

Pond Babies

**A Picture Book Event for Preschoolers
to Read, Wiggle, Color, and Create!**

Based on the picture book **Pond Babies** by Cathryn Falwell
and published by Down East Books, www.downeast.com



Down East
BOOKS·MAGAZINE·ONLINE
www.downeast.com

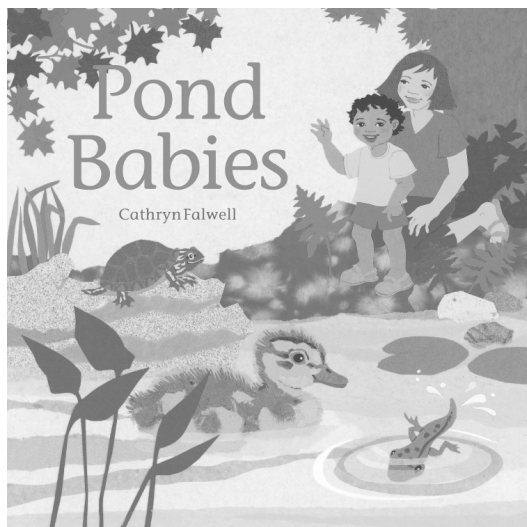
Pond Babies

A Picture Book Event for Preschoolers
to Read, Wiggle, Color, and Create!

About the Event Kit

This event can be done for one or many preschoolers to playfully celebrate literacy, the natural world, physical activity, and creativity.

The picture book, **Pond Babies** by Cathryn Falwell (Down East Books) is about a child's trip to the pond to observe and match pond animals and their new babies. This event kit allows you to play a pond baby matching game with preschoolers, to replicate the animal movement activities in the back of the book, and to create a simple craft that reminds your preschoolers of the book and event. The kit contains the makings for posters with pockets filled with collectable pond baby cards and instructions for a Pond Babies Bangle craft. The kit also contains an event poster and suggestions on telling families about your event.



Pond Babies

By Cathryn Falwell

Published by Down East Books

ISBN 9780892729203

Hardcover \$15.95

What will we see down at the pond? In Cathryn Falwell's latest book, a mother leads her child to the pond to see what babies they might find there. This simple and utterly charming book about observing pond creatures will inspire children to explore the natural world with their families. Vibrant cut-paper collage illustrations in Falwell's signature style, along with a bit of humorous self-discovery at the end, make this the perfect book to share with the very young.

Cathryn Falwell is the author and illustrator of many best-selling children's books, including **Turtle Splash**, **Feast for 10**, **David's Drawings**, **Scoot!**, **Word Wizard**, and **We Have a Baby**. She lives and works next to Frog Song Pond in Gorham, Maine. The pond and its creatures have been featured in several of her books, including **Pond Babies**.

Based on the picture book **Pond Babies** by Cathryn Falwell
and published by Down East Books, www.downeast.com

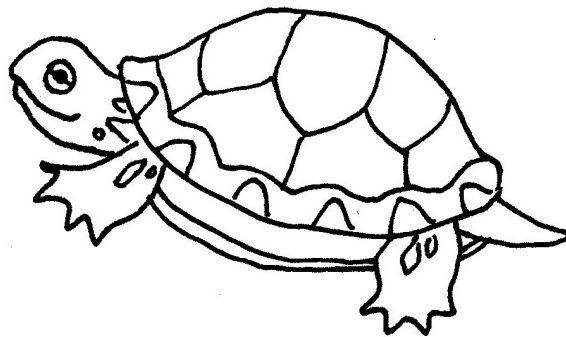
Pond Babies

A Picture Book Event for Preschoolers
to Read, Wiggle, Color, and Create!

Preparing for the Event

What You Might Gather to Prepare:

- ___ Cardstock
- ___ Single-hole paper punch
- ___ 5 business size envelopes (#10's work well)
- ___ Scissors, glue, and tape



What You Might Gather for Day of the Event:

- ___ Pipe cleaners (1 for each attendee)
- ___ Crayons (enough to share with attendees)
- ___ Buttons & beads with holes big enough for a pipe cleaner (5 for each attendee)
- ___ Blue sheet or blanket (Optional)
- ___ Table for the craft

What You Might Do:

- ___ Order a copy of **Pond Babies** by Cathryn Falwell and published by Down East Books. For a library or school discount, please contact your Down East sales representative at educatordiscount@downeast.com.
- ___ Print the event kit.
- ___ Reproduce the Pond Babies Event Poster for advertising the event.
- ___ List the event in your advertising using this suggested copy or some of your own devising:

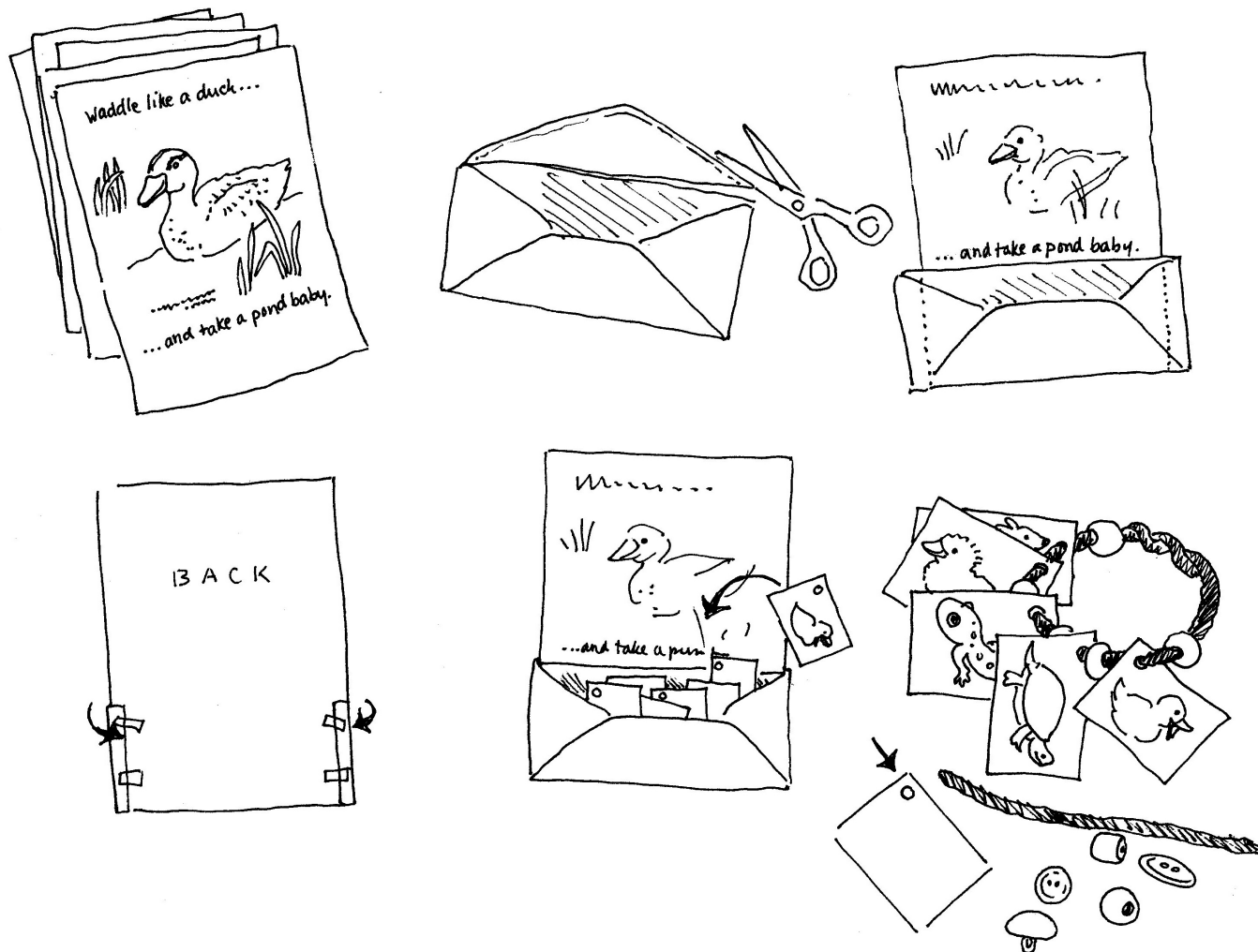
Come to **Pond Babies**, a picture book event for preschoolers to read, wiggle, color, and create! We will read the picture book **Pond Babies** by Cathryn Falwell (Down East Books) about a trip to the pond to observe and match pond animals and their new babies. Following the reading we will wiggle like a tadpole, quack like a duck, and go on our own small journey to find babies hidden in our space. Children will collect five pond baby cards and turn them into a fun bangle to take home. All ages, but best for ages 2-5.

See the next page for visual instructions to the following:

- ___ Cut the top flaps off of 5 business sized envelopes.
- ___ Glue envelopes to bottom of Pond Babies Action Posters under the "...and take a pond baby" line.
- ___ Fold the excess envelope sides to back of the poster and tape securely. You should now have 5 Pond Babies Action Posters with pockets.
- ___ Copy one Pond Babies Card set for each anticipated attendee onto white cardstock.
- ___ Cut the Pond Babies Cards along the lines.
- ___ Hole punch the corners of the Pond Babies Cards where you see the dot.
- ___ Sort the Pond Babies Cards into piles by baby.
- ___ Stuff the Pond Babies Cards into their corresponding Pond Babies Action Poster.
- ___ Put your Pond Babies Cards with the book cover on it with your crayons, pipe cleaners, beads, and buttons for the day of the event.
- ___ Make an example of the Pond Babies Bangle by threading the Pond Babies Cards along a pipe clear interspersed with beads and buttons and then twisting the end of the pipe cleaners.

Pond Babies

A Picture Book Event for Preschoolers
to Read, Wiggle, Color, and Create!



The Day of the Event

How You Might Prepare:

- ___ Lay out the Pond Babies Card with the book cover on it with your crayons, pipe cleaners, beads, and buttons on a craft table.
- ___ Hang the Pond Babies Action Posters stuffed with corresponding Pond Babies Cards around your space. Leave enough room for attendees to do the actions described on the poster. You might also place the posters so preschoolers have to explore your space to find the five posters.
- ___ Spread out blue sheets and/or blankets in your reading space to represent a pond. You can invite attendees to sit on the sheets so that they are in and beside the pond just like pond babies.

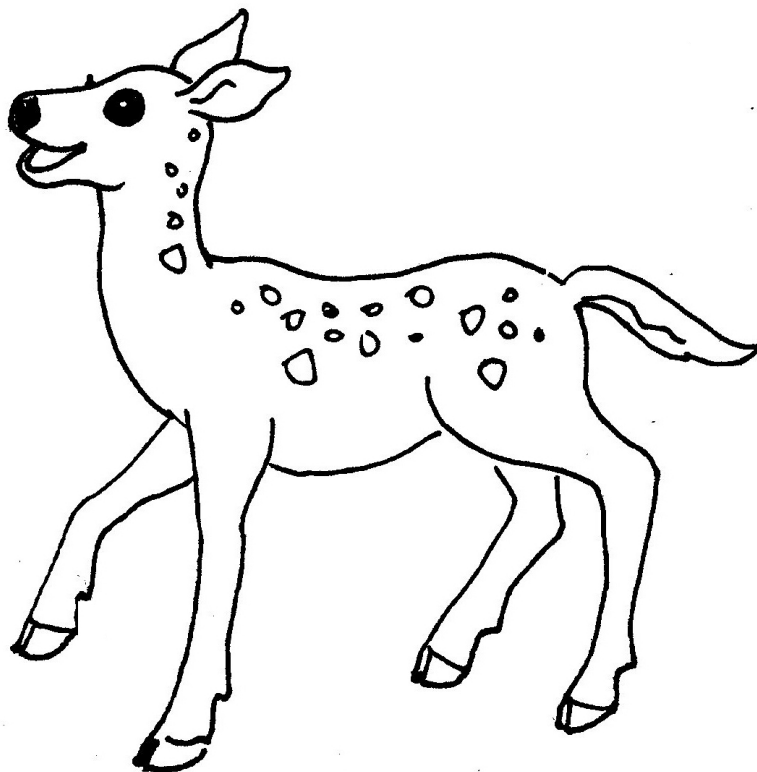
Pond Babies

A Picture Book Event for Preschoolers
to Read, Wiggle, Color, and Create!

The Day of the Event (cont.)

When the Event Starts:

- ___ Welcome attendees to your pond to read a story and pretend to be pond babies.
- ___ Read your copy of **Pond Babies** by Cathryn Falwell and published by Down East Books.
- ___ Have preschoolers stand up and do the actions with you from the final spread of the book. Tell them to remember how to do these pond baby actions because they will have to do them one more time.
- ___ Review with preschoolers how many babies there were at the pond. There were five (not counting the child) --a duckling, a loon chick, a fawn, a tadpole, and a turtle.
- ___ Ask your preschoolers if they would like to take home five pond babies. Encourage them to explore the space with you or their caregivers to find five pond animals.
- ___ Each poster asks the preschooler to repeat the action and to 'take a card.' Encourage them to do this with you or their caregiver and to then come with their five Pond Babies Cards to the craft table.
- ___ At the craft table have the preschoolers write their name on the Pond Babies Card with the book cover on it and color all of their Pond Babies Cards.
- ___ Have the preschoolers thread the Pond Babies Cards along a pipe clear interspersed with beads and buttons. Help them twist the end of the pipe cleaner to make a Pond Babies Bangle to take home.
- ___ Congrats! You have run a wonderful event engaging preschoolers with literacy, the natural world, physical activity, and creativity!



Based on the picture book **Pond Babies** by Cathryn Falwell
and published by Down East Books, www.downeast.com

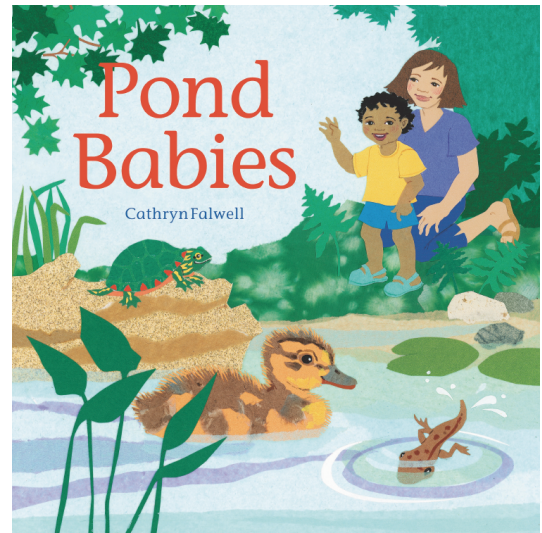
Pond Babies

A Picture Book Event for Preschoolers
to Read, Wiggle, Color, and Create!

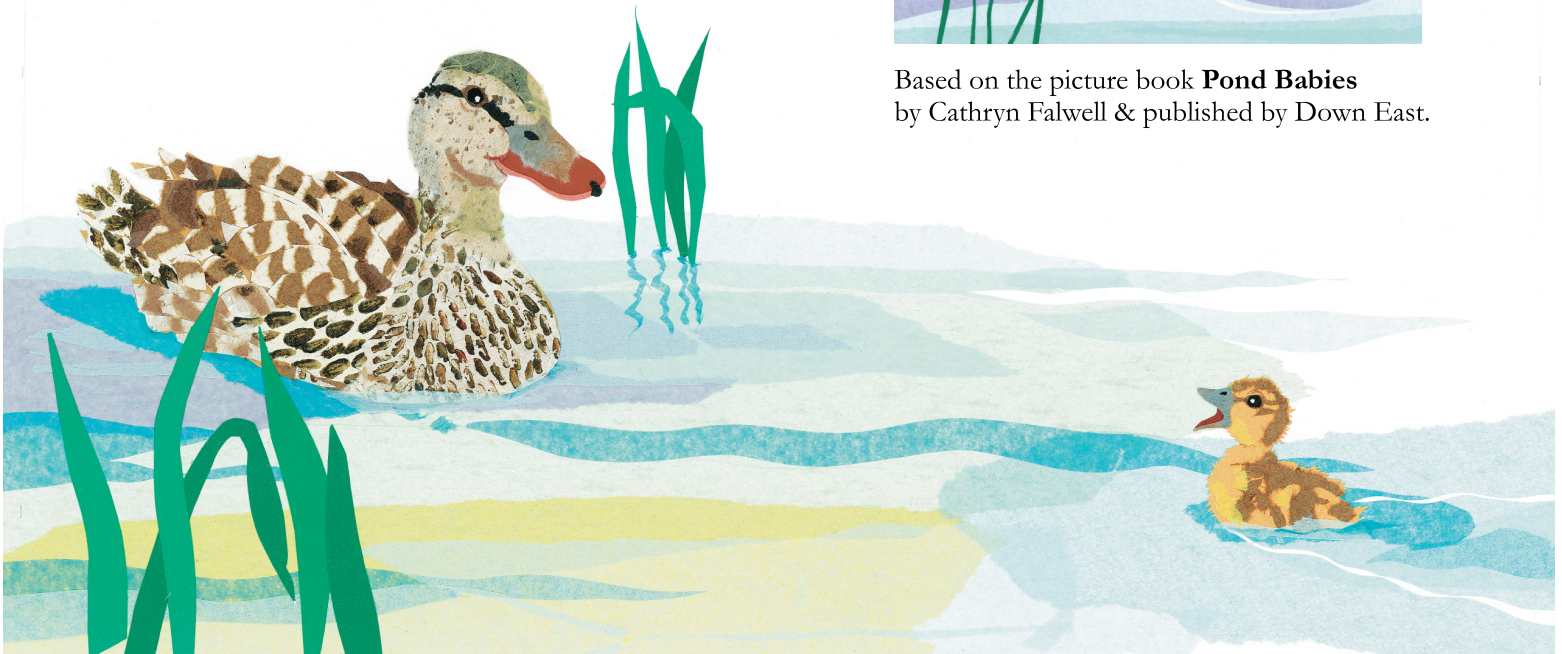
Date:

Time:

Location:



Based on the picture book **Pond Babies**
by Cathryn Falwell & published by Down East.



Waddle like a duck...



From Cathryn Falwell's **Pond Babies**
www.DownEast.com

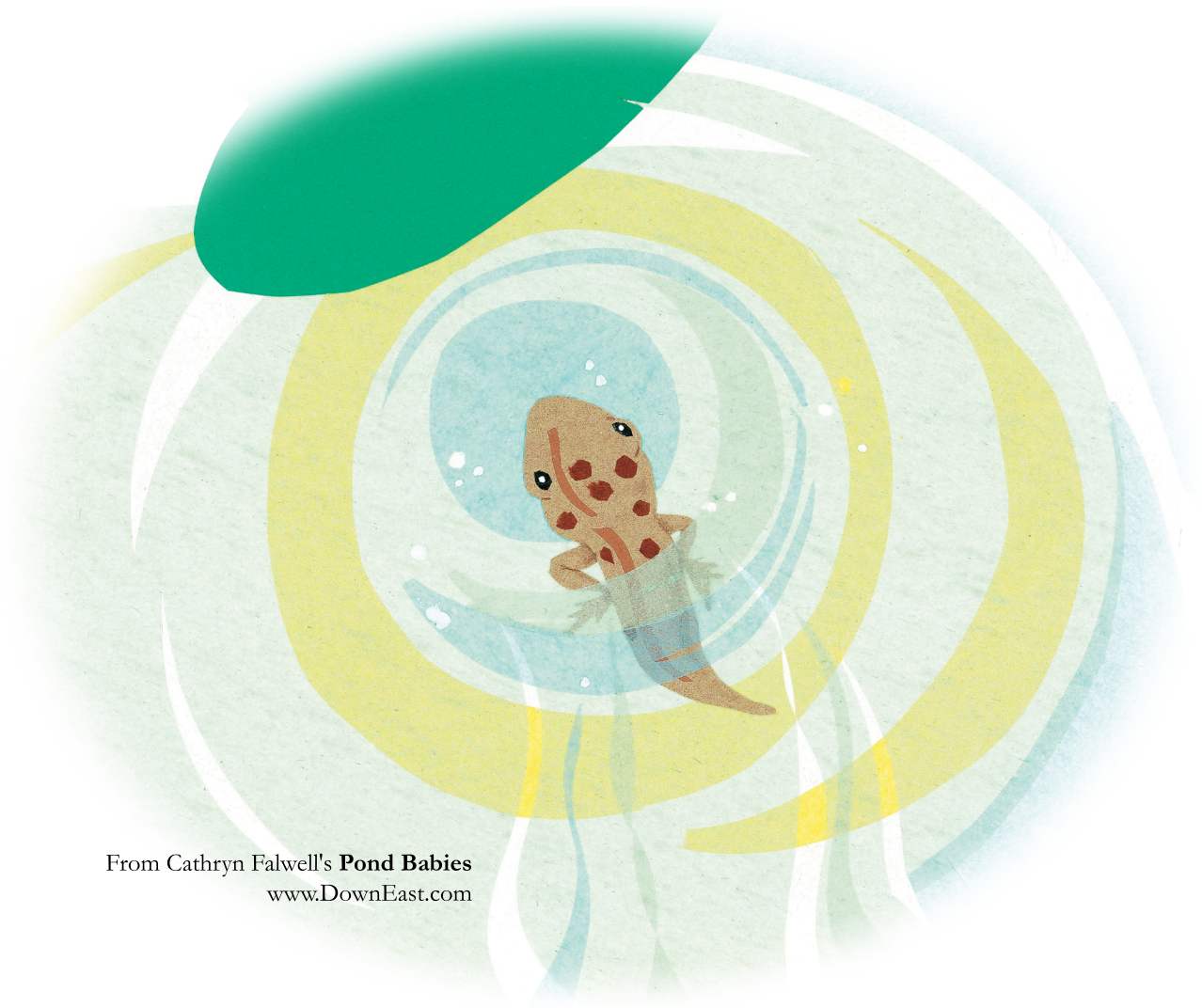
...and take a pond baby.

Dive & pop up like a loon...



...and take a pond baby.

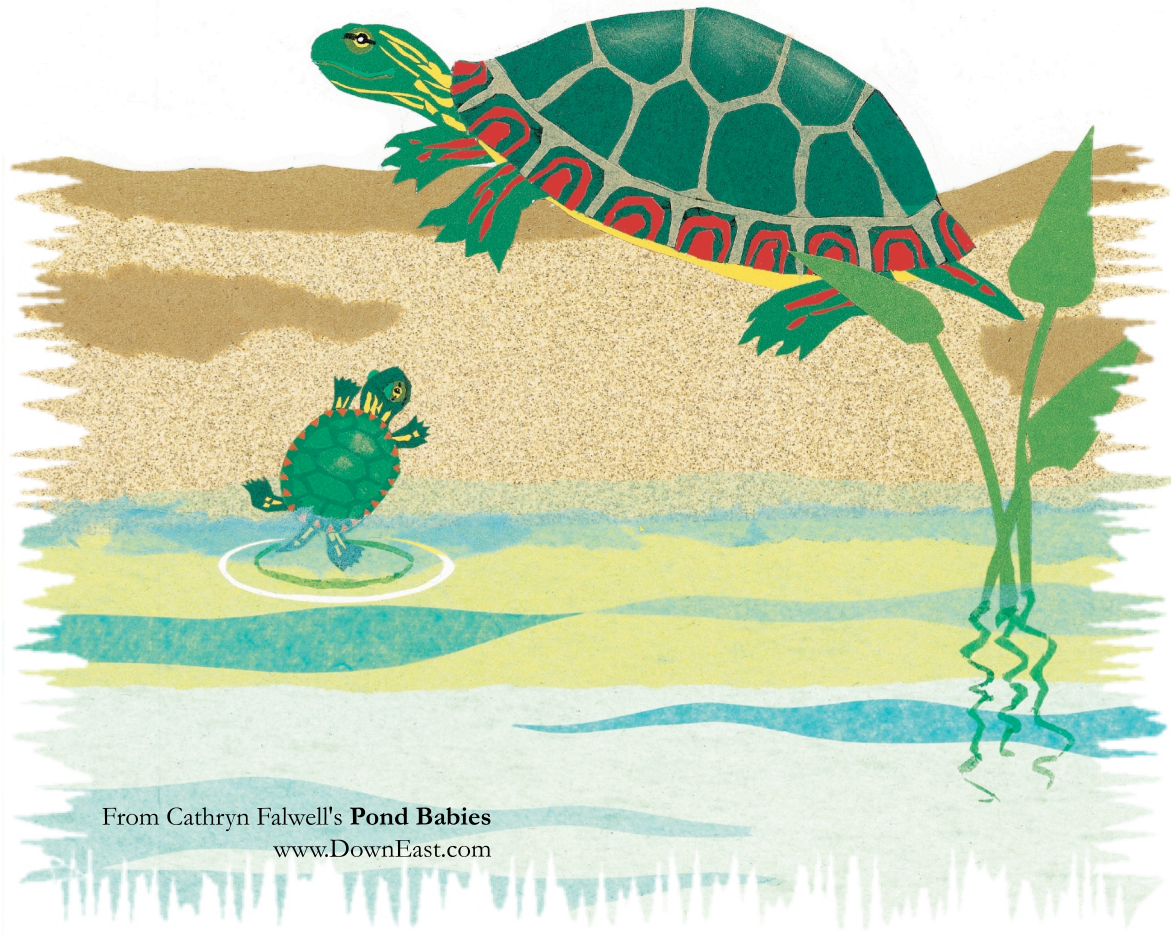
Wiggle like a tadpole...



From Cathryn Falwell's **Pond Babies**
www.DownEast.com

...and take a pond baby.

Hide like a turtle...



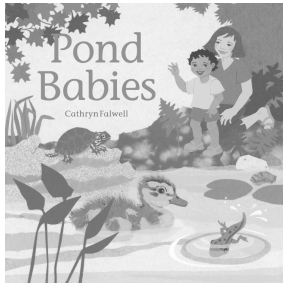
From Cathryn Falwell's **Pond Babies**
www.DownEast.com

...and take a pond baby.

Run in place like a fawn...



...and take a pond baby.



To take a trip to the pond again,
read the picture book,

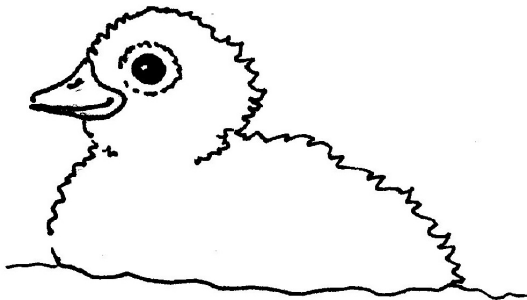
Pond Babies by Cathryn Falwell
www.DownEast.com

and then explore the natural places
in your community!

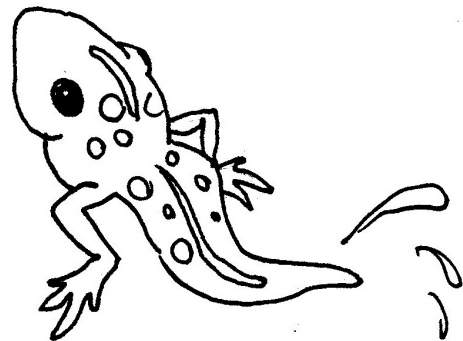
Your Name:



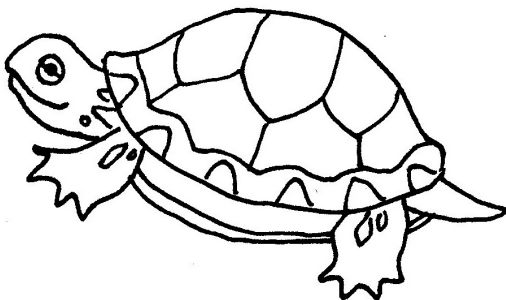
From Cathryn Falwell's picture book, **Pond Babies**
www.DownEast.com



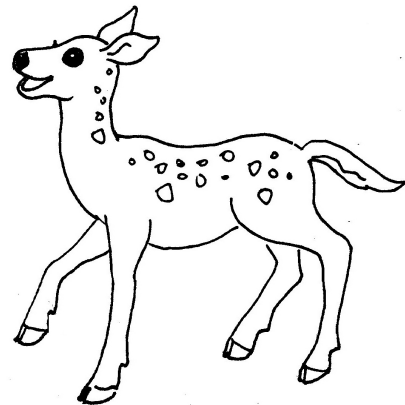
From Cathryn Falwell's picture book, **Pond Babies**
www.DownEast.com



From Cathryn Falwell's picture book, **Pond Babies**
www.DownEast.com



From Cathryn Falwell's picture book, **Pond Babies**
www.DownEast.com



From Cathryn Falwell's picture book, **Pond Babies**
www.DownEast.com