

# ***SANFORD THE SAGE GROUSE AND FRIENDS***

**Talk About Fire Adapted Communities**

*Brought to you from your friends in Fire Prevention!*

*Illustrations by Jimmye Turner*



**STEPPE UP**

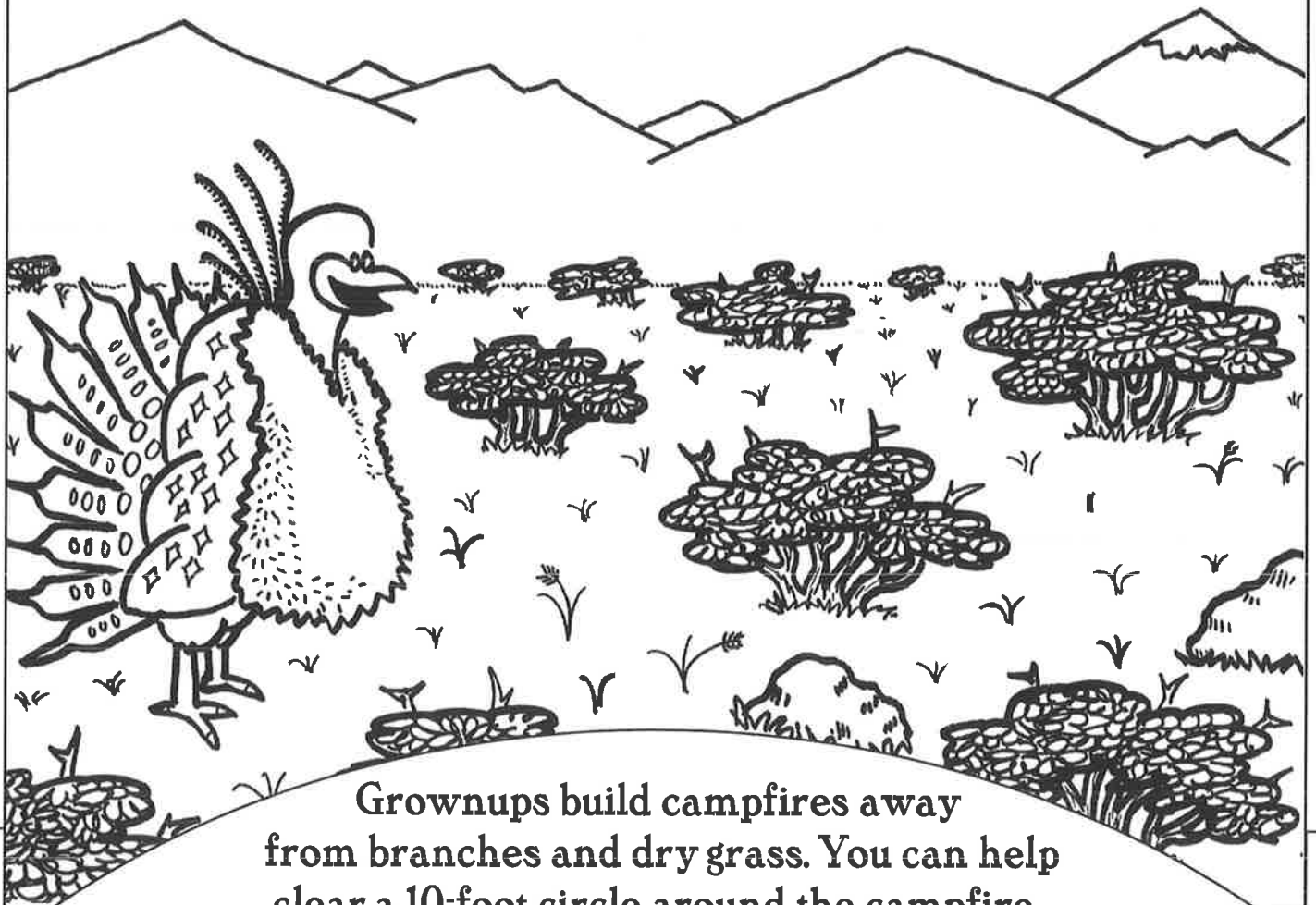
**Protect Habitat  
Prevent Wildfires**

**Hi! My name is Sanford Sage Grouse!**

**Welcome to my home in the sagebrush-steppe habitat!**

**"Steppe" is a large flat area with just a few trees and a lot of grass and sagebrush.**

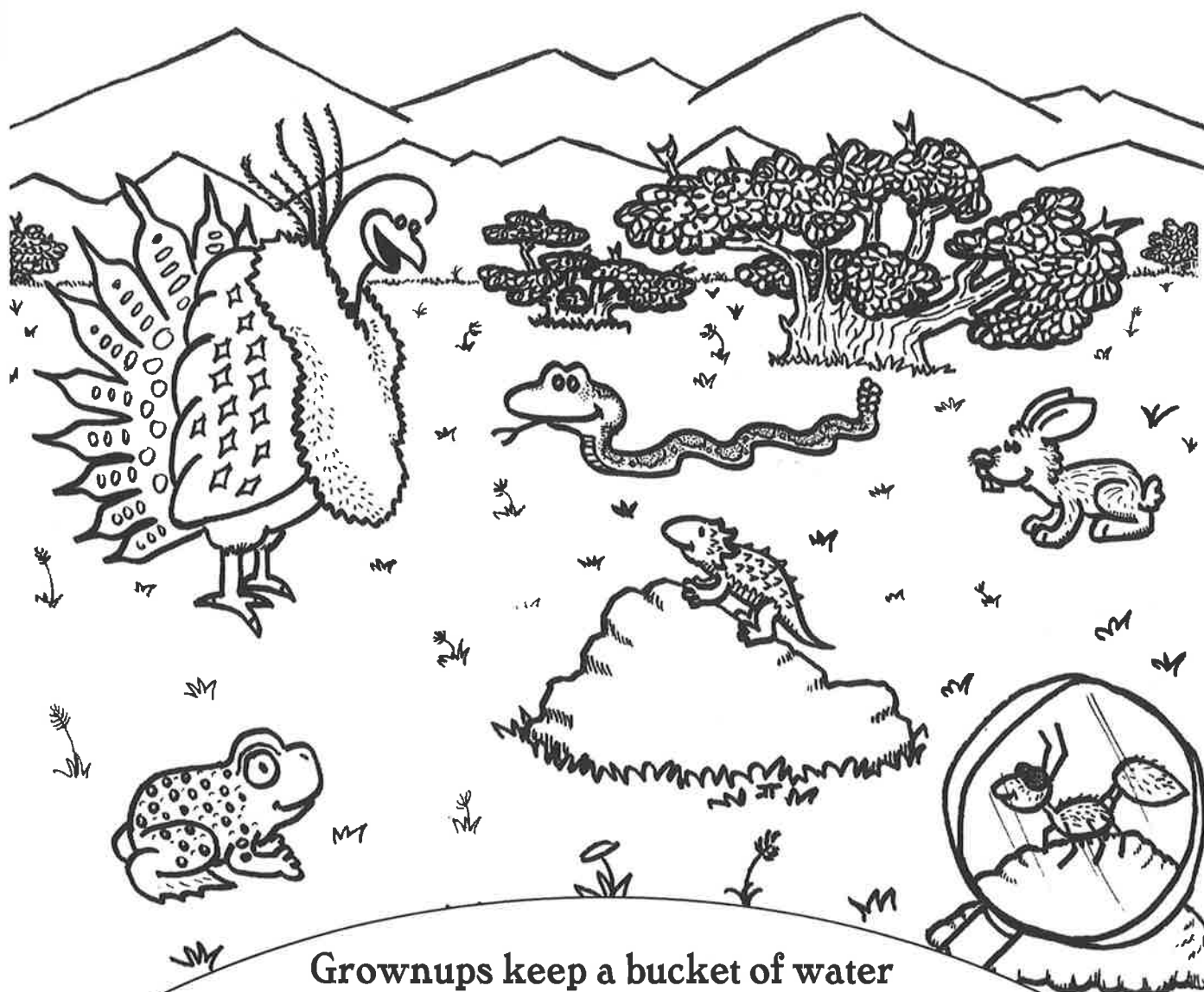
**"Habitat" is a place to live and grow. Many of my friends live in the sagebrush-steppe habitat.**



**Grownups build campfires away from branches and dry grass. You can help clear a 10-foot circle around the campfire.**

Sagebrush-steppe habitat is used by many different animals. They rely on sagebrush for food and shelter.

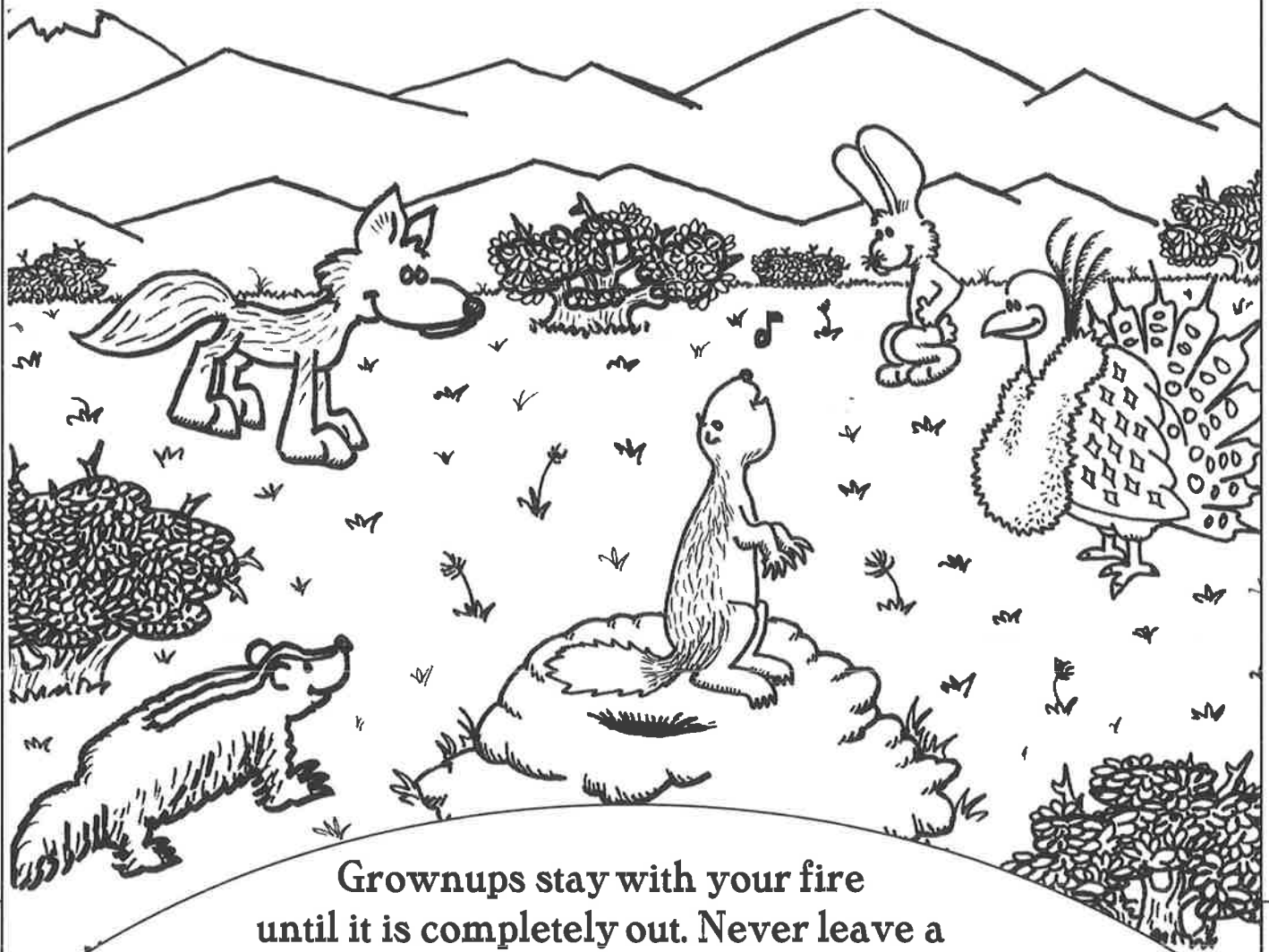
They can eat the leaves of the sagebrush and also hide in the branches or under the soil around the sagebrush.



Grownups keep a bucket of water  
and shovel handy in case the winds pick up.  
You can help watch for wind.

We like living in the sagebrush-steppe habitat.  
It makes us feel at home.

It's a big community with lots of animals.

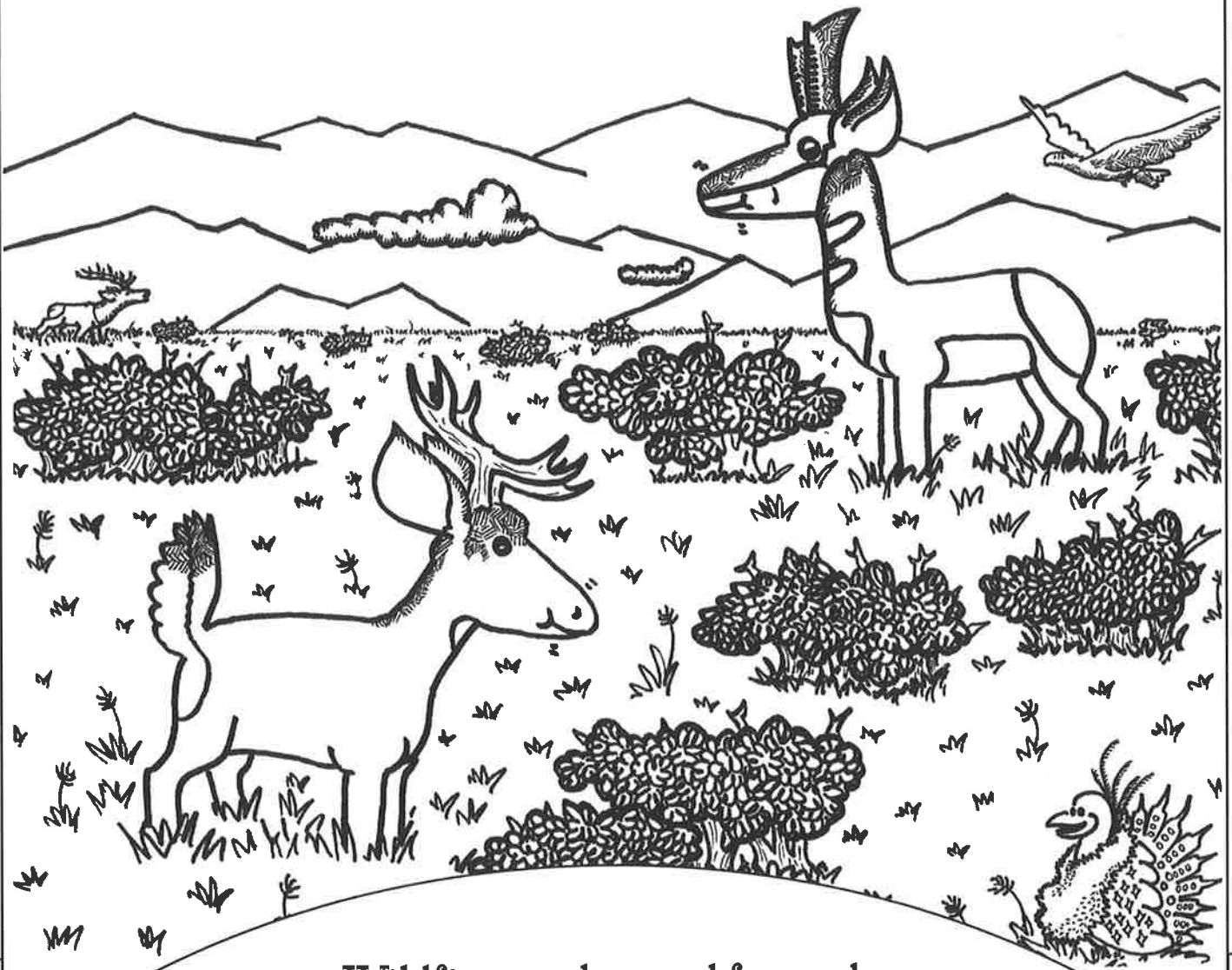


Grownups stay with your fire  
until it is completely out. Never leave a  
campfire unattended.

Some large animals live in the sagebrush-steppe habitat too. Golden eagles fly overhead.

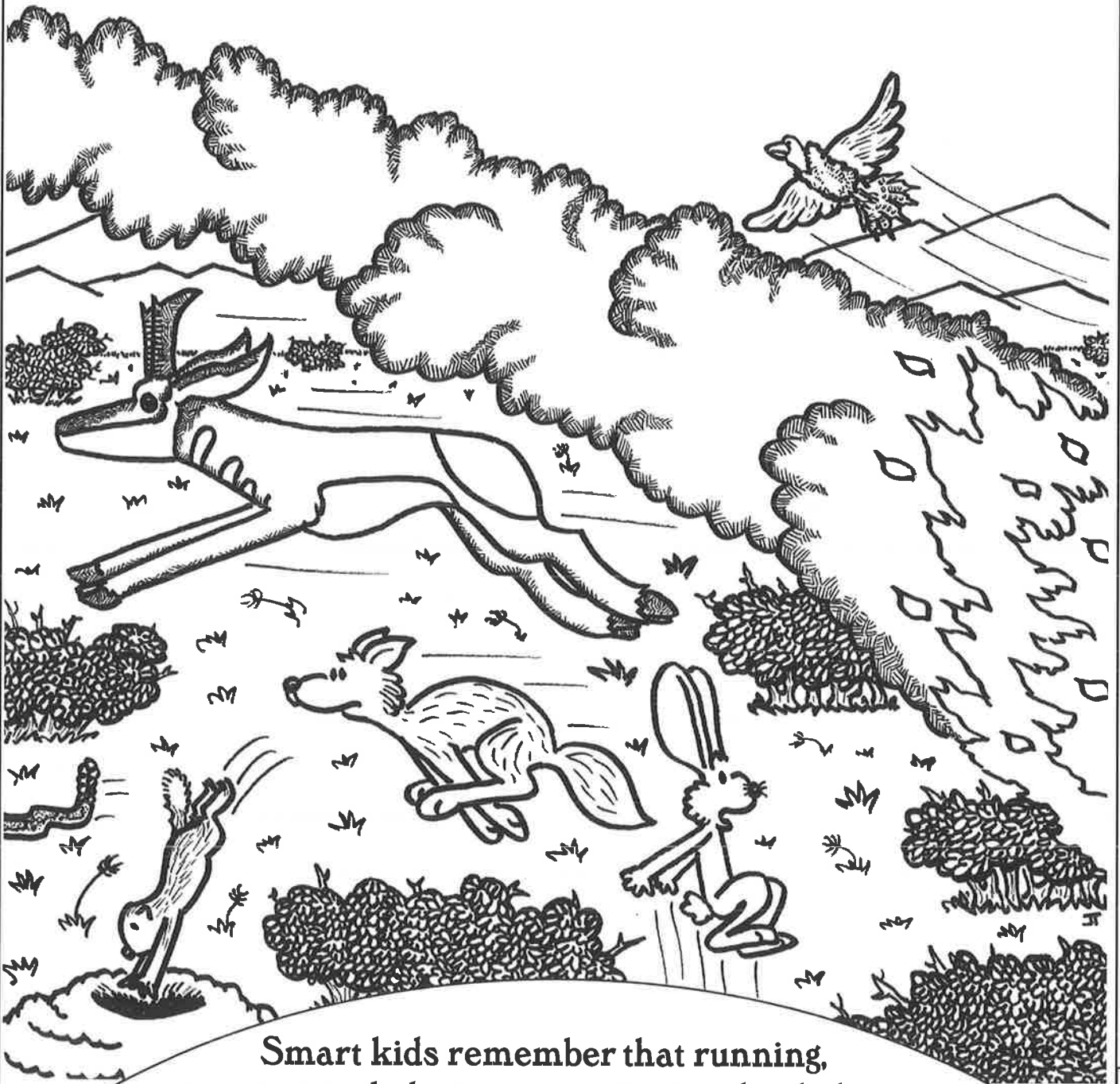
Even the elk come out to bugle their songs.

It's a happy place to live.



Wildfires and spread faster than most animals can run. Please be careful.

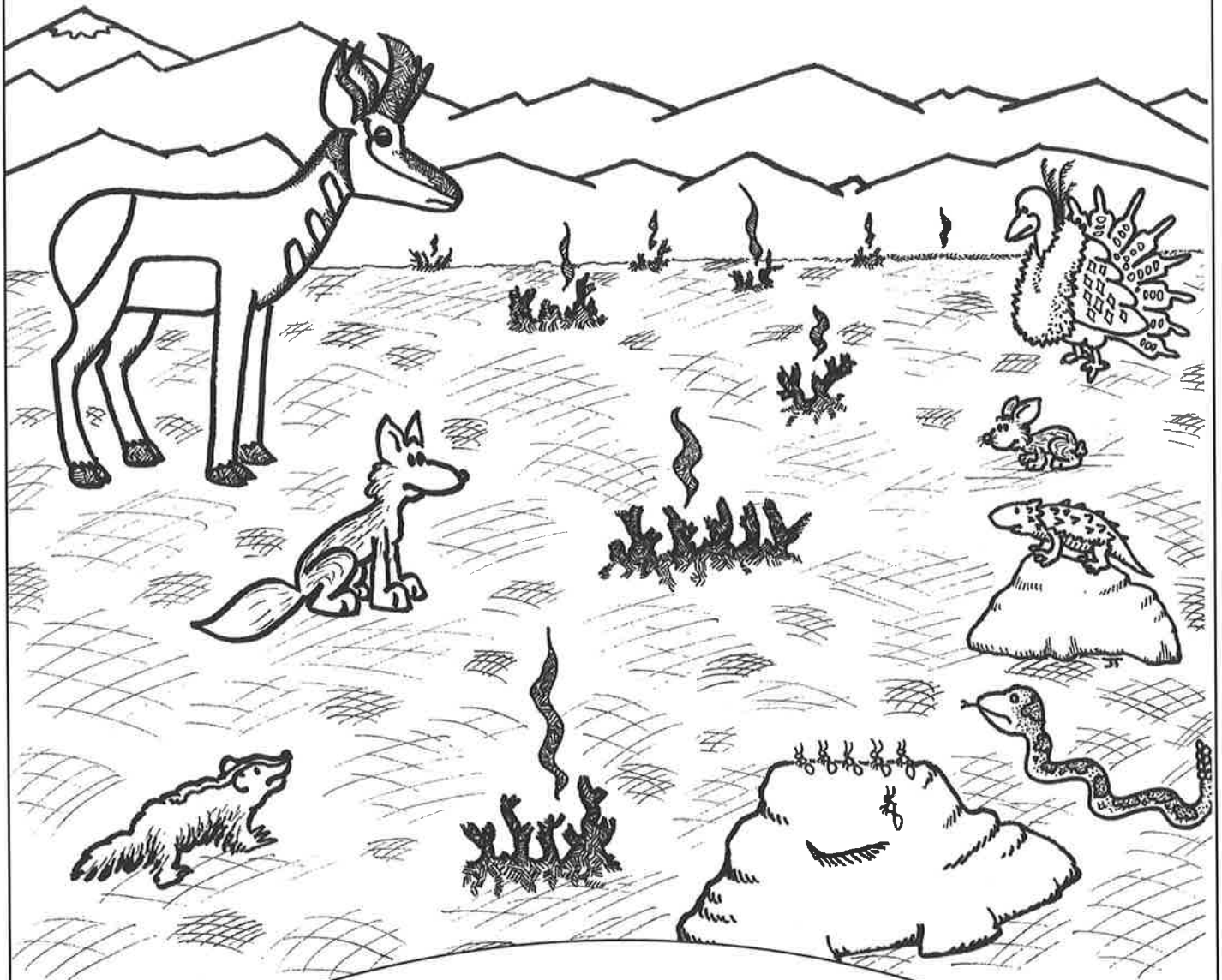
But sometimes accidents happen or people are careless and a wildfire starts in our habitat.



Smart kids remember that running, jumping and playing are activities that belong **OUTSIDE** the 10 foot circle around the campfire.

After a wildfire not much is left. Smoking sagebrush stumps are not good to eat.

Some plants come back quickly after a wildfire and some do not.



**Grownups NEVER build a fire during hazardous, dry conditions. You can remind the grownups!**

**One plant that does come back quickly after a wildfire is cheatgrass.**

**Cheatgrass is not good for food. It has sharp seedpods called foxtails that are harmful to animals and people.**

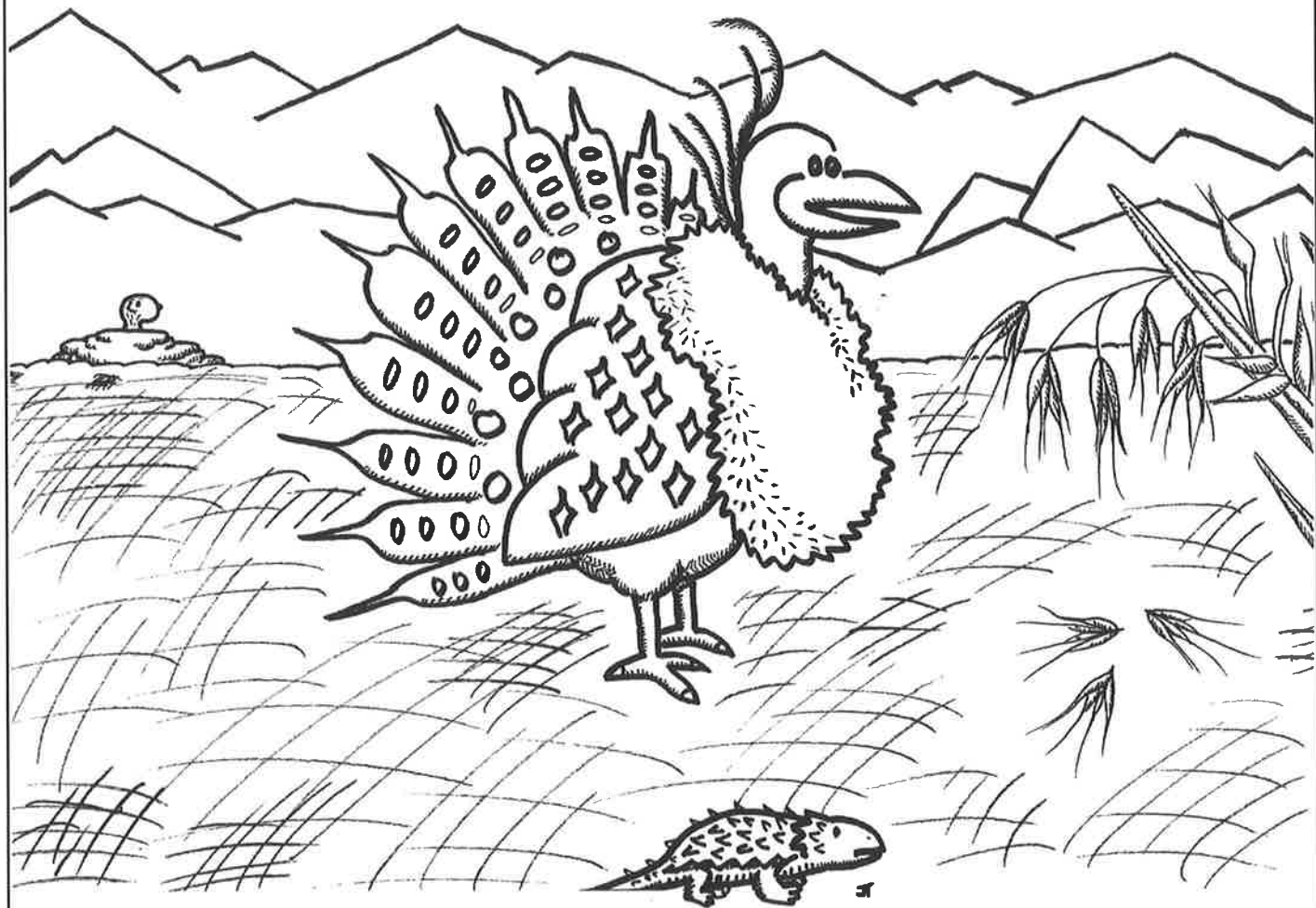


**Grownups never park your car near cheatgrass. You can remind the grownups when they pick a parking spot.**



After the wildfire the cheatgrass takes over.  
The sagebrush we rely on grows back very  
slowly.

We have to find a new place to live.



Cheatgrass catches fire easily  
and spreads very fast. You can help clear  
cheatgrass away from your campfire.

**Animals can't protect their homes from wildfire.**

**We have to ask everyone to be careful with fire when they are near our homes.**

**With a little work, people can make their communities adapt to wildfire.**

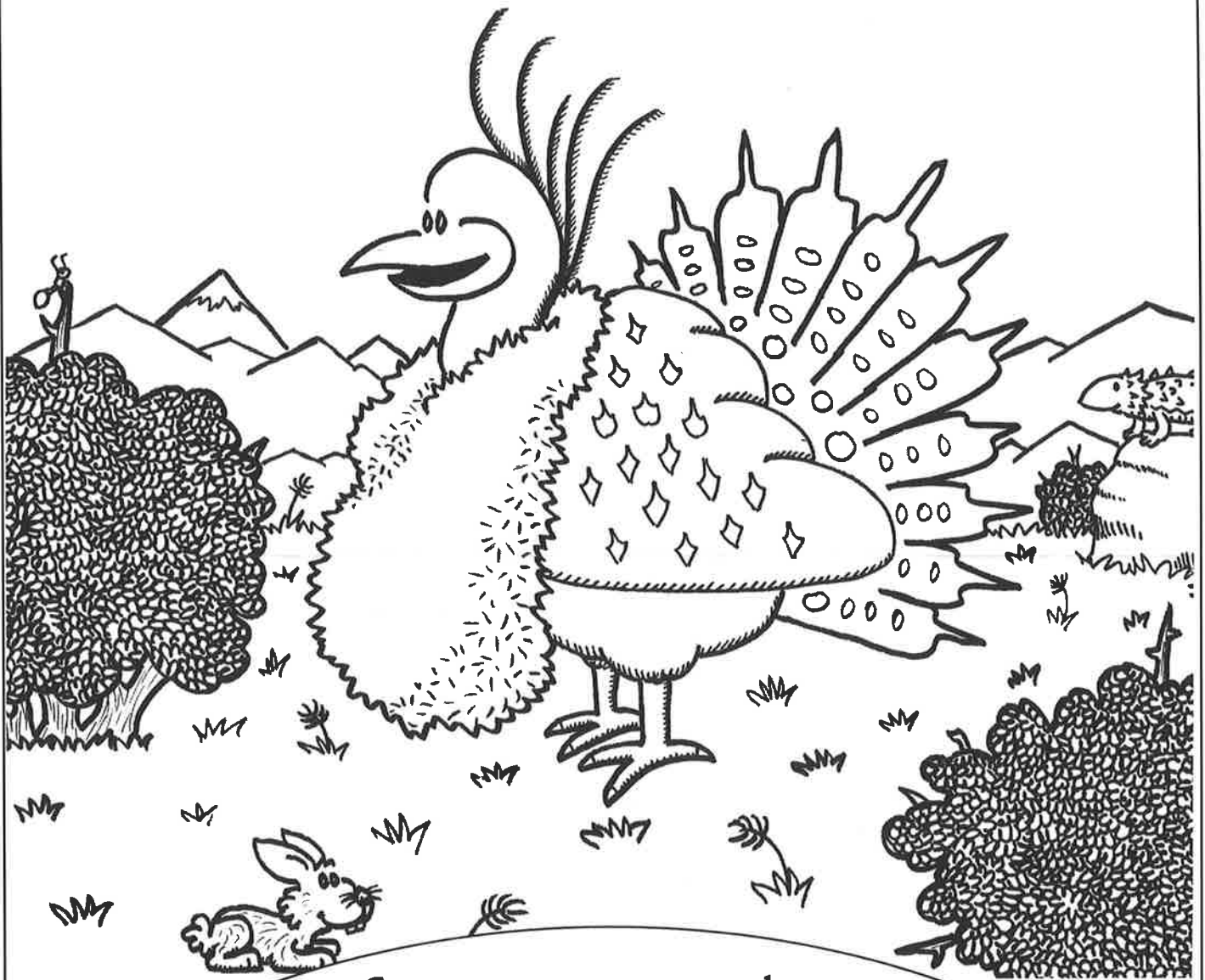
**They should be careful with fire near THEIR homes too!!!**



**You can help make your home "Fire Adapted" by raking leaves and brush away from your house.**

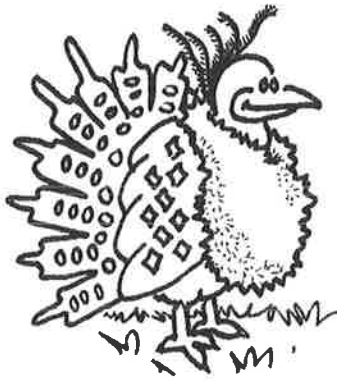
Thank you for visiting our sagebrush-steppe habitat! Please remember to always be careful with fire.

You'll be protecting our home and yours too!



Grownups never go to sleep  
until your campfire is DEAD OUT.  
You can help by bringing water to drown the campfire.

How many  
sagebrush-steppe  
friends did you see?



Siggy Sage Grouse



Penny Prairie Dog



Gabby Golden Eagle



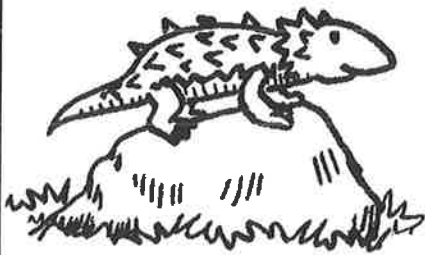
Jackie Pronghorn



Max Coyote



Elliot Elk

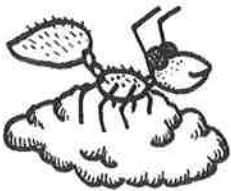


Zack Short Horned Lizard

Do you see any  
other sagebrush-  
steppe friends?



Betty Badger



Hadley  
Harvester  
Ant



Ronnie Prairie Rattlesnake



Jennie Pygmy  
Rabbit

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