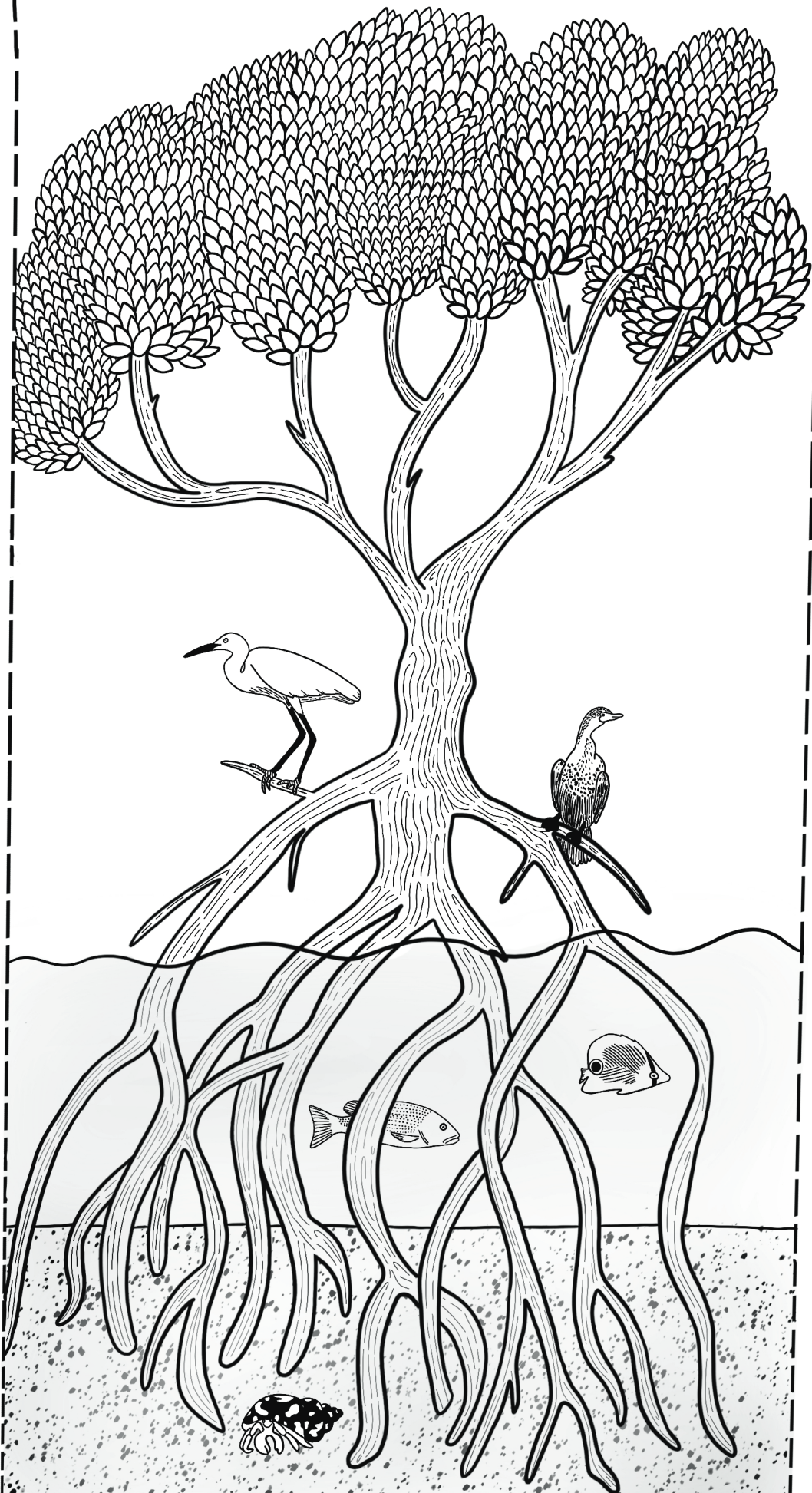


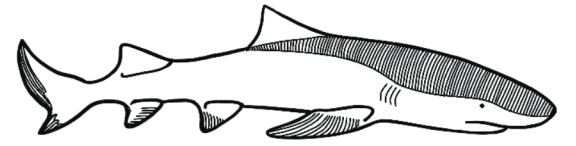
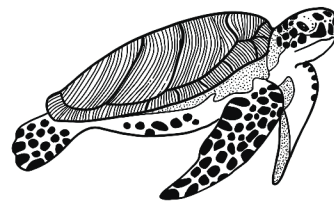
MANGROVE FORESTS



MANGROVE FORESTS EXIST AT THE INTERSECTION OF LAND + SEA.

THEY OCCUR IN THE TROPICS AND SUBTROPICS, IN WARM, WET CLIMATES. ONLY A FEW PLANT SPECIES ARE FOUND THERE, DUE TO THE HARSH CONDITIONS.

THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED **110** MANGROVE TREE SPECIES, WHICH PROVIDE A HABITAT FOR **174** MARINE MEGAFUNA, AMONG OTHER MARINE AND LAND SPECIES



MANGROVE FORESTS CONTAIN TREES WITH A COMPLEX ABOVE GROUND ROOT SYSTEM:

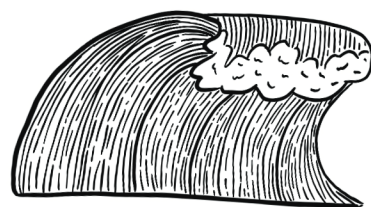
- AERIAL ROOTS ALLOW THEM TO BREATHE IN LOW OXYGEN, WATERLOGGED SOILS
- PROP ROOTS WHICH SUPPORT THE TREES IN THE MUDDY SOIL
- THE ROOT SYSTEM ALLOWS THEM TO FILTER SALTS, SO THEY CAN SURVIVE IN HIGH SALINE CONDITIONS

“THE GUARDIANS OF THE COAST”, MANGROVE FORESTS:

- PROTECT COASTLINES FROM EROSION, FLOODS, TSUNAMIS + STORMS



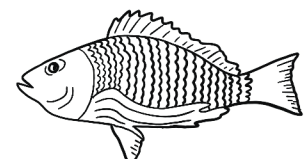
- PROTECT HOMES ON SHORELINES



- STORE ATMOSPHERIC CARBON AT A HIGH RATE

CO₂

- ARE A VITAL ECOSYSTEM FOR MANY SPECIES OF COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE



- PROVIDE A SOURCE OF FOOD