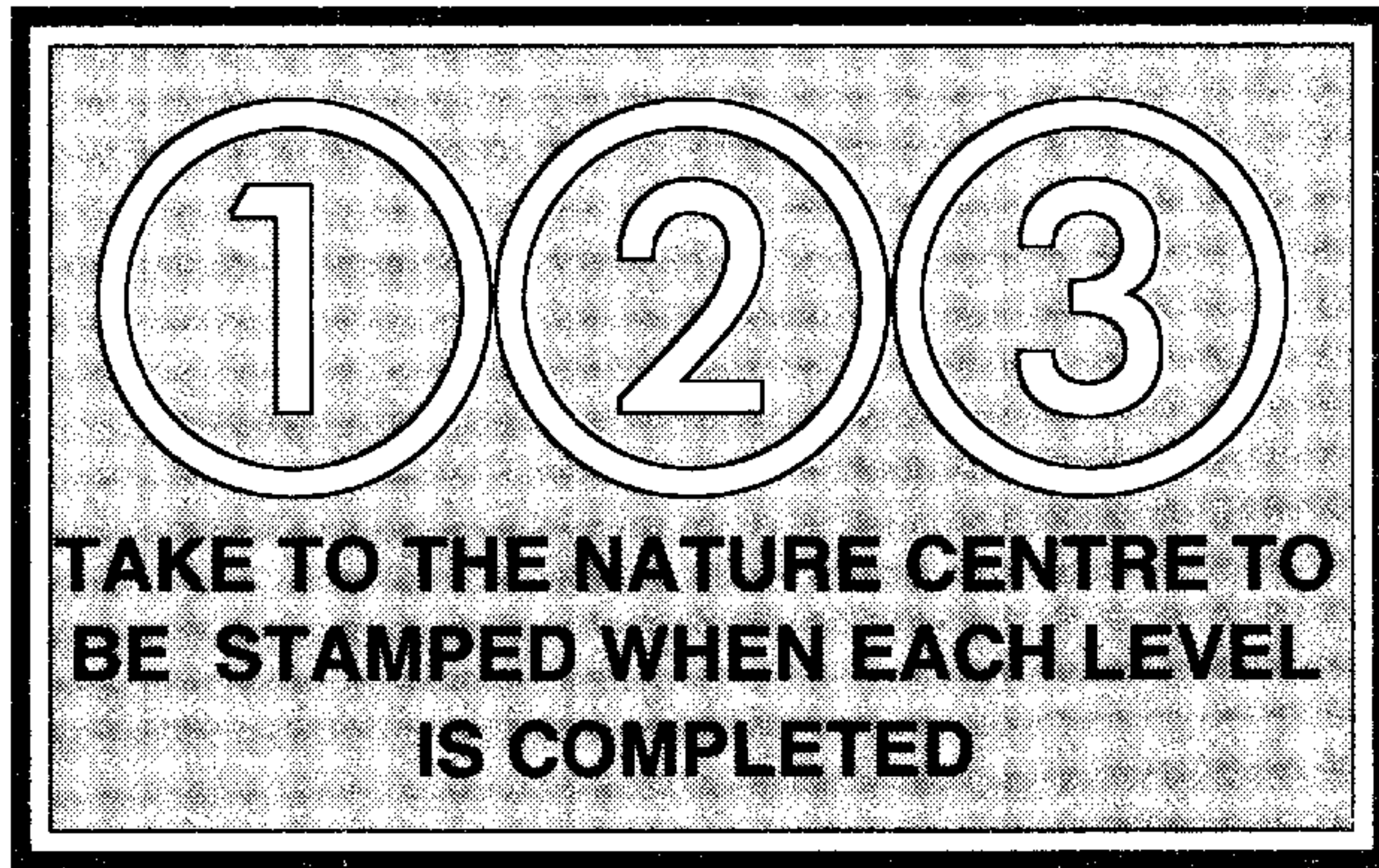
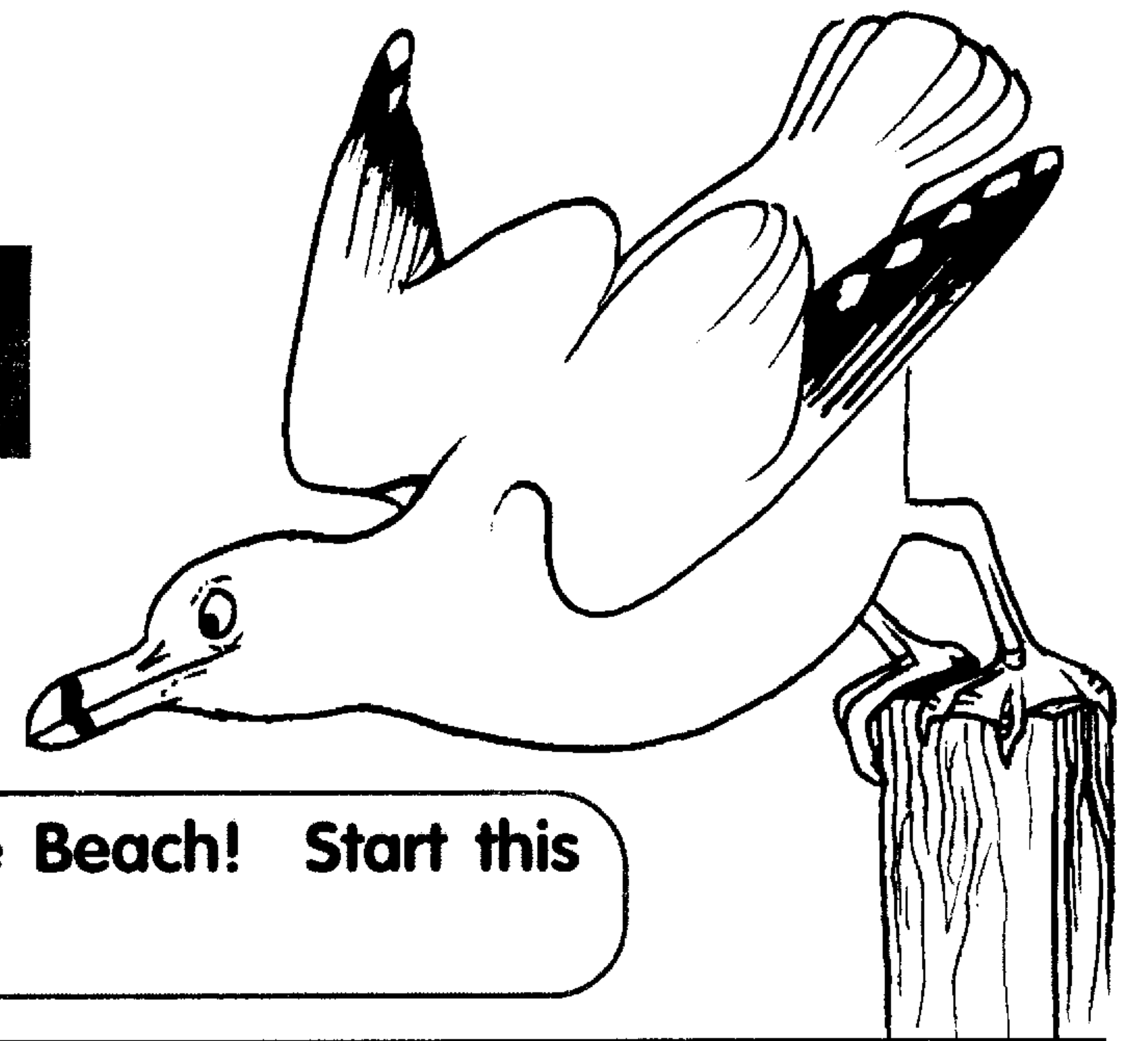


**BEACH**

Hey, look down there! It's one of my favourite habitats. The Beach! Start this adventure on the sandy part of Beach Four.

## Level 1 The Swimming Beach

Spend some time on the sandy swimming beach. Give your eyes a good work-out and **record the number of different plants and animals you see.**

Animals: \_\_\_\_\_

Plants: \_\_\_\_\_

I expect you didn't see many. Why not? For a clue look around for tractor tracks. Tractors come by with big rakes and clean-up everything that washes in from the lake. A clean beach is a good place to play but it's not very exciting for a Nature Explorer since most plants and animals don't like it here. Normally a beach is full of life. See for yourself by exploring South of Beach #4, the Natural Beach!

### The Natural Beach

**Animals:** Follow the trail south through all the dense vegetation. Notice all of the living things leaping, fluttering or running out of your way as you walk. **Count all the different creatures you can find as you walk to the first viewing station.**

How many creatures did you see? \_\_\_\_\_ Did you include insects? Yes / No

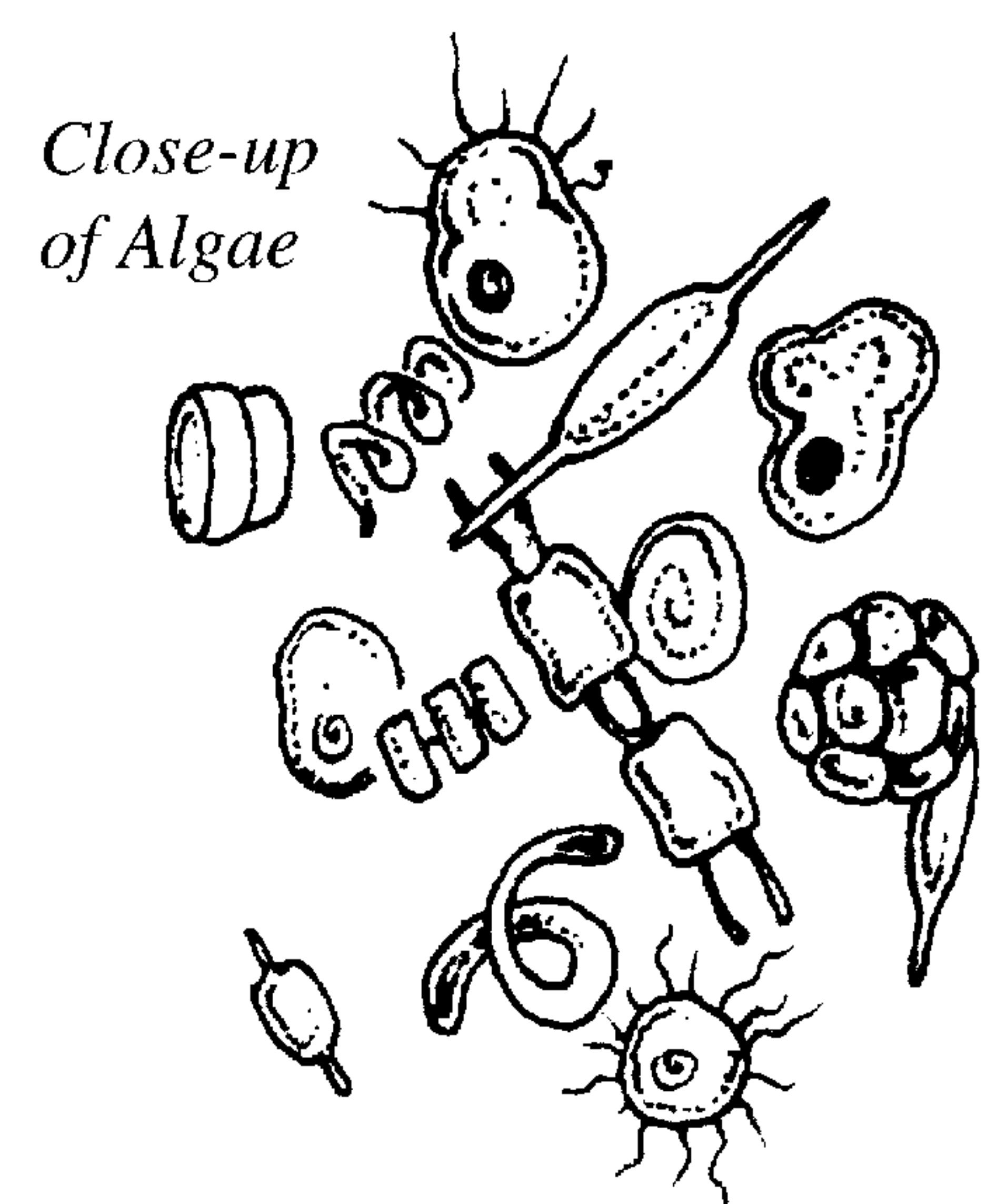
What is your favourite and how does it move? \_\_\_\_\_

**Tracks:** Even if the animals aren't there when you visit, some will leave clues behind in the sand! **Be a detective and find some tracks.** They may be easier to find on the sandy beach. Follow along beside the tracks and try to walk in the same way as your animal. **Make a drawing of the tracks on Observation Page 38. Try to guess what type of animal made the tracks.**

## Level 2 Algae Exploration

**Algae:** Algae is made up of millions of tiny plants. When algae washes up in big greenish-brown clumps on the shore of the Natural Beach no one rakes it up. When the algae arrives it gets eaten or starts rotting, putting lots of nutrients into the soil. **Find some fresh algae and discover what this beach treasure is like.**

What things are living in it? \_\_\_\_\_





What can you see eating it? \_\_\_\_\_

What do you think will happen to the algae? \_\_\_\_\_

What are some other things that might wash up on shore and give nutrients to the soil of the beach?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Soil:** Farther back from the water's edge you can find plants growing. Plants depend on the soil they are growing in to give them all the nutrients they need. **Describe the soil on both beaches.**

Swimming Beach: \_\_\_\_\_

Natural Beach: \_\_\_\_\_

Why are there no plants on the Swimming Beach? \_\_\_\_\_

**Level 3** If a park visitor complained about algae on the beach what would you say?

**Beach Birds:** This is a great place to see me and other gulls, not to mention shorebirds and terns! **When you see them write down the date in the bird checklist on page 40!**

