

# Stop the spread

## Prevent unwanted hitchhikers

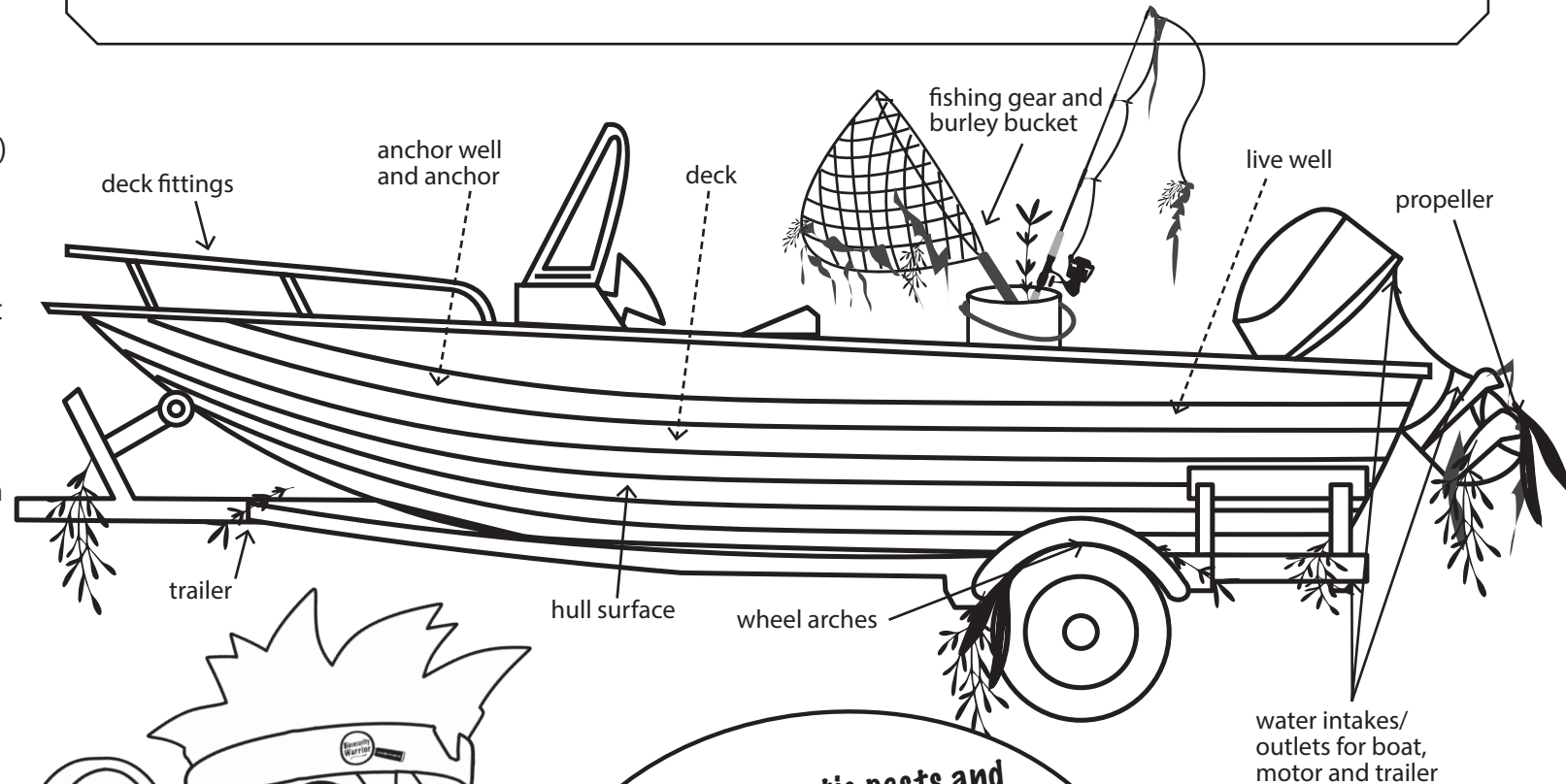
Boats have many nooks and crannies where weeds can latch on and aquatic pests and diseases can accumulate (including in water, weeds, sand or mud) - hitching a ride to places where they don't belong!

You can help ensure weeds, pests and diseases are not transported to different waterways by always cleaning your fishing gear - including your fishing rod, tackle box, boots and life jacket - and helping to clean your boat, including the trailer, between use. Maybe you can even ask the adults if you can inspect their cleaning job to make they've done a good job too!

- Check your fishing gear and boat is clean before entering the water
- Use fresh, clean water to remove anything that's latched on to your boat or fishing gear after you leave the water.
- Be sure to dispose of any waste that comes of when you clean so it doesn't find a new taker to latch on to!

Help ensure weeds and pests are not transported to different waterways by always cleaning your fishing gear and boat.

- ▶ Draw a circle around the weeds to clean off the boat.
- ▶ Now that you have found the weeds to be disposed of, where else could pests and diseases be hiding on the boat?



Many aquatic pests and diseases can survive for long periods of time away from water so always wash and dry your fishing gear, boat and trailer well between uses and check your boat for and dispose of unwanted hitchhikers!