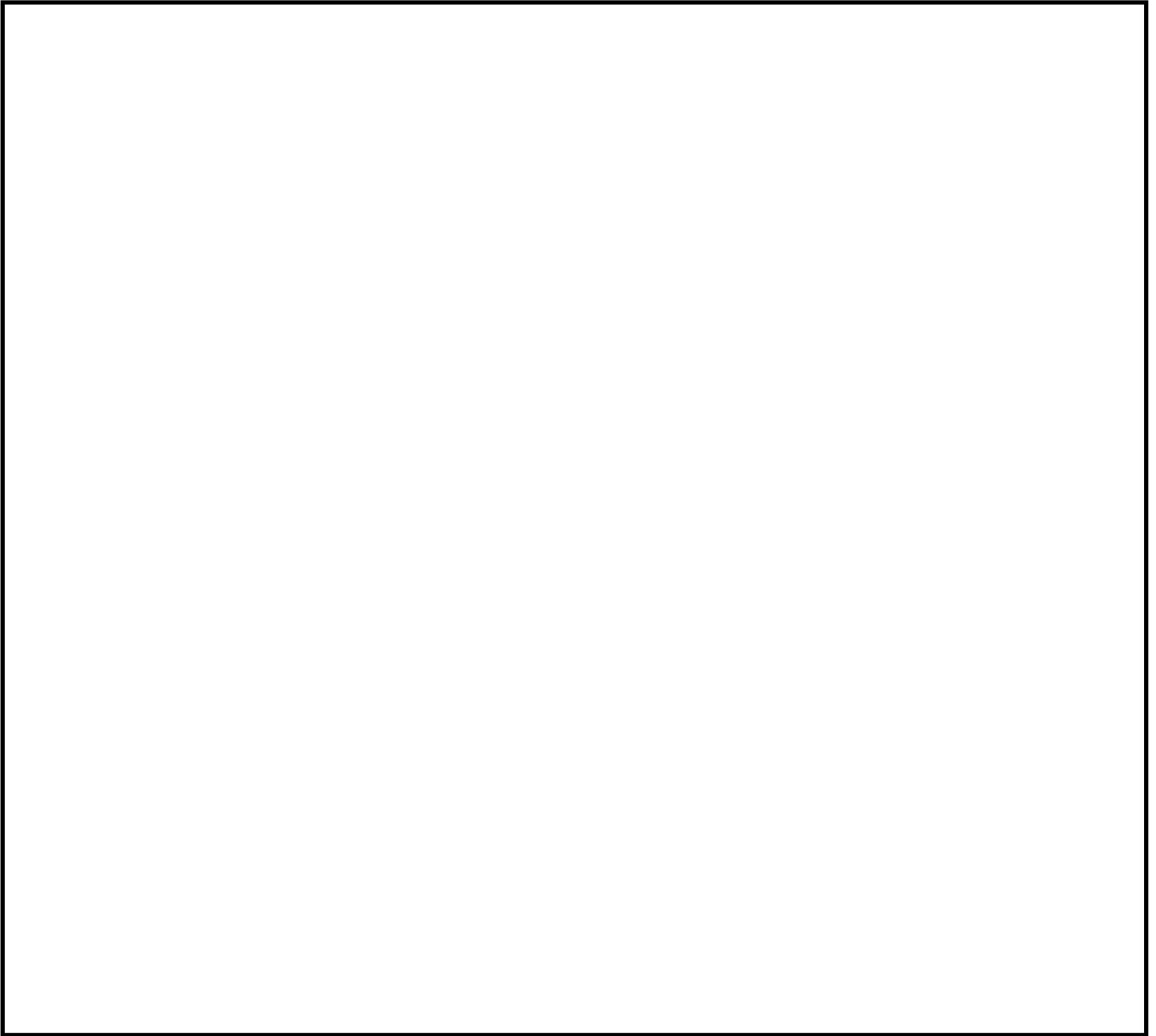
_____
-----
_____

Write "male" or "female" in the space above.

Week 2 Activity

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Draw what you see in the mosquito cage.

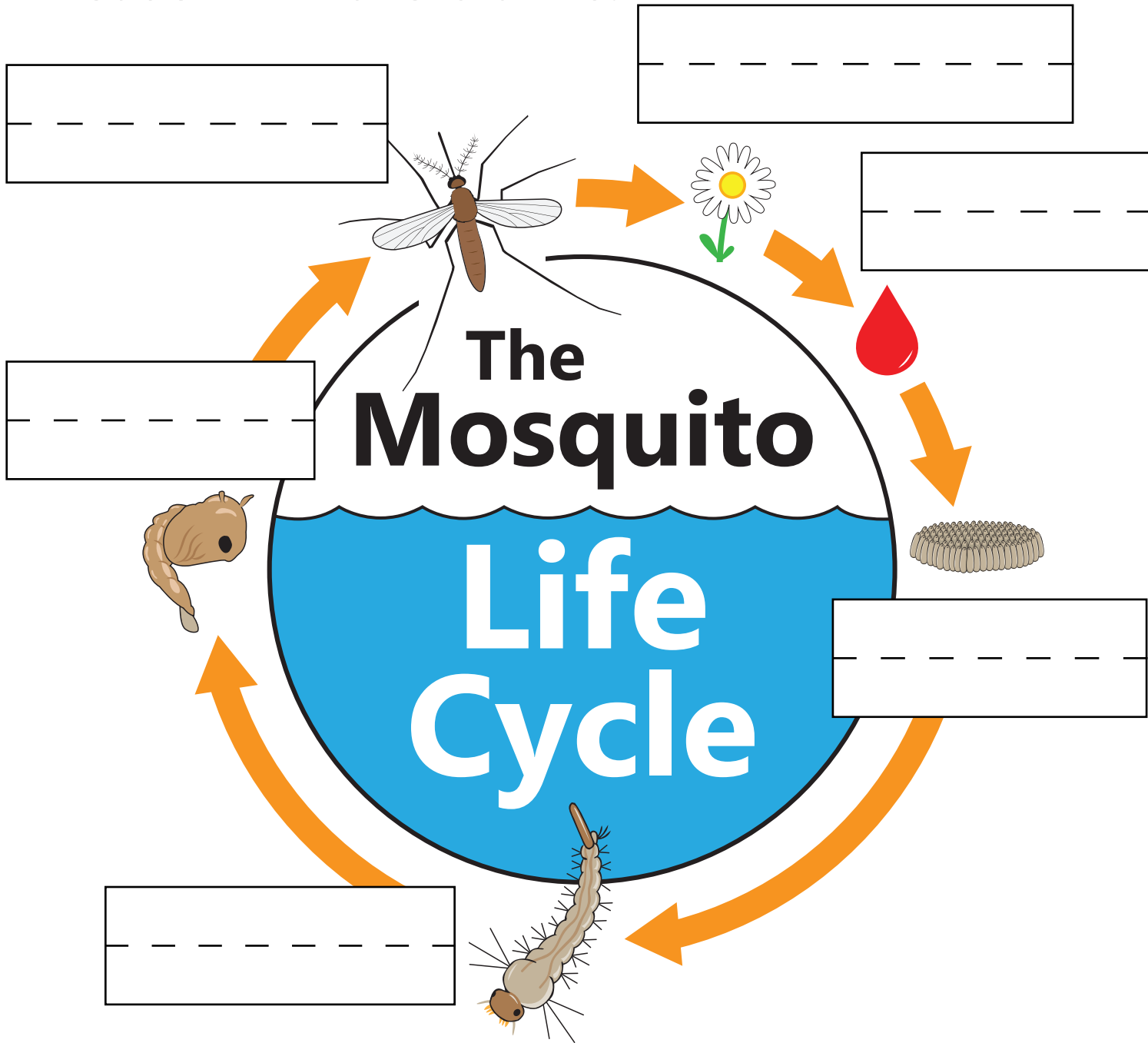


How many adult mosquitoes do you see?

9 \_\_\_\_\_

Week 2 Activity

Oops! We forgot to label the life cycle.  
Please fill in the blanks.



Larva

Pupa

Adult

Blood

Nectar

Eggs

Dear Parents,

Your child has been learning about mosquitoes for the past two weeks. This program teaches students to recognize all 4 stages of the mosquito life cycle, and allows children to observe how quickly tiny mosquito larvae can grow up into adult mosquitoes. With this knowledge, your child can help identify potential places in your neighborhood where mosquitoes may grow.

Unfortunately, mosquitoes can be more than just a nuisance. They are vectors, meaning that some mosquitoes have the ability to spread certain diseases such as West Nile virus. Please visit our website at [www.ms mosquito.org](http://www.ms mosquito.org) to learn more. The website also includes information related to:

- Free services available to residents of Marin and Sonoma counties
- Information about other vectors (such as ticks, fleas, rats and yellowjackets)
- Information about vector-borne diseases (such as West Nile virus, Lyme disease, dog heartworm, and others)

Thank you,

Casey Richter  
Education Program Specialist  
Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District  
[caseyr@msmosquito.org](mailto:caseyr@msmosquito.org)



**Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District**  
call **707.285.2200**  
or visit us online at [www.ms mosquito.org](http://www.ms mosquito.org)



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