River Beasts & Besties

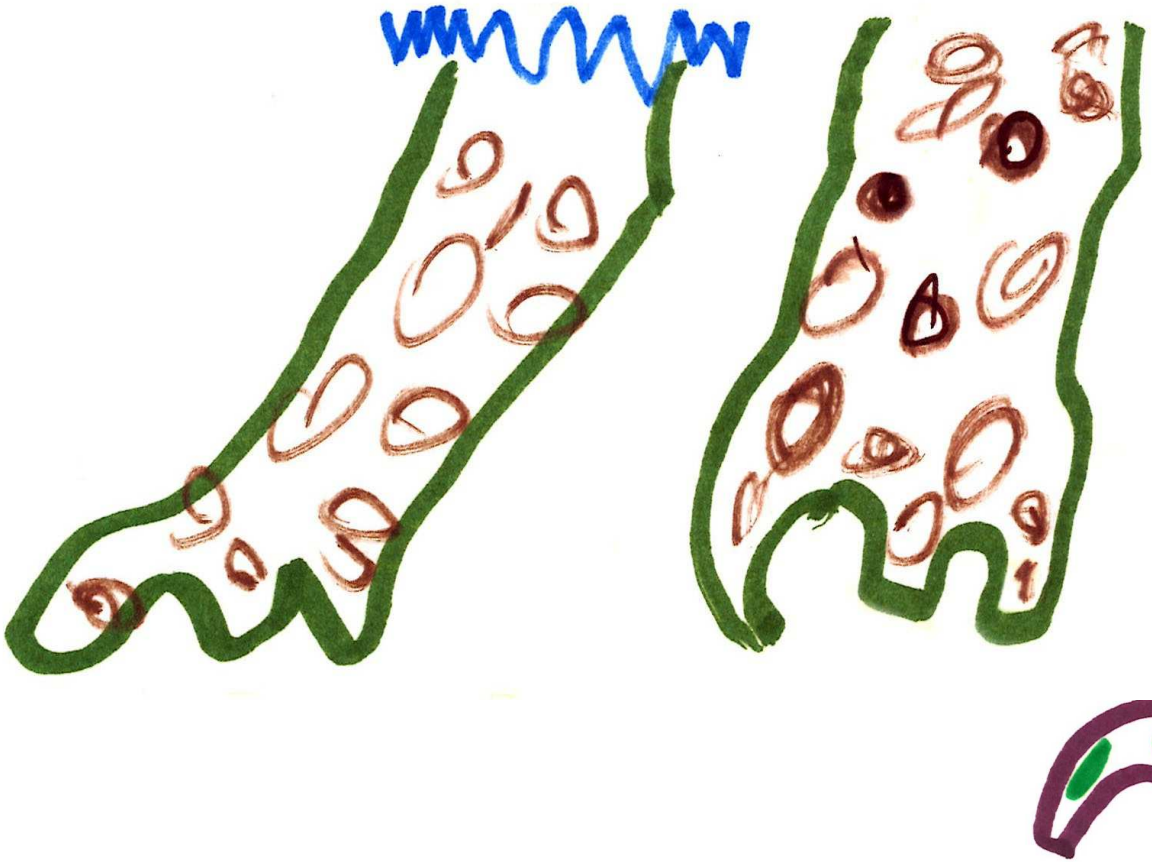




river beasts & besties

exploring our fears
of the deep

What lives



under there?



Beneath the surface?




In the mud?

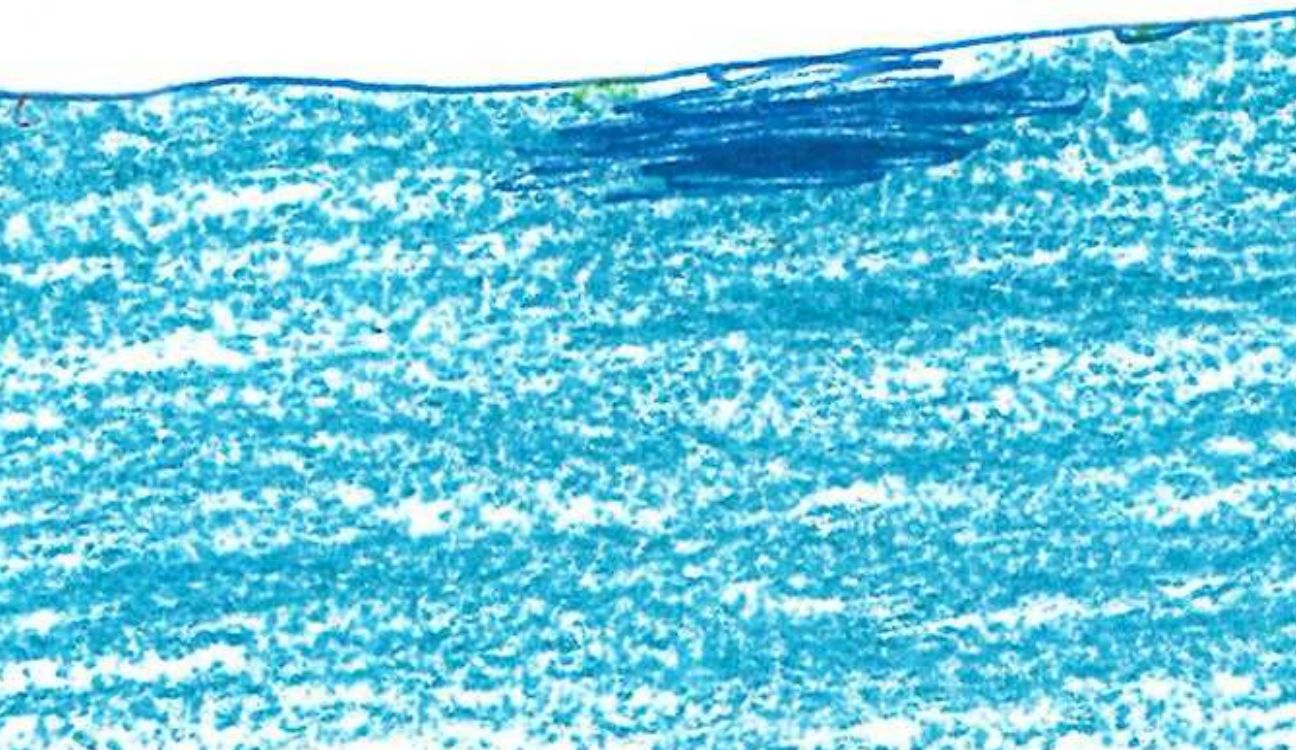
Waiting,

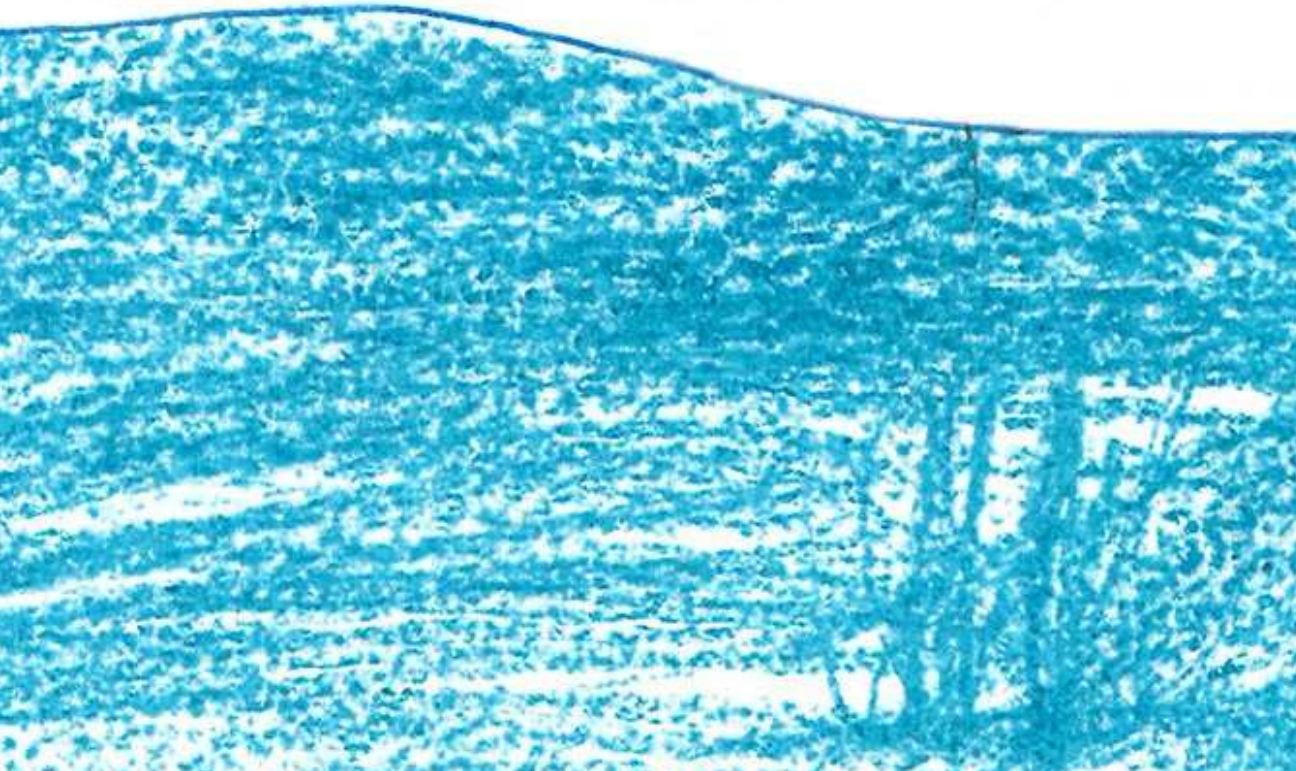


where

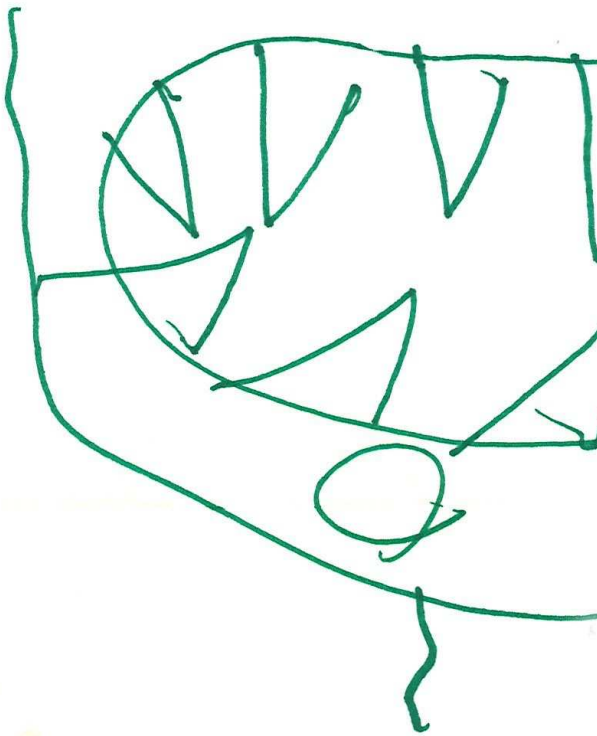


you can't see?



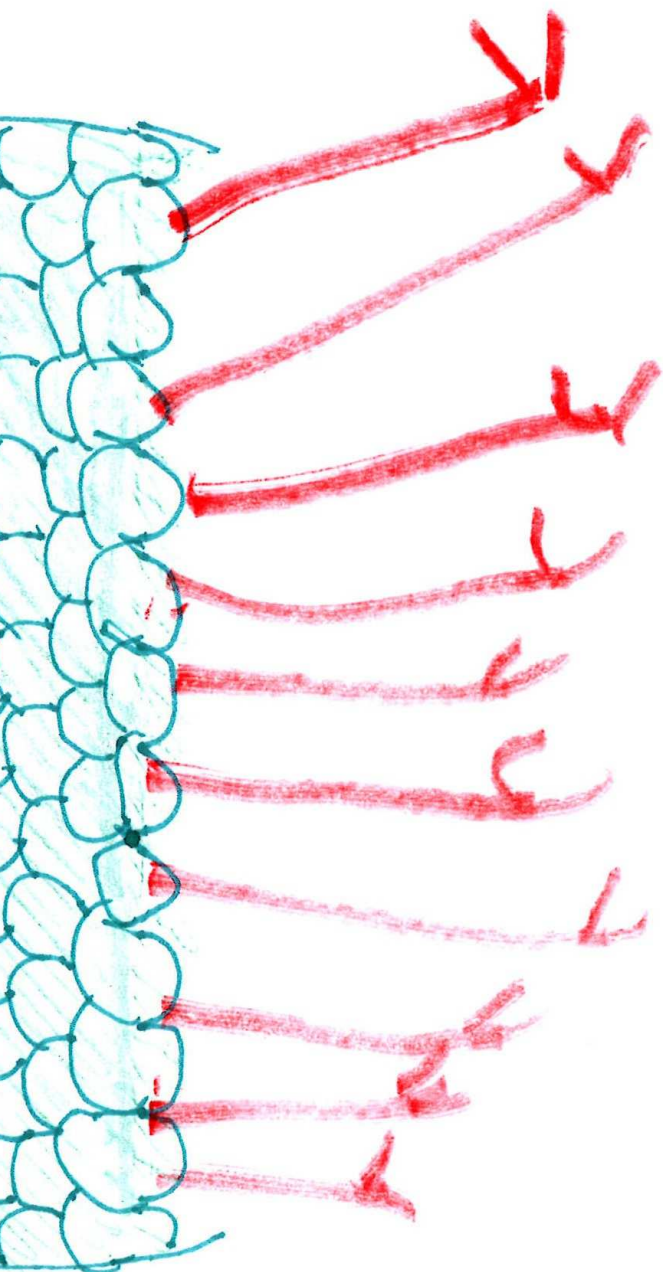


What sca



res you?





How

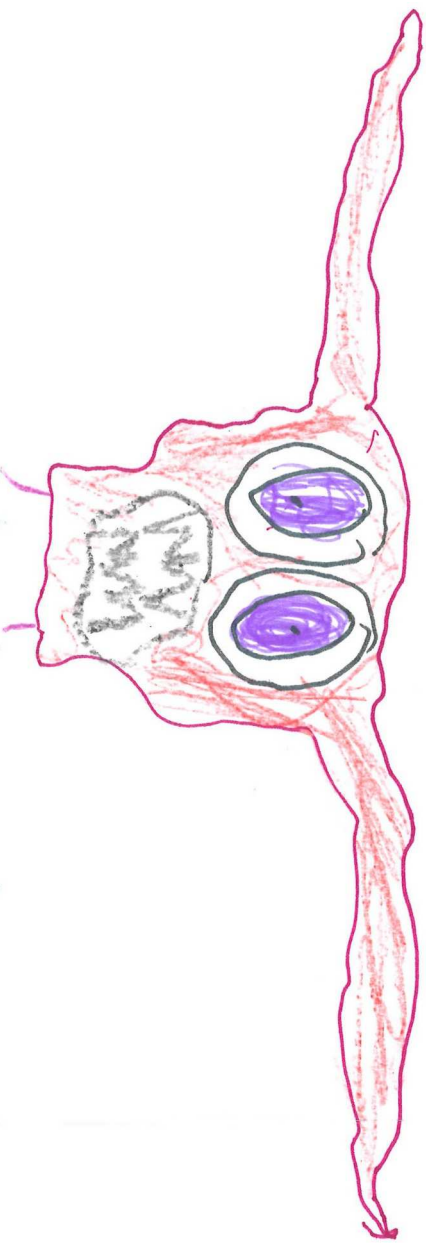
many

does it

LEGS

have?



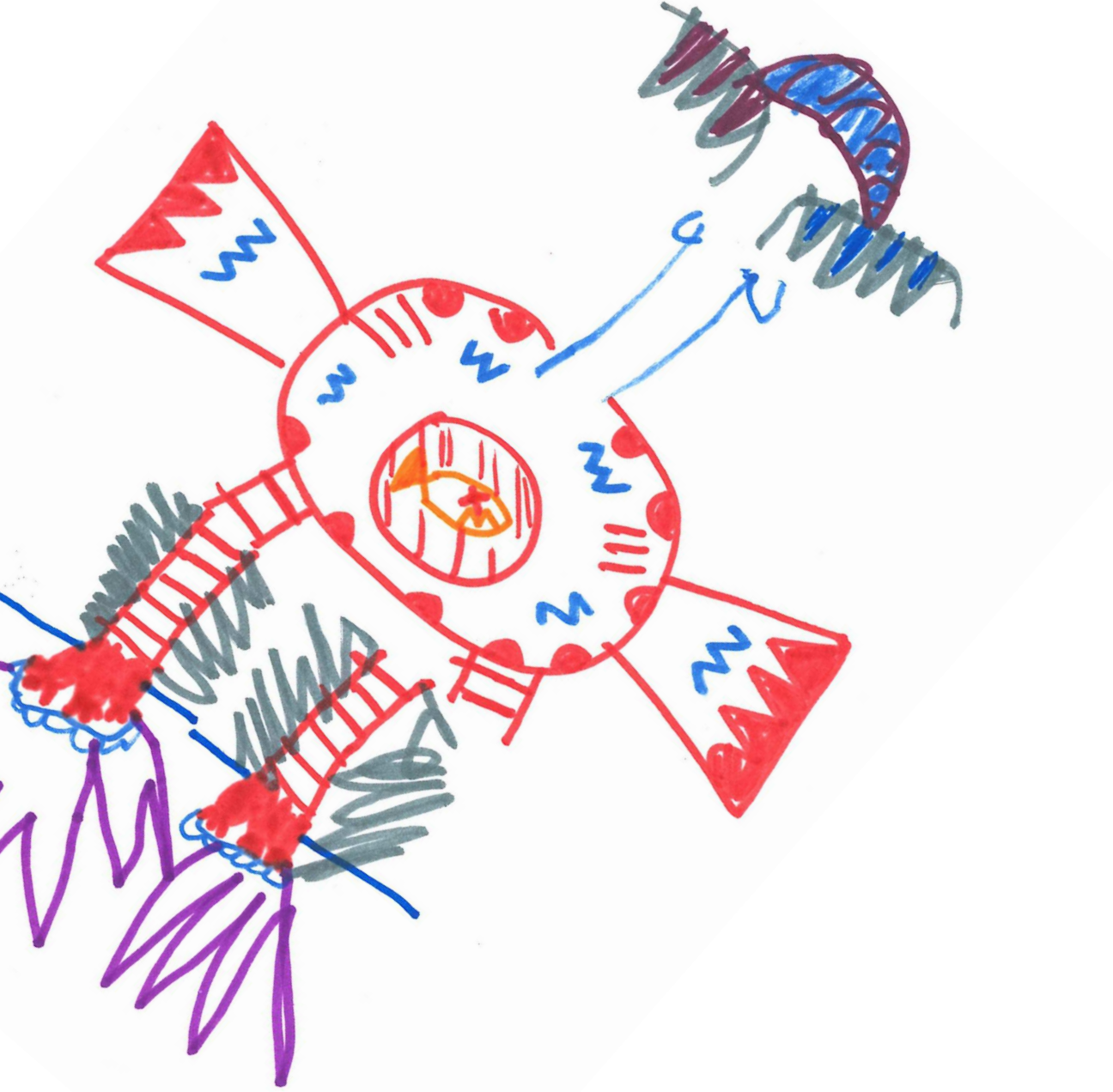


Does it have wings?

(Or big ears?)

Does it jump?





Is it a

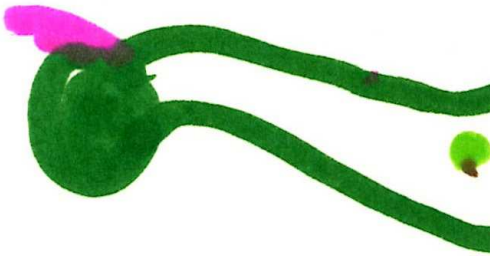


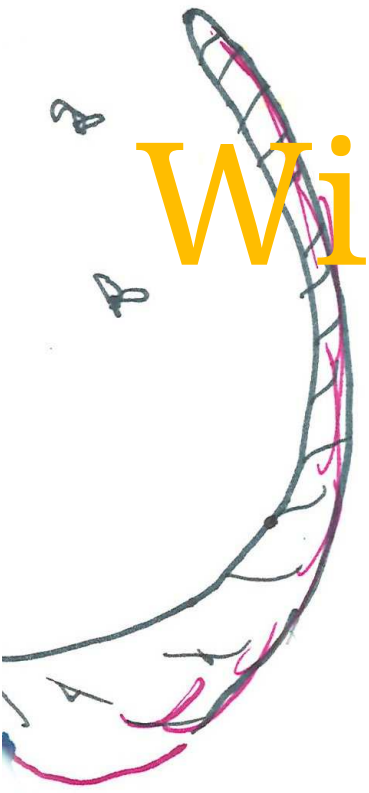
harumphaagrazzl



ebaaaaloooooozie??

(With three eyes?)





Will its tail take you



under?



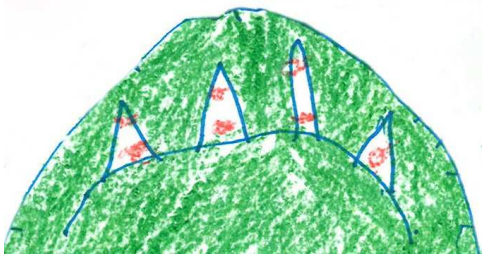
And what

WHAT!

about its

TEETH?

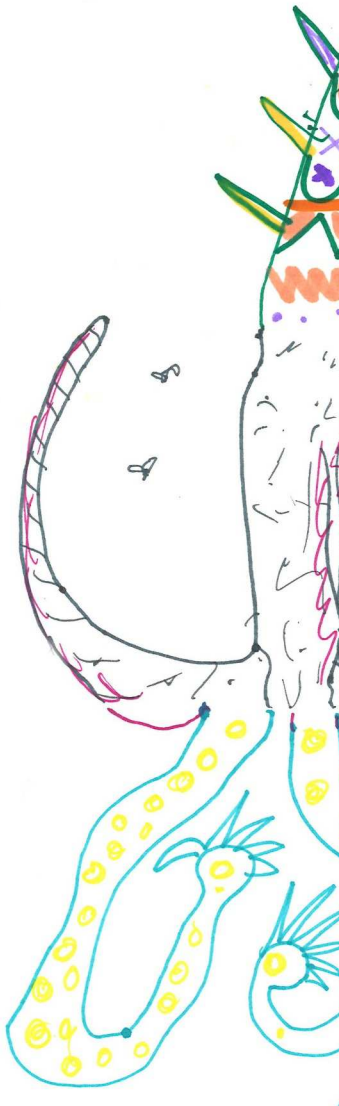




LOUD.

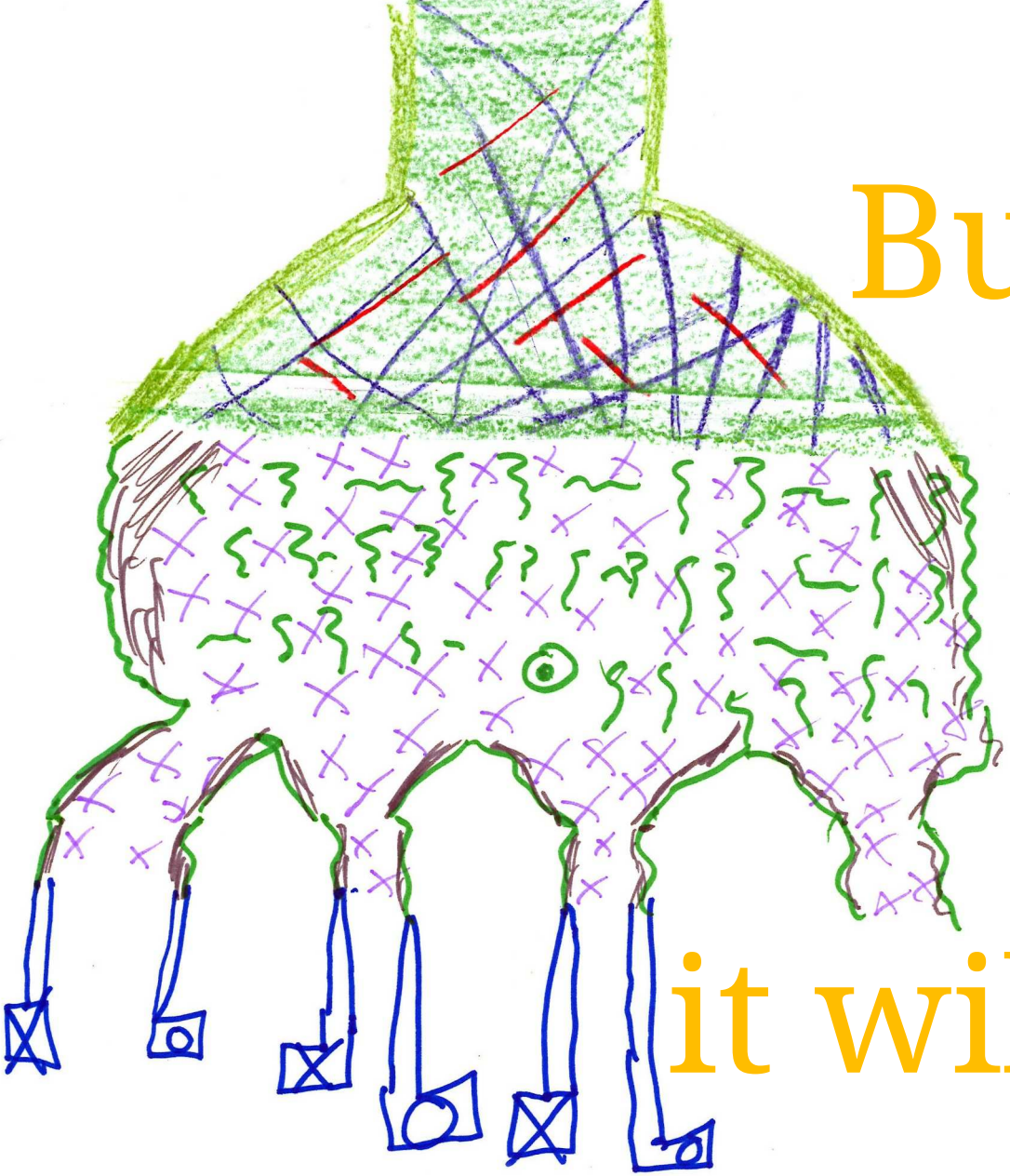
HAIRY.

STINKY!





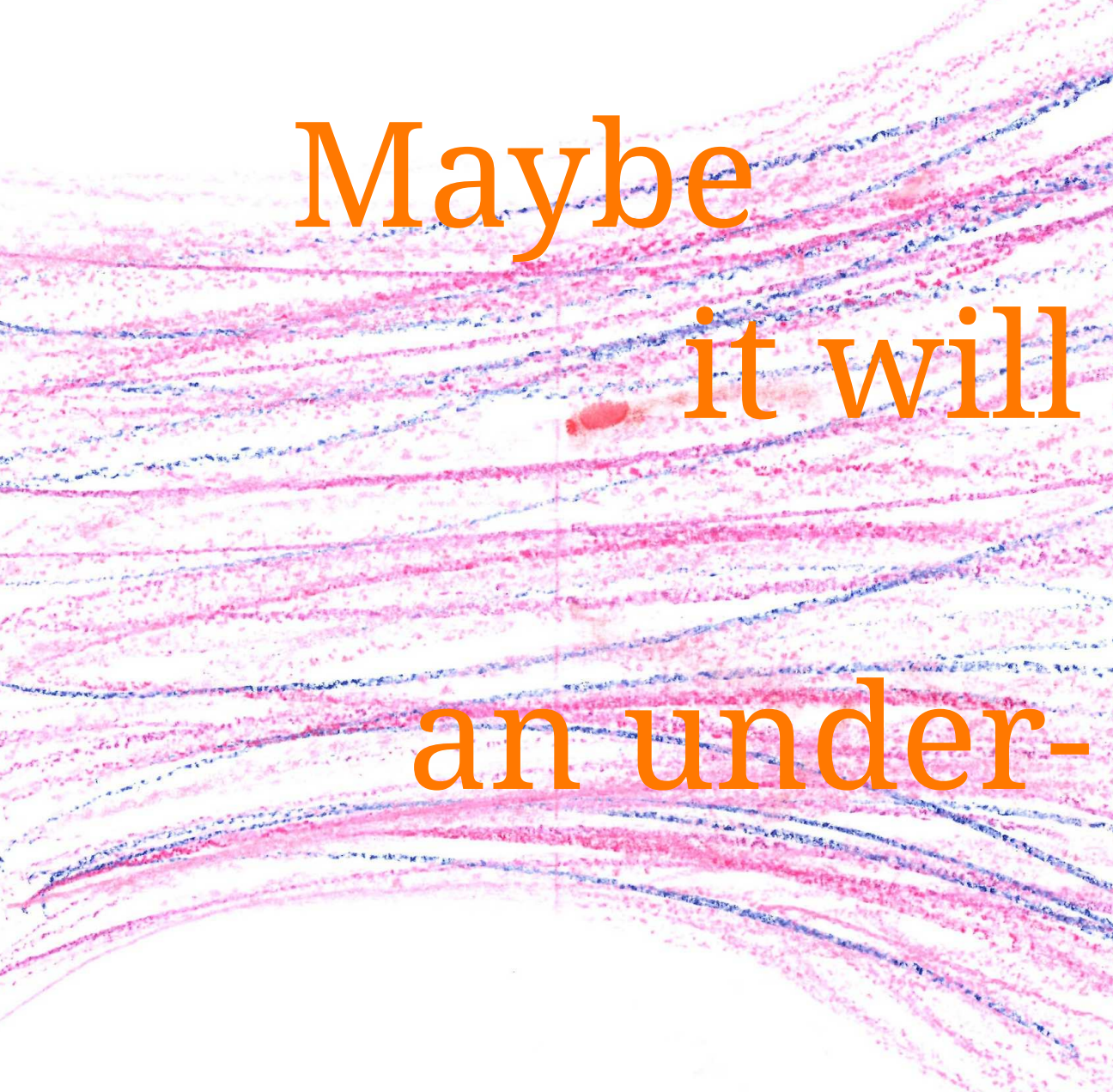
(And with scales?)


But
it will

maybe,

just maybe,

guide you.


Maybe
it will
an under-



sing to you

water song.

Maybe

it will clean

all that is


dirty.

Maybe it will keep you safe.



Philadelphia families created the art in this book during a collaborative visual storytelling and myth-making workshop called ***River Beasts and Besties.***

We created fantastical ***beasts*** to explore our fears about urban waterways. We also conjured ***besties,*** or mythical creatures who protect our rivers from ecological destruction. We hope that this book will help you to do the same.

This project was partially funded by the Penn Program in Environmental Humanities Ecotopian Toolkit grant.

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PENN PROGRAM IN
ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES

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What's under there?