The Marsh Mosaic

Dry Boots • 20 minutes

From dry path to wet reeds, the view changes in strips.
Look for the boundaries. A wetland is more interesting than a single patch of mud.



1 Start at dry ground. 2 Find a plant boundary. 3 End at water.

FROM MIA'S FIELD LOG

Marsh boardwalk • low clouds, breeze

Dad and I counted four changes in the view from our boardwalk. Short plants gave way to tall stems, then open mud, then water. I tried to fit all four into one tiny sketch and ran out of room. Classic me. Would the muddy strip still be visible when we returned later?

Wetland: land with water at or near its surface often enough to shape its life. • Zone: an area with shared conditions.

Make it local: Use a freshwater marsh or a seasonally wet park edge.

WATER FACT

A cattail flower stalk carries male flowers above female flowers.