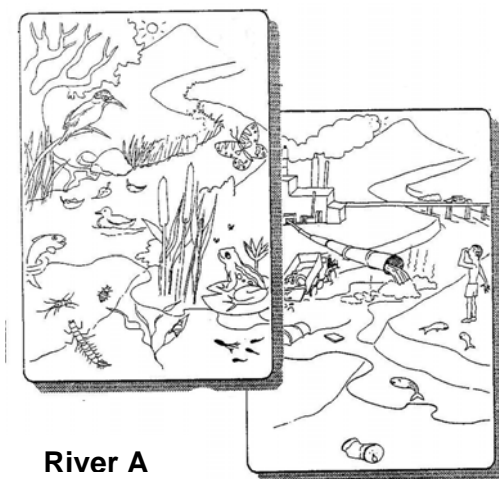


ACTIVITY TWO: A WALK ALONG TWO RIVERS

This **LANGUAGES** exercise encourages learners to discuss and write about their experience of walking along two rivers, one clean and beautiful and one dirty and polluted.

ACTIVITY:

- Hand out the River A worksheet. As a class, let the children discuss what they see – what creatures and plants can they see, have any of them ever been to a beautiful river or stream (when, with who, how did they get there, can they remember where it was?); how do they feel when they see a river like this?
- Hand out the River B worksheet. As a class, let the children discuss what they see – ask them what creatures and plants can they see (if any), have any of them ever been to a river or stream that looks like this (when, with who, how did they get there, can they remember where it was?); how do they feel when they see a river like this?



River A

River B

Ask the children:

1. **Which river would you like to swim in or drink from?**
2. **Why has River B become polluted?** *(Possible answer: The plant and animal life has been destroyed. There are horrible smells and toxic human pollutants emptying into the water which have killed the river animals and plants. This means that the river is 'dying'. The river can no longer cleanse itself and it is a health hazard and unpleasant to be near).*

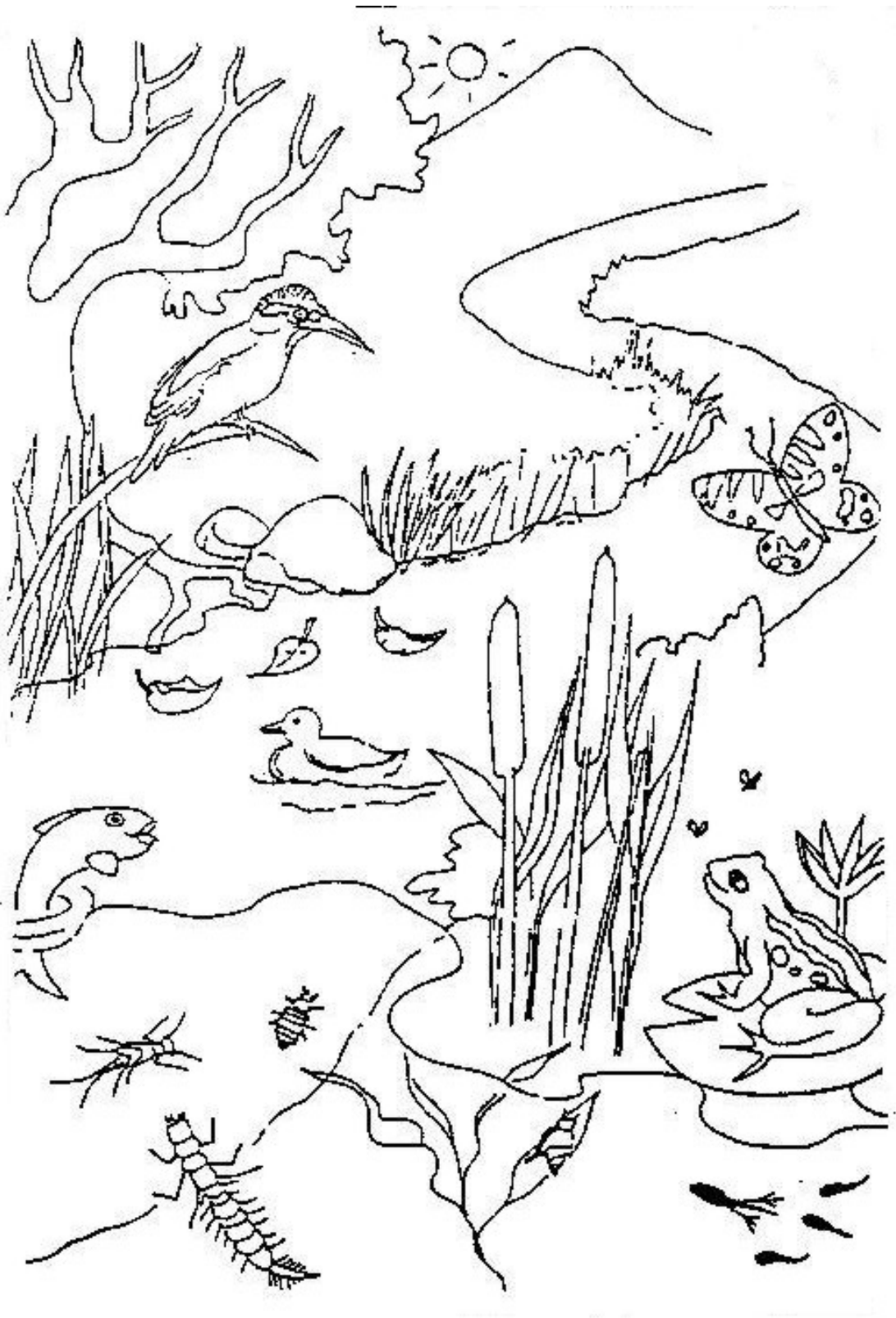
3. **How can we get River B to look like River A?** *(Some ideas: Cleanse our waste before it leaves the factories and towns. Stop human pollution going into the river. Plant indigenous trees along the banks – this will reduce the noise and disturbance, make the river a beautiful place to be, create homes for birds and animals. Can the children think of some laws (they can make up their own) to protect our rivers, streams and fresh water?)*
4. **Why should we try to keep all our rivers in South Africa like River A?** *(Possible answers: To make sure that we always have clean water for drinking and other human uses; to make sure that animals and plants have places to live; to make sure that we look after and conserve our beautiful places).*

Having brainstormed ideas and emotions within the class, about the two rivers, the children can now write one or two paragraphs on which river they would rather swim and drink from and why.

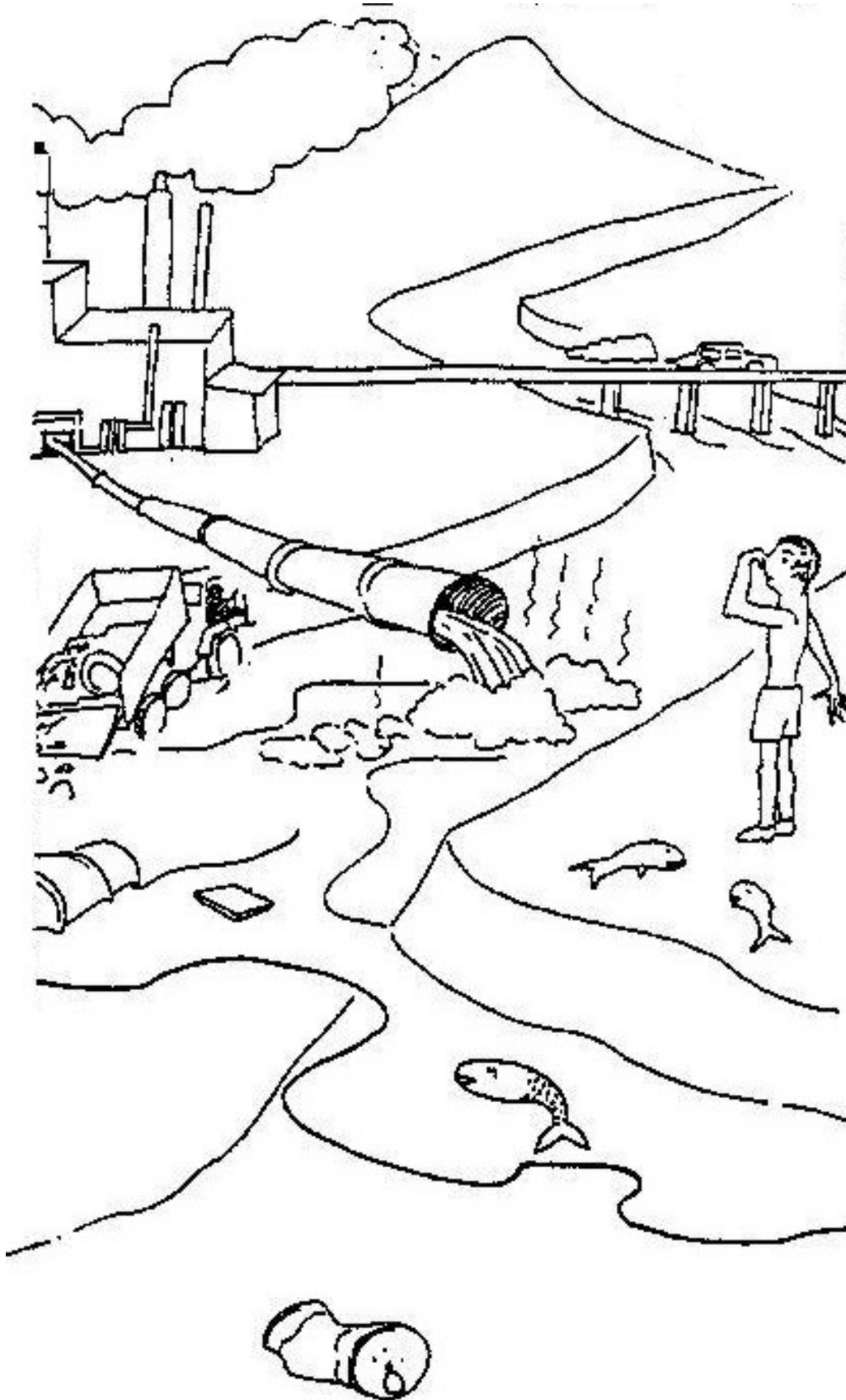
They will also need to write a title for their piece of writing.

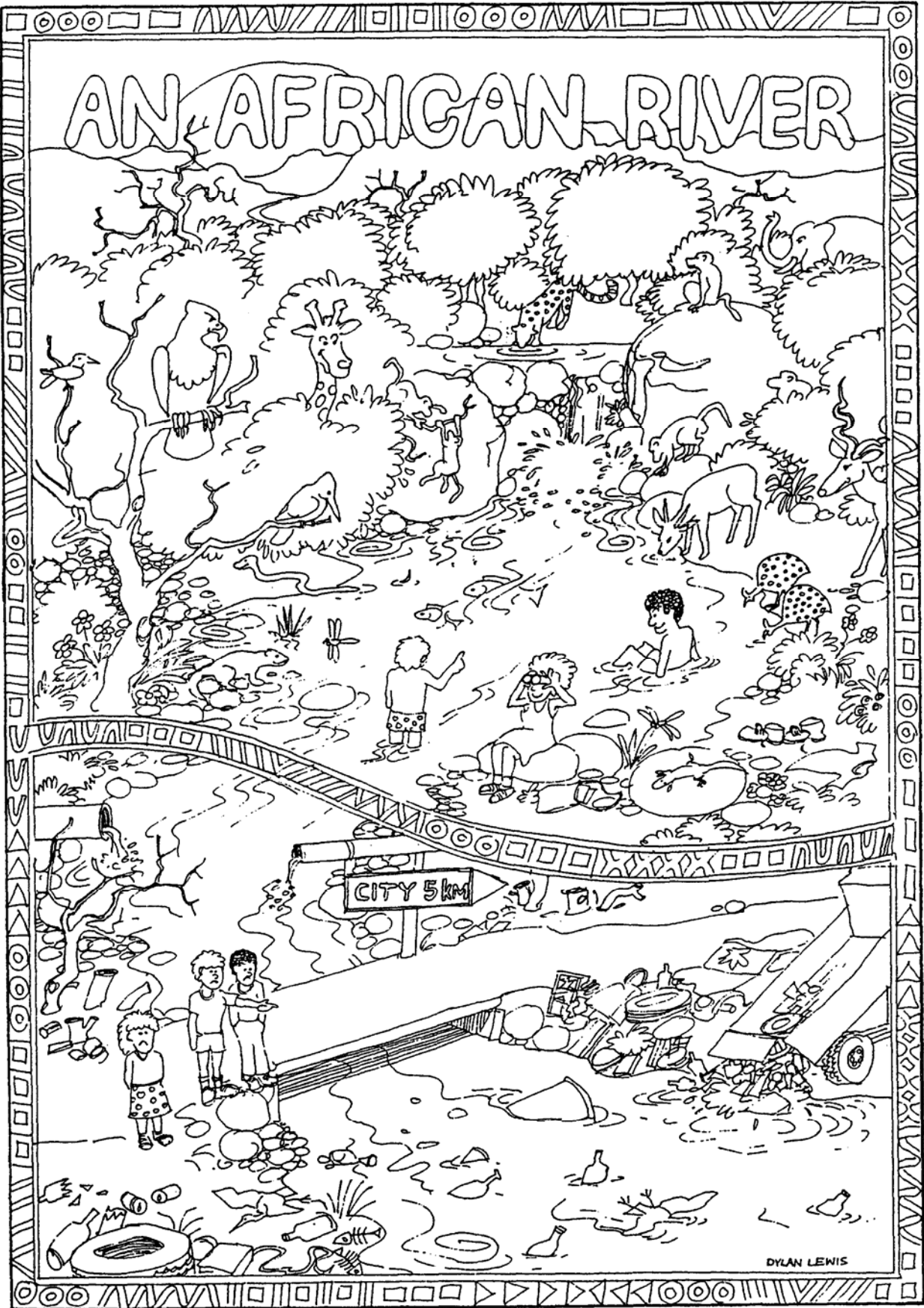
- For the keen artists in the class, let the children take the two river worksheets home and colour them in. Or better still, draw their own rivers and colour them in! An additional “An African River” colour-in worksheet is also available at the end of this activity.
- If your school is fortunate enough to live close to a river or stream, why not consider taking the children for a walk along the river. It may be useful to divide the class into groups of 4 or 5 children, each with pen and paper so that they can make notes of what they see – plants, animals, litter, anything and everything! Your class and you may even decide to ‘adopt’ your nearby local river and ensure that it is kept clear of alien invasive plants and litter!

RIVER A WORKSHEET



RIVER B WORKSHEET





Criteria to assess learners during this languages lesson

Criteria	Exceeded requirements of the Learning Outcome	Satisfied requirements of the Learning Outcome	Partially satisfied requirements of the Learning Outcome	Not satisfied requirements of the Learning Outcome
The learner contributed answers and suggestions to questions asked about Rivers A and B				
The learner spoke of a personal experience when visiting a river and/or expressed their own feelings when speaking about Rivers A and B				
The learner wrote a one or two paragraph story on which of the two rivers they would rather drink from and swim in				