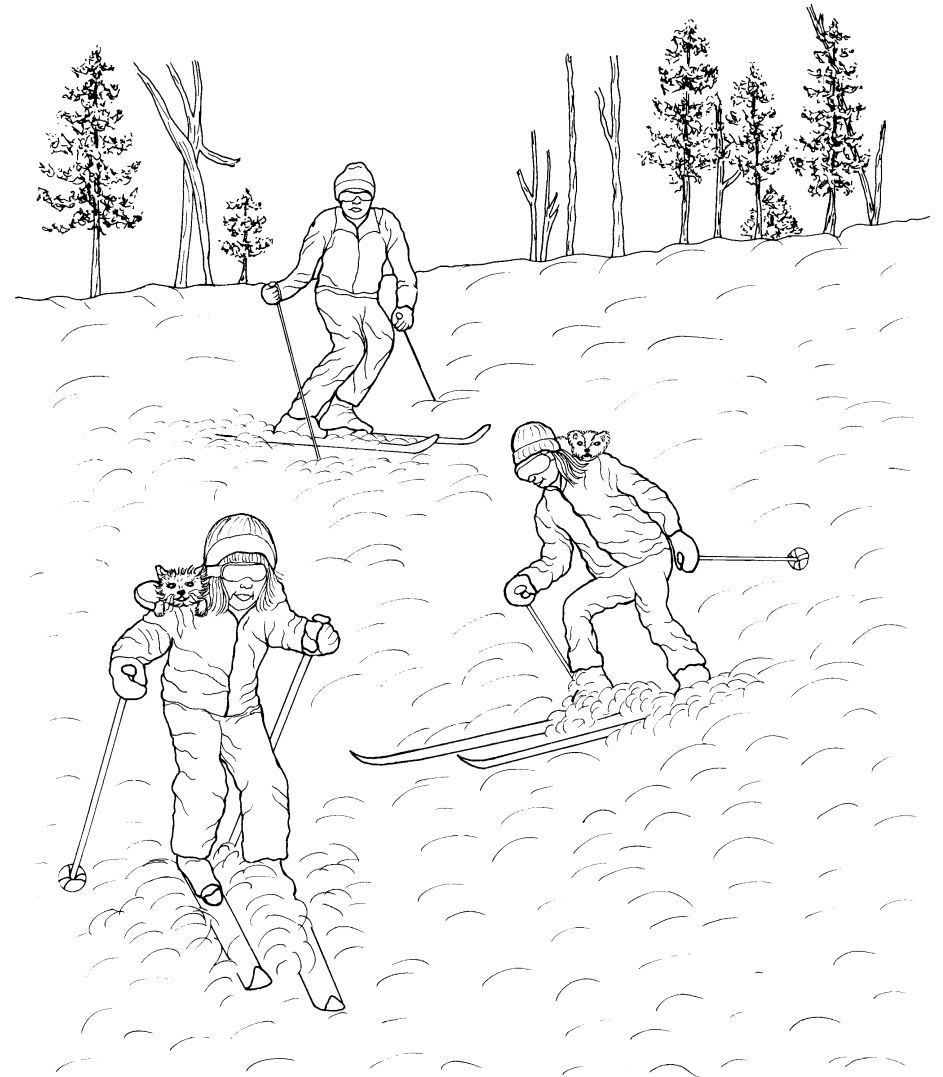
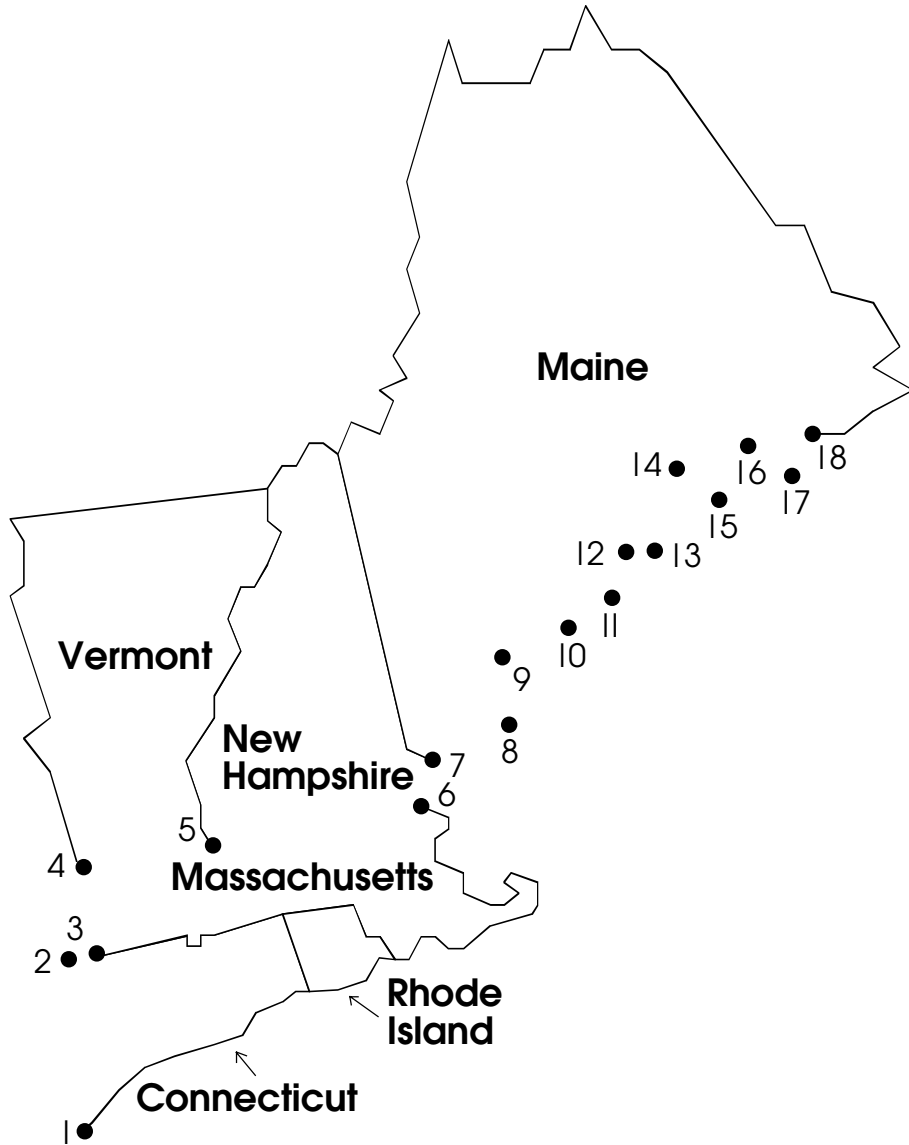


# Pals 7



Reader 2

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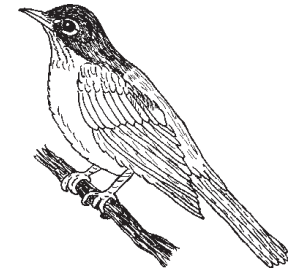
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**Mountain laurel**

5 ●

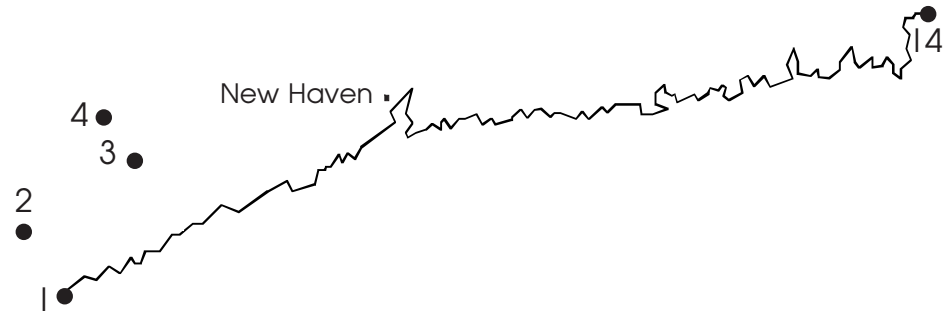


**American robin**

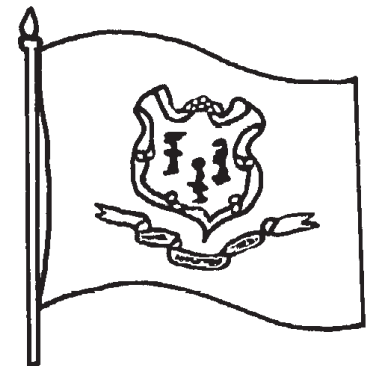
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11

## Connecticut



**White oak**



24

Jenny and Jimmy flew back and forth. They flew from berry bushes and worm-filled gardens to the hungry nestlings.

Now Jenny and Jimmy perched on the rim of the nest. They sang their joyful song to their nestlings and to the world!

*How do you feel? Write a story about how you feel or make up a song that expresses your feelings.*

Jenny \_\_\_\_\_ the nest from mud.

The nestlings were always

\_\_\_\_\_.

# Pals 7

Written by  
**Trish Mylet**

Illustrated by  
**Antoinette Sheffield**

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# The Lake

Lake Champlain was quiet, deep, and blue-gray. What a good place for a sea serpent to live!

Michaelene and Nicole waited on the shore of Lake Champlain. They huddled close together.

"Do you think it's true?" Nicole asked her sister, Michaelene. "Do you think there really is a huge creature living in the lake?"

"Aunt Judy said she saw the sea serpent," said Michaelene. "And Grandpa Abnaki said he saw it three times!"



The robins were perched on their nest. Jenny had molded the nest from mud. Jimmy had helped her gather twigs and string to hold the mud nest together. The robins had lined the nest with soft grass.

Then Jenny laid their four greenish-blue eggs in their new home. The eggs hatched. The new baby birds, the nestlings, were always hungry!

# The Robins

In the town of New Haven, the sky glowed with the promise of sunrise. Night's darkness began to fade.

Two robins, Jenny and Jimmy began to sing. They sang their loving, joyful song.

While Jenny and Jimmy sang, the warm sunshine peeked through the thick ivy vine. The robins had built their nest in the vine over the entry door of an old Yale building.

"We really have built a lovely snug nest," said Jenny.

"Yes," said Jimmy. "It will be a cozy nest for our babies."



Then ripples stirred the lake's surface. The ripples spread out in ever widening circles.

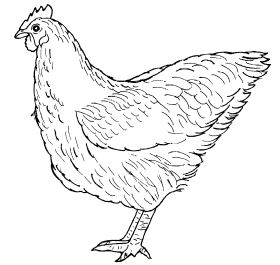
Nicole and Michaelene hugged each other tightly. Their eyes were glued to the lake's surface.

**And then, there it was!  
Slowly rising from Lake  
Champlain's blue-gray waters  
was . . .**

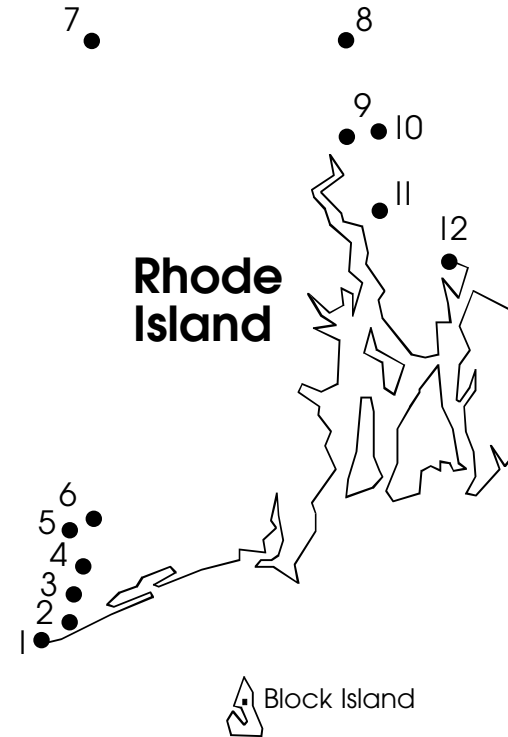
*Draw what Michaelene and Nicole  
saw rising from Lake Champlain or  
write a story about it.*



Violet



Rhode Island red



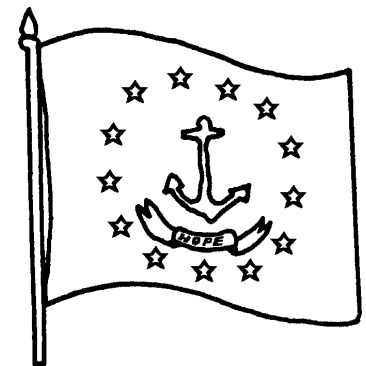
**Ripples stirred the lake's**

\_\_\_\_\_.

**Nicole and Michaelene**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **each other tightly.**



Red maple



"And I love the way the ferry rocks and rolls," laughed Nicole.

"And I love the taste of fresh-dug clams cooked on hot rocks," laughed Larry.

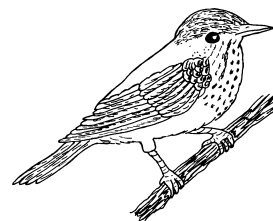
"Land ahoy!" called Shannon.

Soon Captain Carrie docked the "Merry Ferry" at Block Island.

*Draw a map of a sea or land trip you would like to make. Write a story about the trip.*

They were going to dig for \_\_\_\_\_.

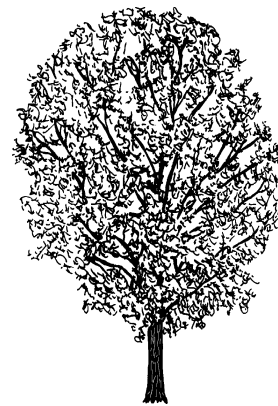
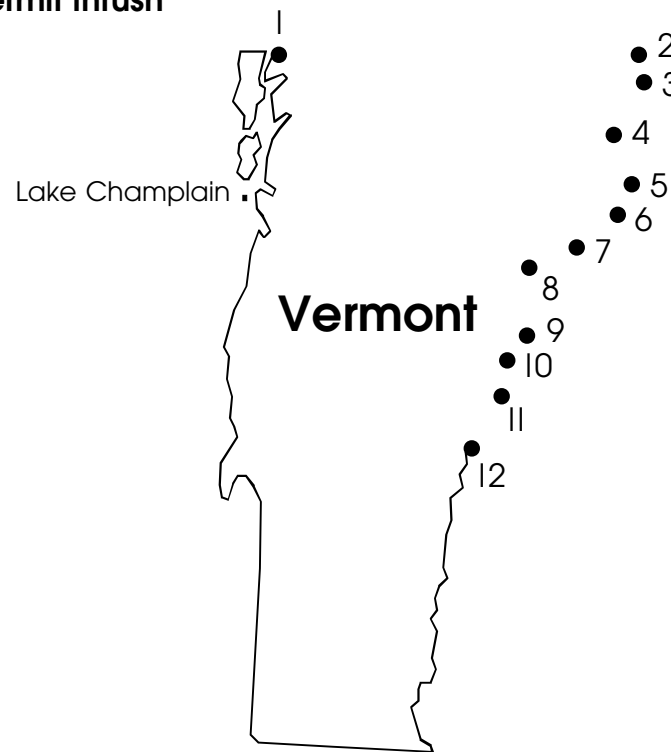
Michaelene loved the \_\_\_\_\_ wind.



Hermit thrush



Red clover



Sugar maple



# Skiing

The snow sparkled like a million tiny stars.

Michaelene's black kitten, Midnight and Nicole's skunk, Shadow peeked out. The pets were inside the girls' parka hoods.

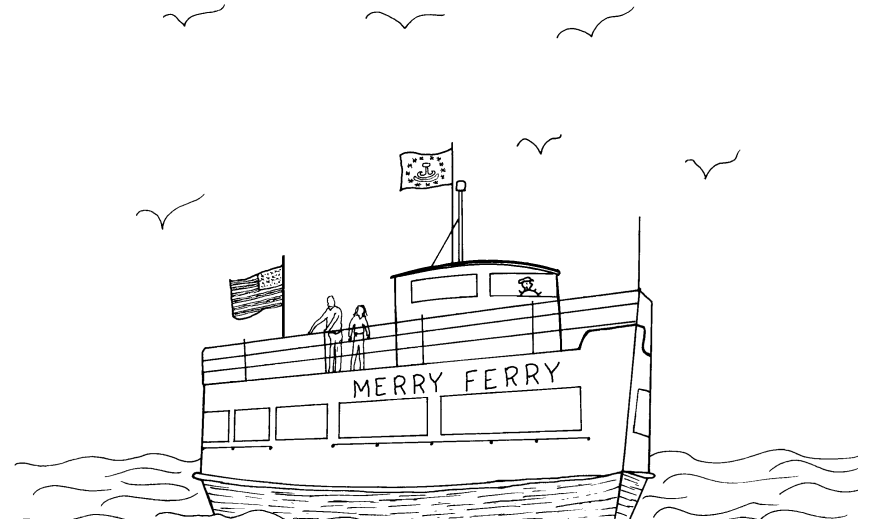
The girls and their pets were on top of Wildcat Mountain. Their cousin Adam was with them.

"Ready?" asked Nicole.

They all dug their ski poles into the snow.

"Set?" asked Adam.

They bent their knees.



Captain Carrie would steer the ferry down around Sheffield's Cove to the Old Harbor. She used to say, "It's just a mite farther. And oh, the beauty of it!"

The travelers watched the fog from the glass enclosed main deck. Then a breeze scattered the fog and they went up to the open top deck.

"I love the salty wind," laughed Michaelene.

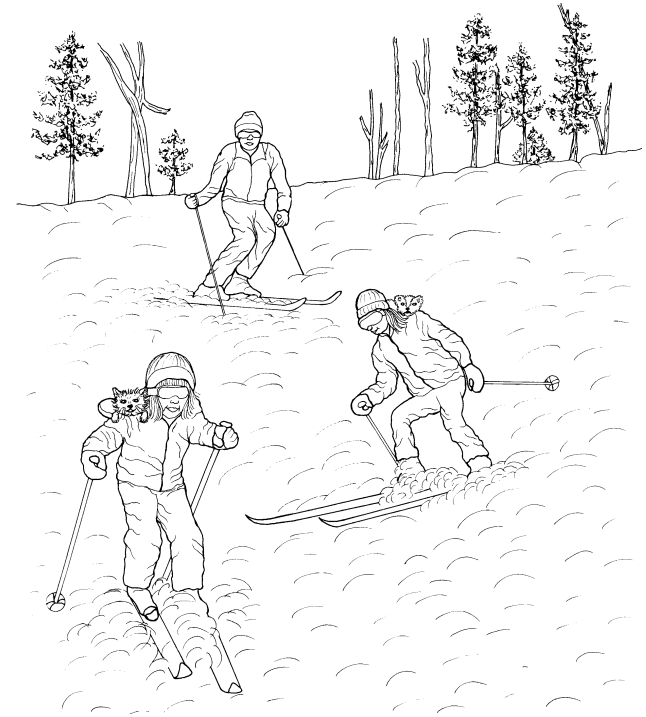


# The Ferry

**"Welcome aboard the "Merry Ferry!" said Captain Carrie. "It's a foggy morning but full of sunny promise."**

**Sailors Larry and Shannon were Captain Carrie's son and daughter. They welcomed Michaelene and Nicole aboard the "Merry Ferry." They were all going to Block Island to dig for clams.**

**The ferry took travelers from the mainland dock to Block Island. Captain Carrie loved her ferry and the ocean. She always took the longest way to the Island.**



**"Go!" commanded Michaelene.**

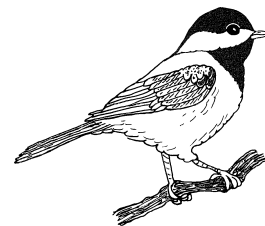
**They all pushed off. They flew off the top of the mountain. They wove their way down the steep ski slope.**

**Then the mountain slope leveled off. The cousins slowed down. They came to a halt at the base of the mountain.**

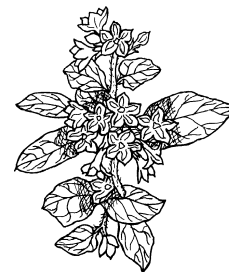
"Let's go to the lodge for some hot chocolate," said Adam.

So they went inside the lodge. They drank hot chocolate. The skiing pals sat by the warm, cozy fireplace.

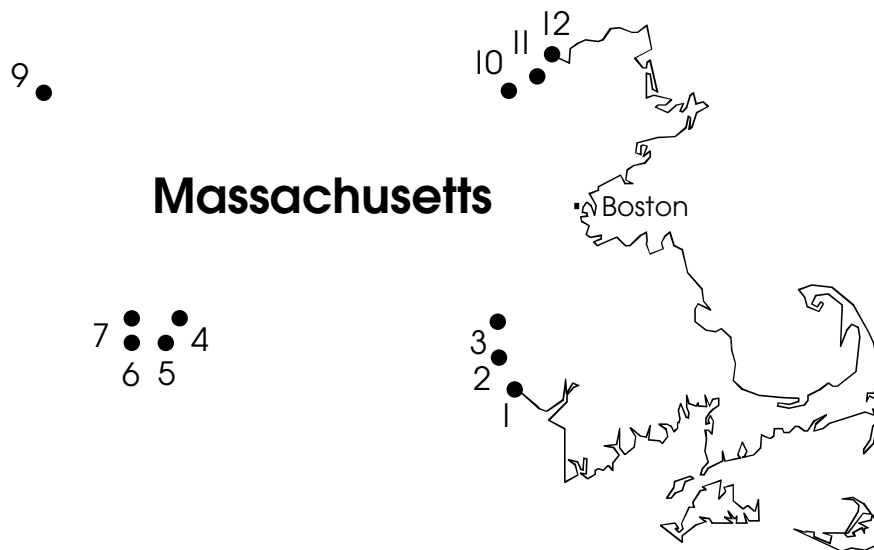
*Draw a picture of yourself doing your favorite sport or hobby or write a story about it.*



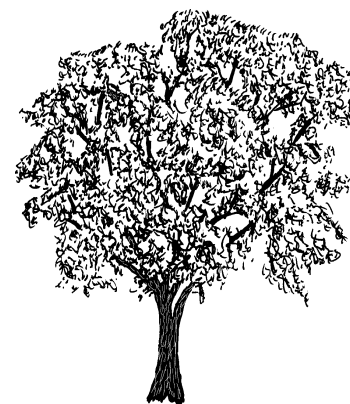
Black-capped chickadee



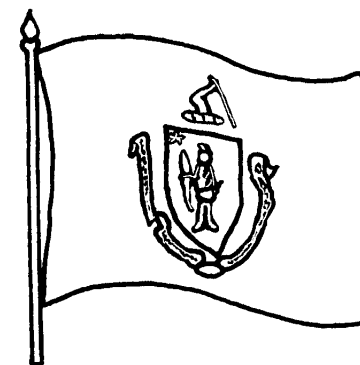
Mayflower



They came to a halt at the base of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
They went inside the \_\_\_\_\_.



American elm



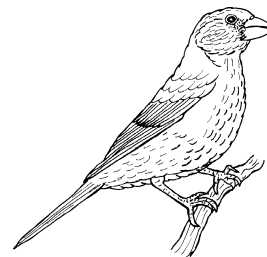
"I like the gentle sway of the train," said Nicole.

"I like the way it zooms down the track and through the tunnel," said Michaelene.

Soon they were in Boston. They enjoyed their fresh strawberry yogurt. And then it was time for another subway ride home!

*Draw a train or subway on which you would like to ride. Write a story about where you would like to go on it?*

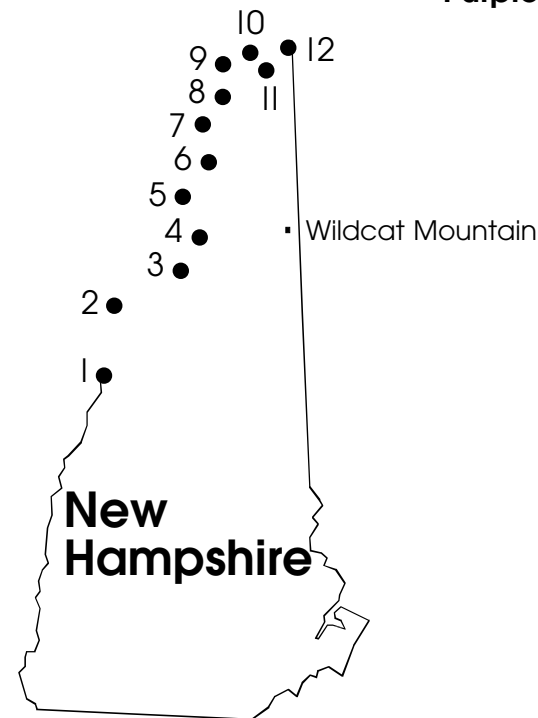
The \_\_\_\_\_ is a train.  
They used special coins called \_\_\_\_\_.



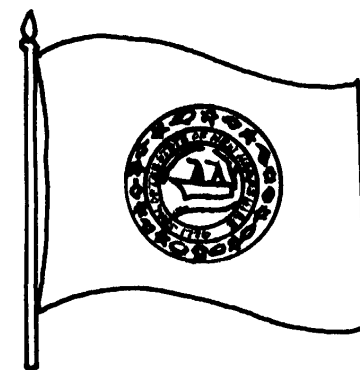
Purple finch



Purple lilac



White birch



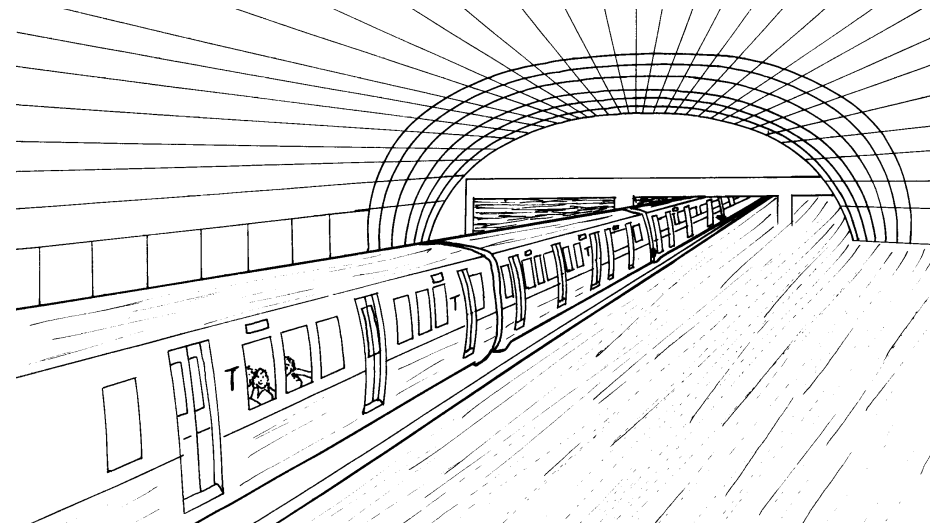
# The Lobsters

"Lovejoy!" yells Longfellow. He peeks into his lobster friend's rocky, ocean home by Monhegan Island. "Let's go eat some yummy algae!"

Longfellow and Lovejoy are friends and lobsters. Each has a dark green shell covering its body. Their tails are fan shaped.

The lobsters' eyes are on top of two short stumps. Next to their eyes are two pairs of feelers. Their eyes and feelers are always looking and feeling for food!

Longfellow and Lovejoy have four pairs of thin legs along their bodies. They use these legs for walking.



The subway platform stretched right and left. In front of the platform were the subway tracks. The tracks disappeared into black tunnels.

The subway train shot out of a dark tunnel. The train pulled up and the doors slid open. The three hungry yogurt eaters sat down in a brightly colored subway car.

Michaelene and Nicole laughed!

# The Subway

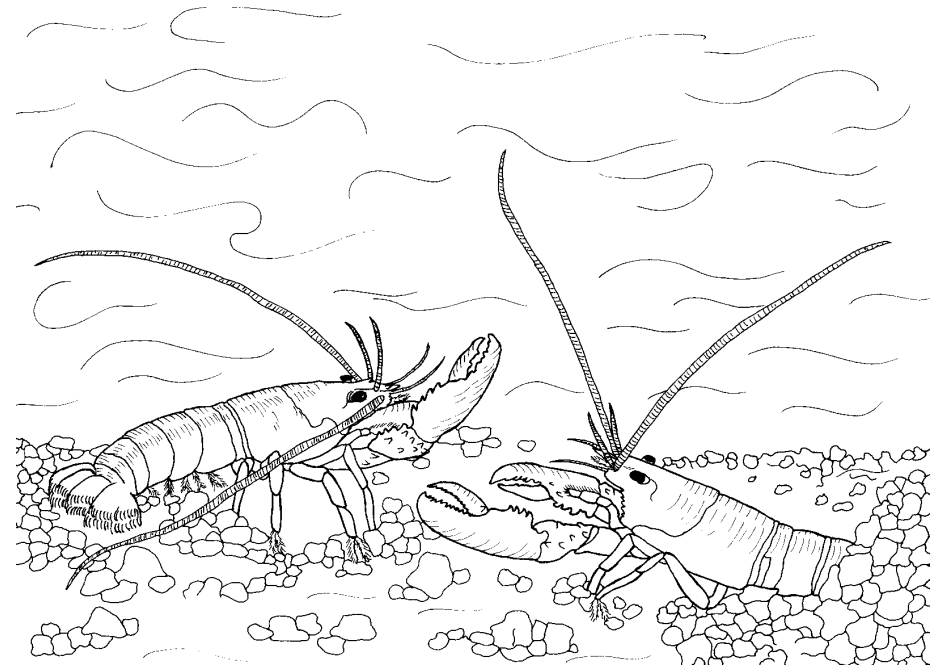
The subway is a train. It travels very fast. It travels above and below ground to many parts of a city.

"Nicole! Michaelene!" Mr. Richard called his daughters. "Let's take the subway to Boston. The shops there sell delicious strawberry yogurt."

"Yes!" cheered the girls.

Mr. Richard and the girls hurried down the subway stairs. They bought three special coins for their subway ride.

The coins are called tokens. They fed the tokens to a rotating metal arm, called a turnstile.



Lovejoy and Longfellow have a pair of legs in front of their heads too. This pair is thick and ends in large claws that they use like hands.

One claw is heavy and has thick teeth to crush clam shells and other hard things. The other claw is smaller and has sharp teeth to cut food.

The lobsters live on the ocean's rocky bottom near the shore. During the day they stay in small holes between the rocks.

Now it is night and Longfellow and Lovejoy come out of their holes. They eat a tasty meal of algae plants and fish.

Then the lobsters enjoy a walk on the ocean floor.

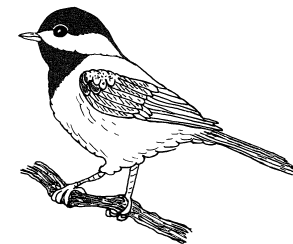
*What is your favorite thing to do at night? Draw a picture of yourself doing it or write a story about it.*

The lobsters have a dark green \_\_\_\_\_ over their bodies.

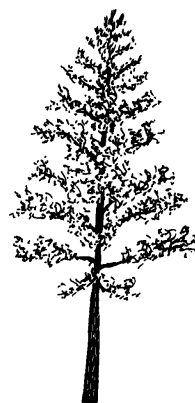
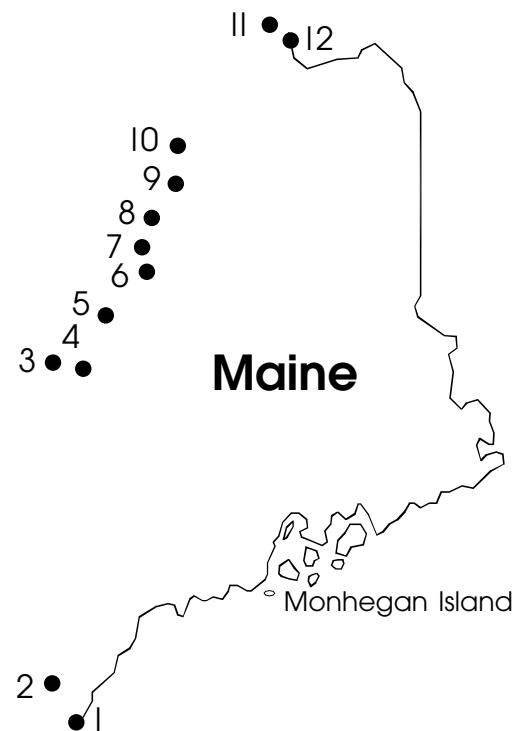
The \_\_\_\_\_ come out of their rocky holes at night.



Pine cone and tassel



Black-capped chickadee



Eastern white pine

