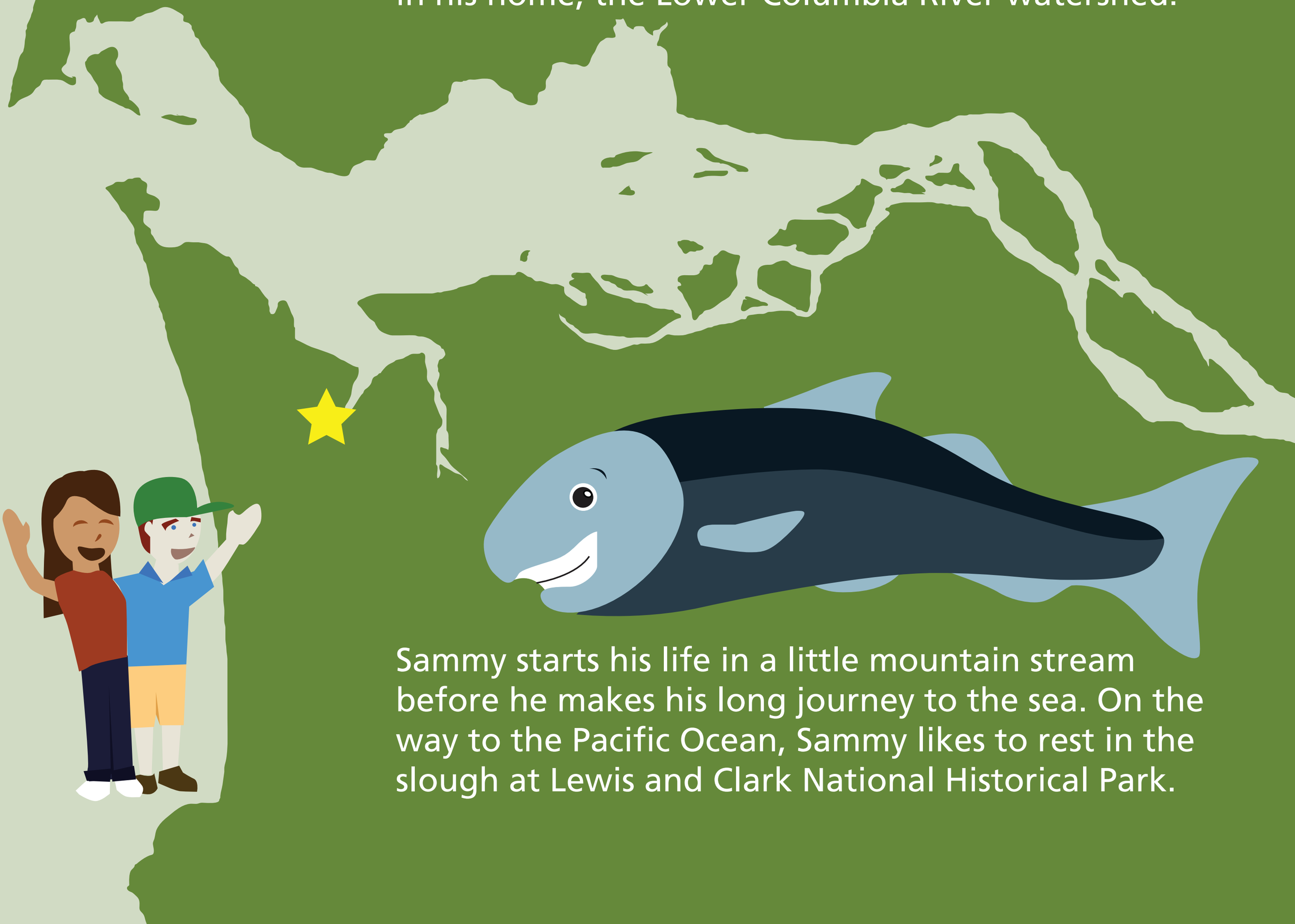
Sammy C. Salmon

(the **C** is for **Coho**)

is seeing lots of strange things lately and wonders if his children and grandchildren will survive some of the changes taking place in his home, the Lower Columbia River watershed.



Sammy starts his life in a little mountain stream before he makes his long journey to the sea. On the way to the Pacific Ocean, Sammy likes to rest in the slough at Lewis and Clark National Historical Park.

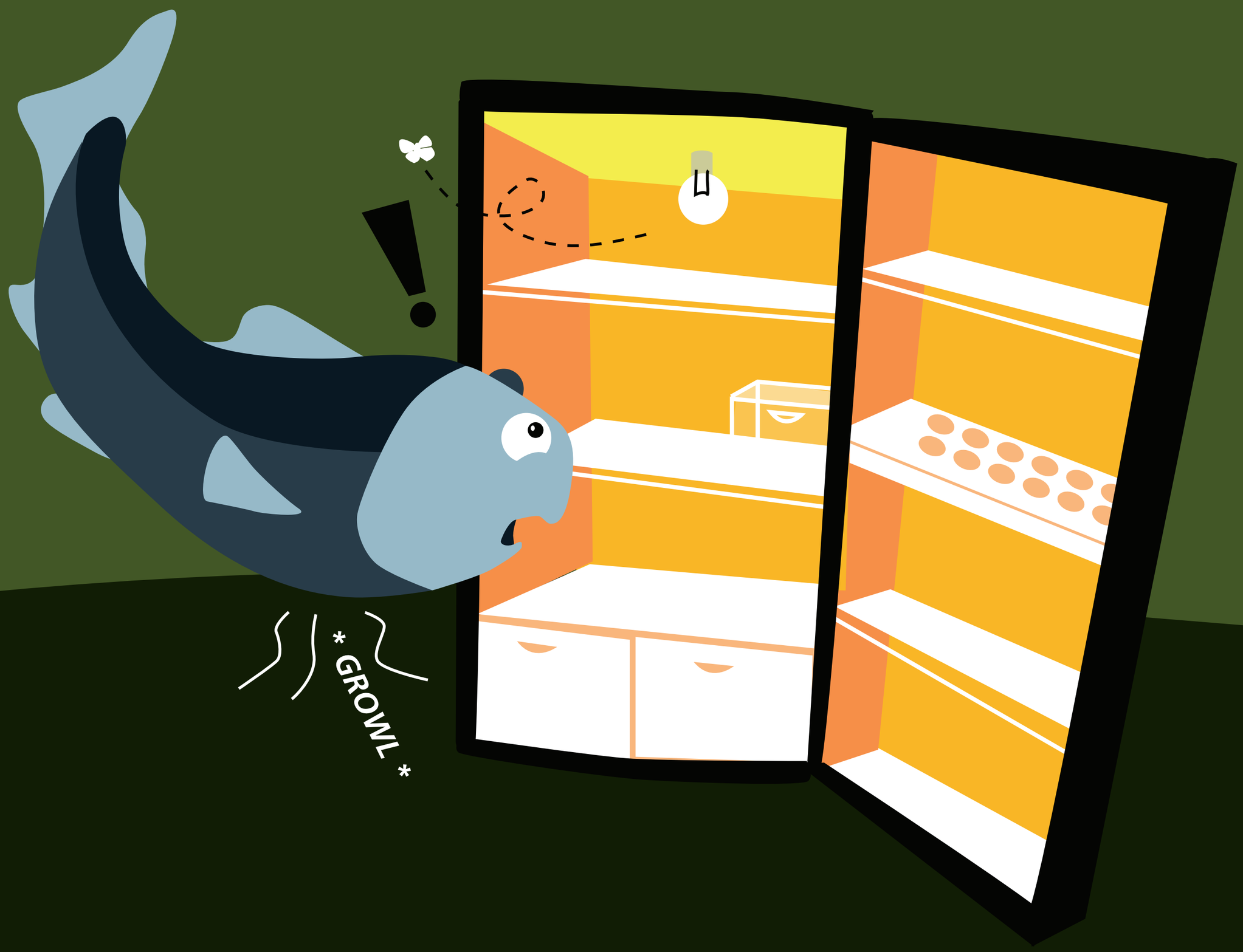
Sammy is worried about the future of his family.

They say

timing is everything

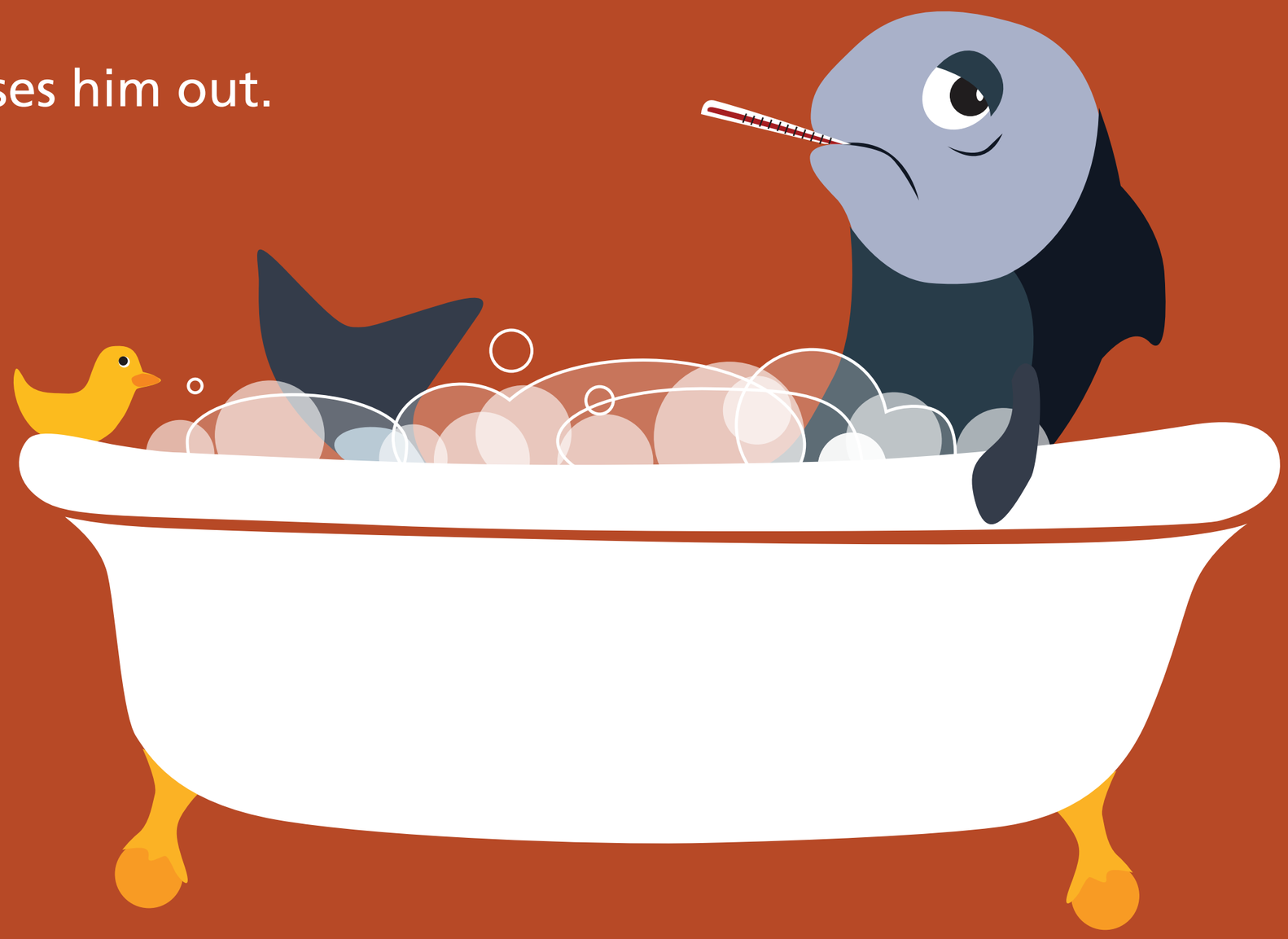
and when Sammy leaves the estuary, the first two weeks in the ocean are the most important.

But if the ocean temperature is too **warm**, Sammy will not find enough food.



Sammy doesn’t like warm water.

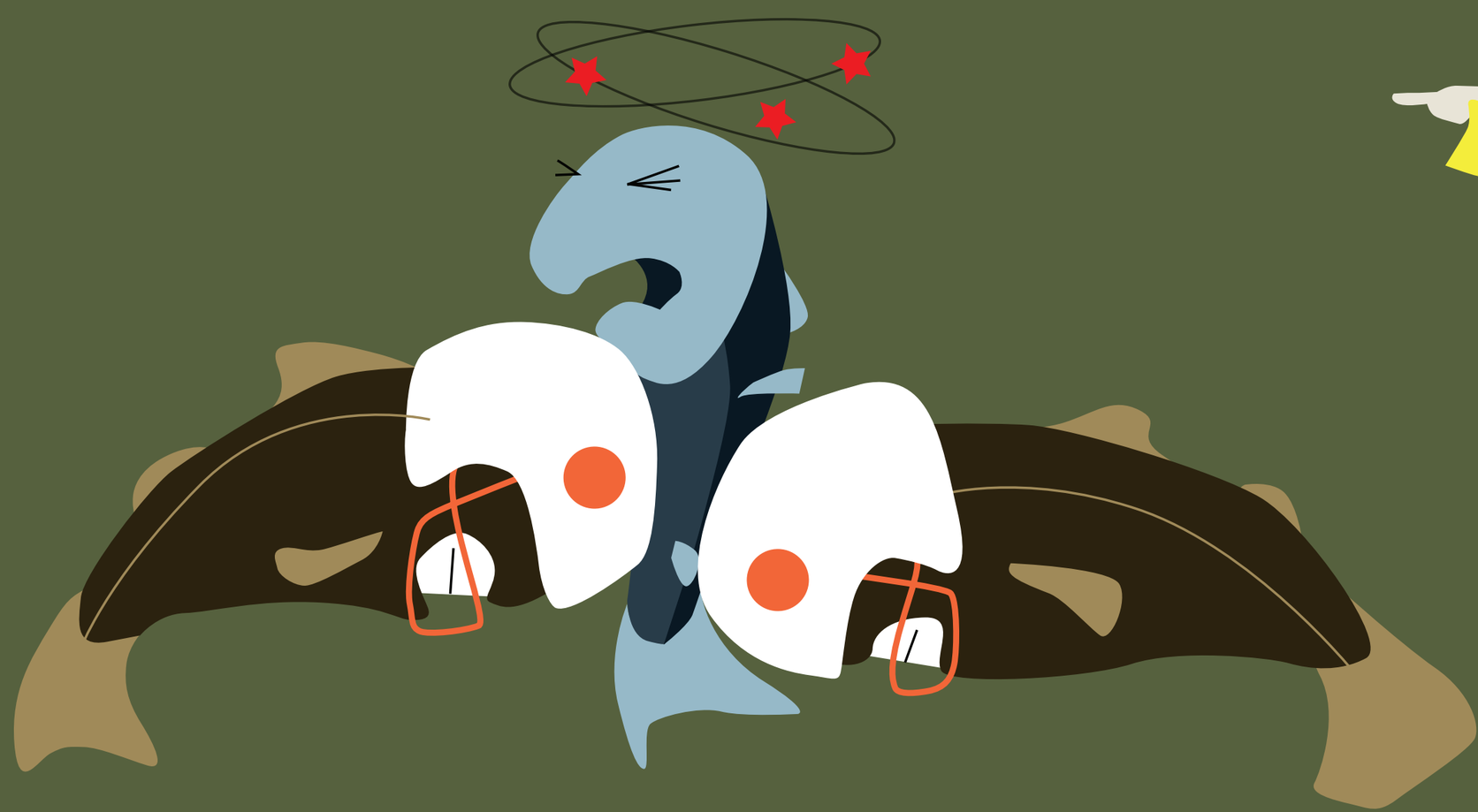
It stresses him out.



He’s not a warm bath kind of fish. He enjoys living in

COLD
CLEAR
and CLEAN WATER.

Change is not good for Sammy.



Even though he has always considered himself a tough guy; scientists call him **sensitive**. You see, the truth is, small changes really bother Sammy, like

increased salt in the estuary or

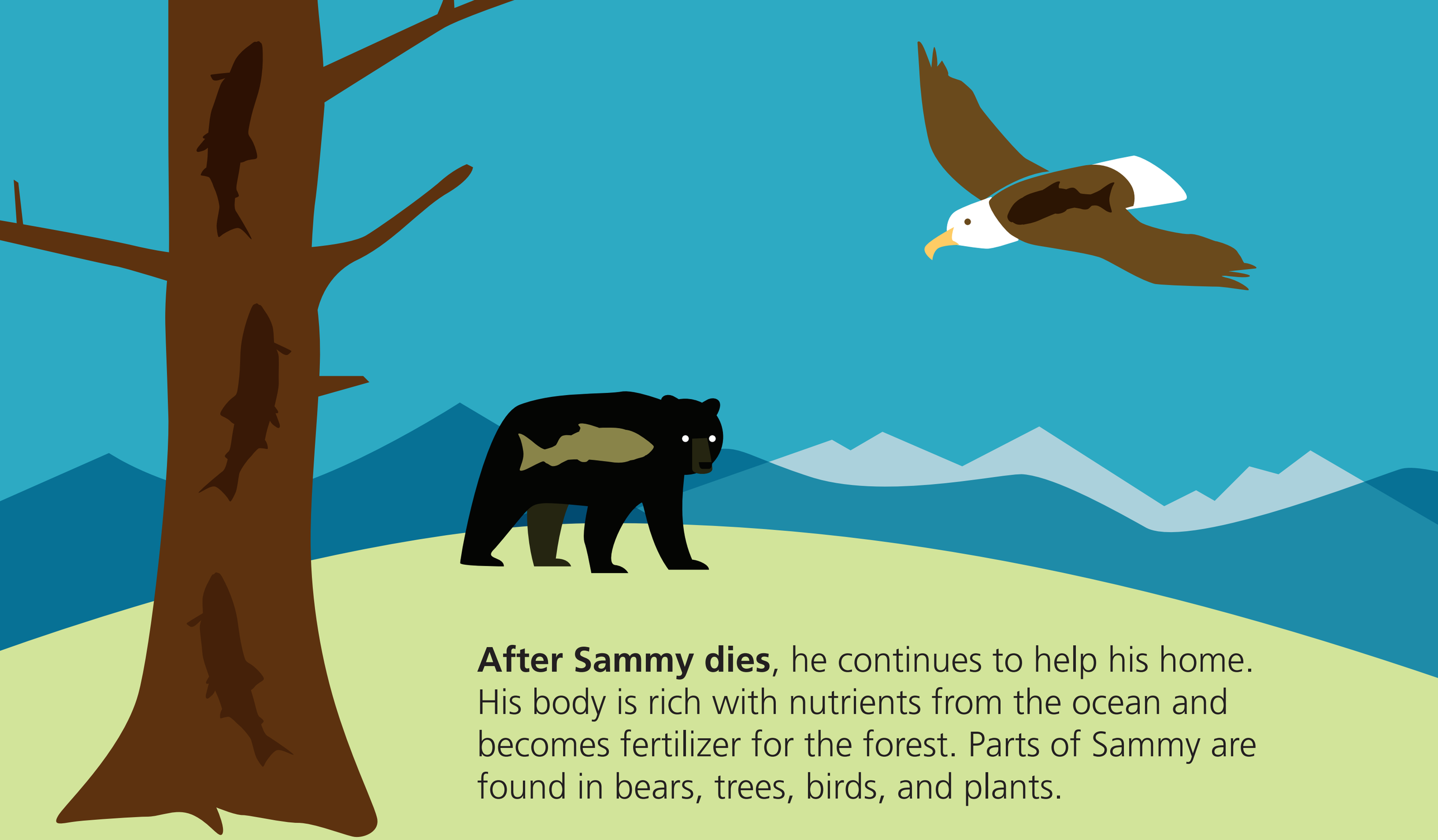
the big warm bully competitor fish who might move into his estuary and push him around.

The problems is, since Sammy has experienced warmer waters with less food, his journey back to his old neighborhood—the mountain stream—could be harder to complete.

He must have the strength
to make it past

THE DAMS, THE NETS,
THROUGH THE POLLUTION,
THE PREDATORS WHO LIKE TO EAT HIM,

all to get back home to the same little stream where his life began. There he will mate and help make baby salmon and the cycle starts all over.



After Sammy dies, he continues to help his home. His body is rich with nutrients from the ocean and becomes fertilizer for the forest. Parts of Sammy are found in bears, trees, birds, and plants.

Sammy helps many species in the watershed.

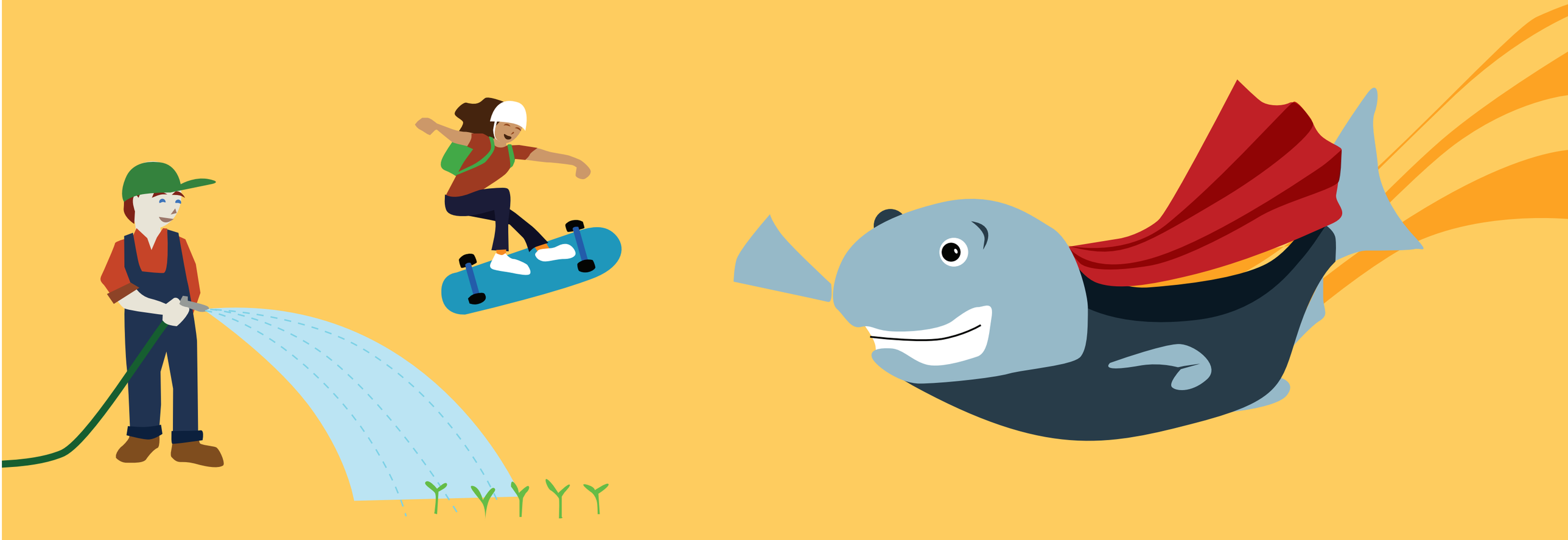
If Sammy and his relatives disappear forever, the forest will lack the healthy nutrients Sammy provides.

Scientists predict that 40% of salmon in Oregon waters could be gone by 2090 due to the effects of climate change or pollution like carbon dioxide.

To help keep Sammy's habitat healthy, Sammy would like you to be a

SALMON SUPER HERO

Take the Salmon Pledge and write down what you will do to slow climate change. We will post your ideas on this display.

Here are a few ideas:

Use a pushmower to mow grass.
Turn off your tv and lights when you are done.
Grow a garden without pesticides.
Skateboard to school, with a helmet on.