

EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE

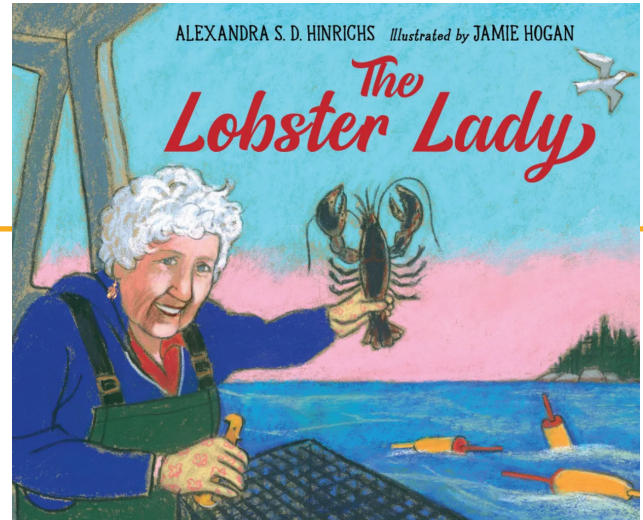
Activities, tools & resources for learning with this book!



MEET THE AUTHOR

Alexandra S.D. Hinrichs is a children's book author whose debut picture book, *Thérèse Makes A Tapestry*, came out from Getty Publications in March 2016. She has worked as a historical researcher at American Girl, a children's librarian, and a children's bookseller among other things. The *Traveling Camera: Lewis Hine and the Fight to End Child Labor*, came out in September of 2021. Alex grew up in Princeton, Massachusetts, but she has also lived in France and Thailand. She now makes her home in Bangor, Maine with her spouse and their three sons. She works as a middle school librarian in Old Town, and is pretty sure she has one of the best jobs in the world.

Learn more about Alexandra [HERE](#).



MEET THE ILLUSTRATOR

Jamie Hogan is an award-winning illustrator and the recent author of *Skywatcher*. She taught at Maine College of Art from 2003 to 2018. Her first children's book, *Rickshaw Girl* by Mitali Perkins, made the New York Public Library's list of Top 100 Books of the last 100 Years. She lives on an island in Maine with her husband and daughter.

Learn more about Jamie [HERE](#).



EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE

Getting Started: **BEFORE** reading the book!

Use the Visual Thinking Strategy (VTS) questions below to orient readers, and to help guide a group discussion. Begin by taking a quiet moment to look closely at the book jacket, allowing time for observation and contemplation of the images.

- *What is going on in this picture?*
- *What do you see that makes you say that? (provide evidence)*
- *What more can we find?*

Watch this [VIDEO](#) for a quick VTS demo

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please contact Alison Johnson at Island Readers & Writers, 207-460-6828 or ajohnson@islandreadersandwriters.org.

LET'S TALK! Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever met anyone over 100 years old? Who is the oldest person you know and what age are they? Does your town recognize the eldest resident? If so, how? Can you interview that person and find out what their secret to long life is?
2. The author compares *The Lobster Lady* to granite twice. Why do you think this is? What do you think this means?
3. Do you have granite quarries near you? What has the granite been used for? Has it been used in any famous buildings or art installations? How does that make you feel?
4. The Lobster Lady must throw a few lobsters back into the sea, what is the reason for this?
5. Have a discussion about the health and sustainability of lobster fishing. What are some problems lobster folks are facing today?
6. Virginia and Max take their haul to the local co-op. According to the Cambridge Dictionary, a co-op is an organization, business, store, or farm that is owned by the people who also work in it. Is there a co-op near you? Who runs it? Do you have to be a member to go there?
7. While on the boat, Virginia and Max "know the rhythms of the job so well they don't talk much, letting the quiet loudness of the ocean and the boat wash over them." What do you think the author means by "quiet loudness"?

STANDARDS

Covered throughout this Explore More Book Guide:

SL.1. Prepare for and participate in conversations across a range of topics, types, and forums, building on others' ideas and expressing their own.

SL.2. Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

SL.3 Present information and supporting evidence appropriate to task, purpose, and audience so listeners can follow the line of reasoning and incorporate multimedia when appropriate.

R.4. Read various texts closely to determine what each text explicitly says and to make logical inferences; cite specific textual evidence to support conclusions drawn from the texts.

R.5 Provide an accurate summary of various texts; determine the central idea(s) or theme(s) and analyze its development throughout each text.

R.6. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

R.8 Analyze the structure of various texts, including how the features and components relate to each other and the whole.

R.9. Assess how perspective or purpose shapes the content and style of various texts.

R.10 Evaluate the argument and specific claims in various texts.

Pioneer: a person or group that begins a new line of thought or activity or a new method.

8. Virginia's friend calls her "something of a pioneer." What does her friend mean by that? Do you think you could ever be a pioneer of something? What might that be?
9. Pretend you just got your first lobster boat. What would you name it? Read this article to see how some Maine fisherman came up with their boat names: [DOES THIS LOOK LIKE A MAN WHO WOULD NAME HIS LOBSTERBOAT PRINCESS?](#)

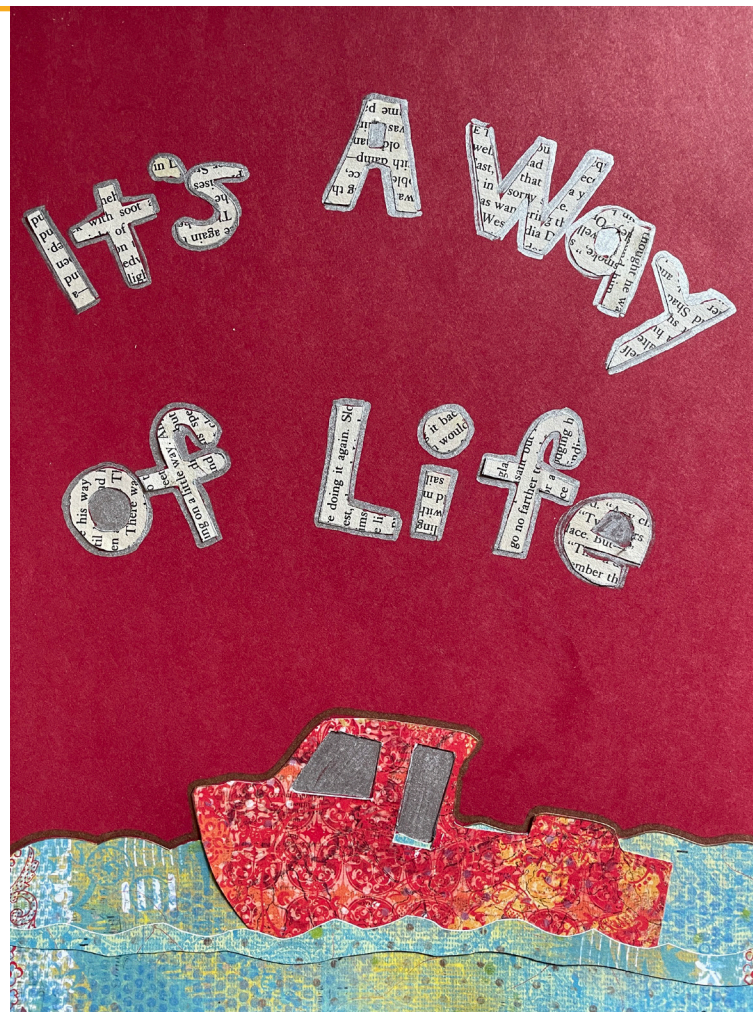
LET'S CREATE! Book-Inspired Art

1. Make a poster about the fishing industry in your area. Research changes in the lobstering industry through the last 100 years, boat building, bait, equipment, and buoys. What images would you include if you wanted to tell others about lobstering, fishing, and life on the sea?

2. When Virginia has to visit the doctor for stitches on her finger, the doctor "chides" her and then she pauses to remember. The next pages represent images from her memory. Notice the oval illustrations with objects around them. Use the illustrator's style to create your own memory drawings. What objects could you use for inspiration? What words might you write around the edges to evoke a feeling that will bring the viewers back in time with you?

3. Research why lobstermen paint their buoys. Because collecting found buoys is illegal, make a painting of your own buoy. What colors would you choose and why?

4. Make some doughnuts! Ask around and see if you can find any family recipes. If not try this [RECIPE!](#)



Evoke:
to bring
to mind or
recollection

Baked beans
for suppa!

5. Maine is known for a "wicked" dialect. Listen to some recordings of different Maine accents:
 - [MPBN](#)
 - [Thomas Hannah of Five Islands: "Shoutin' into the Fog"](#)
 - [Maurice Allen of Lubec: "Story About the Whales"](#)
 - [Luthera Dawson, Cushing: "Poetic Language"](#) , ["Do You Think They'll Have It?"](#), ["Sandpaper the Anchor"](#), and ["Living Short"](#)

Dialect:
a particular form
of a language
which is peculiar
to a specific
region or social
group

7. Talk Like a Mainer Memory Game

Memory Game Directions:

- Carefully cut the 40 cards. (Cards located in Appendix A)
- **Note to teacher:** You may choose to laminate the cards for future use.
- Mix and spread the cards words-side-down on a flat surface.
- Form 8 rows of 5 cards.
- Players take turns, turning any two cards so that all players can see them.
- **A Match:** A player makes a match if the two cards turned are identical. When a match is made, the player keeps those cards and continues taking turns until they miss.
- **A Miss:** A player misses if the two cards turned over are not identical. When a player misses, he or she turns the two cards word-side-down again, in the same place.
- The player who has the most pairs of matching cards wins.
- ✚ You'll find the printable memory cards at the end of this Explore More Book Guide.

Fun Twist:

Players must read sayings with a Maine accent!

Back Matter:

Found in the back after the story proper, it is full of information to broaden learning, particularly in nonfiction books. This can include an index, glossary, historical information, author and illustrator information or other items

9. Try making one of the two recipes in the back matter of *The Lobster Lady*. Do you have a family recipe with which to compare? If not, try asking your local librarian or historian if they have one you could try!

LET'S MOVE!

1. Virginia remembers "the music and clapping and call of the dance hall." Do you have a community dance hall? Is it still active? Attend a dance or ask someone to teach you how to square dance. How is it similar or different from line dancing?



- Here is a full lesson plan on square dancing: [SWING YOUR PARTNER: THE BASICS OF SQUARE DANCING](#)

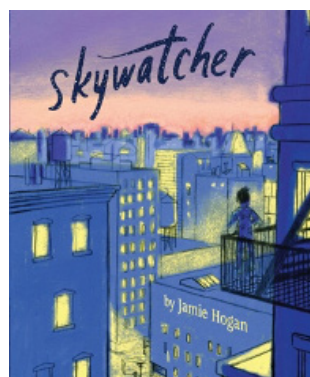
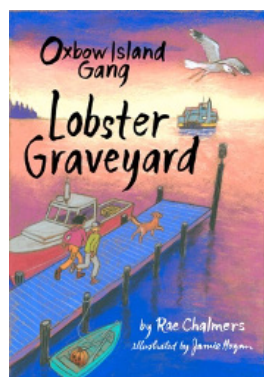
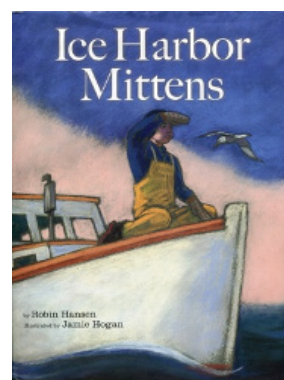
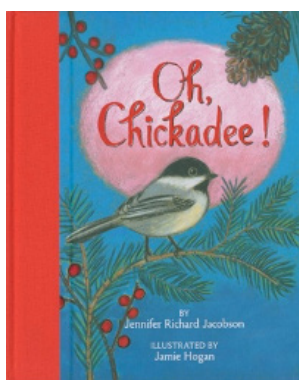
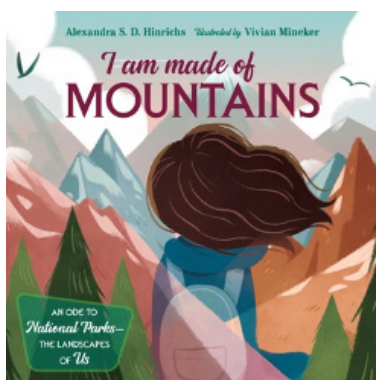
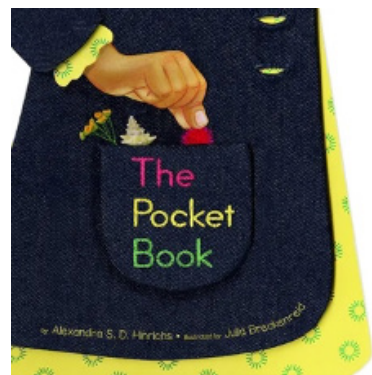
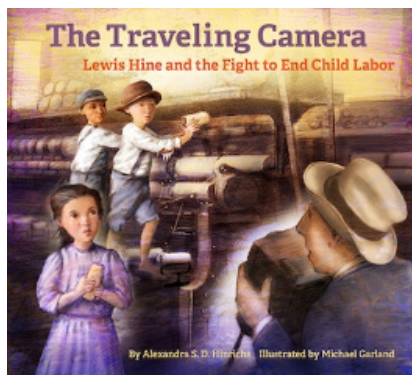
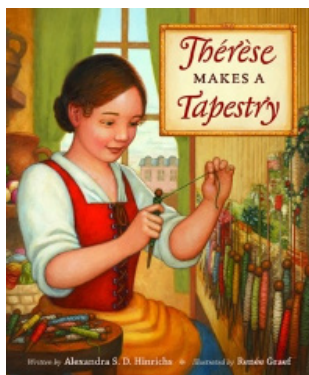
LET'S DIVE DEEPER! Explore More

Cartography is the science or practice of drawing maps. Find a map of the city of Rockland, its harbor, and Andrews Island. Can you find where the Lobster Lady might have her traps?

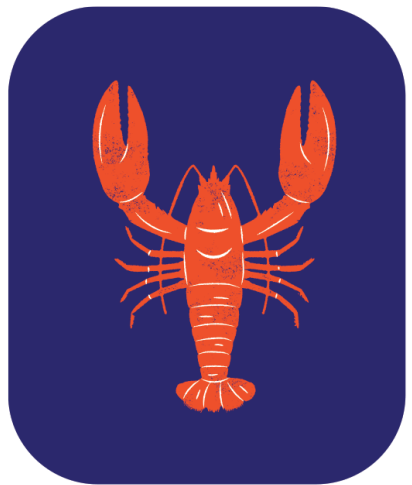
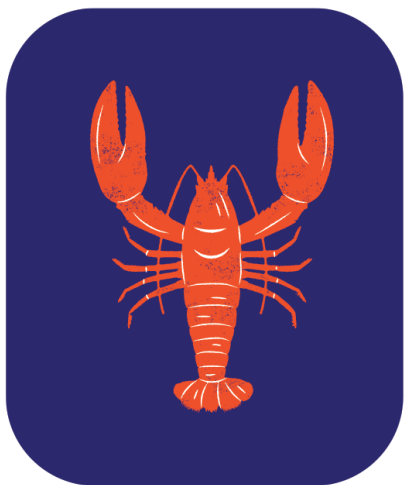
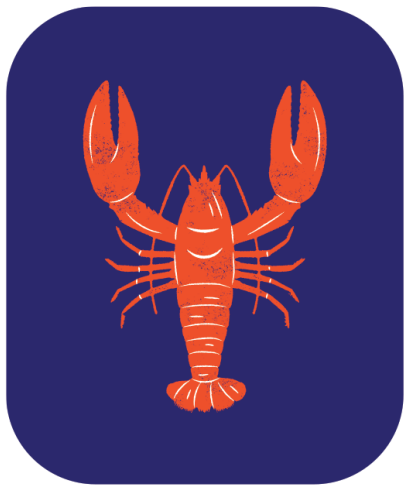
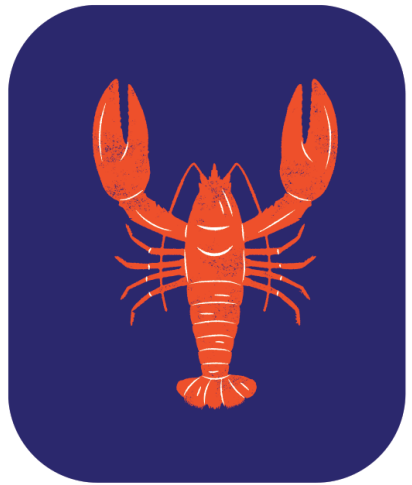
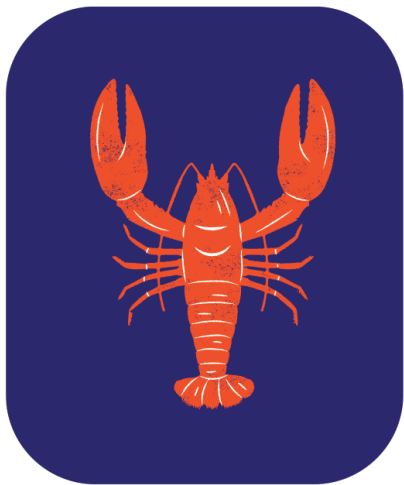
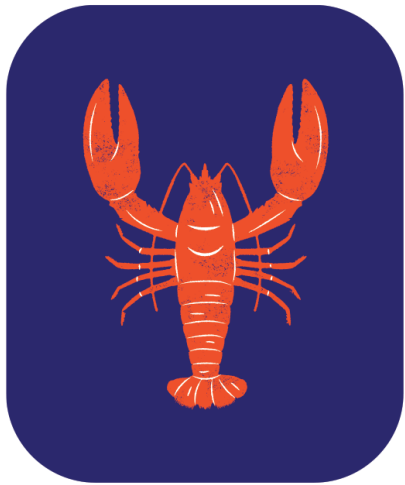
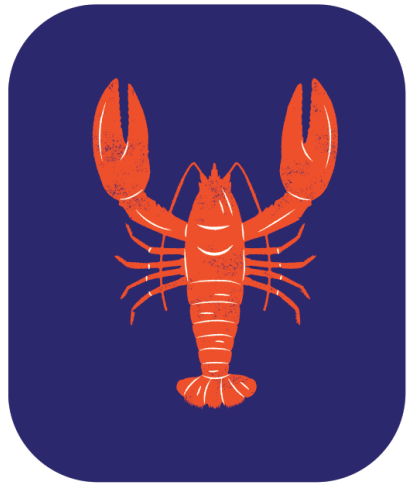
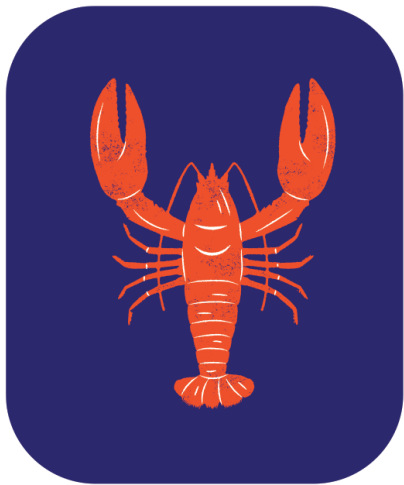
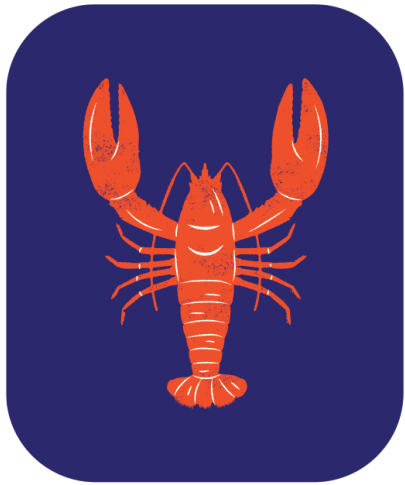
Want to learn more about lobstering and the equipment used?

- [LOBSTER INSTITUTE](#)

READ MORE! Text to Text Connections



"this page has been intentionally left blank"



Cunnin' –
cute like a
baby

Cunnin' –
cute like a
baby

Gorm-
awkward
behavior

Gorm-
awkward
behavior

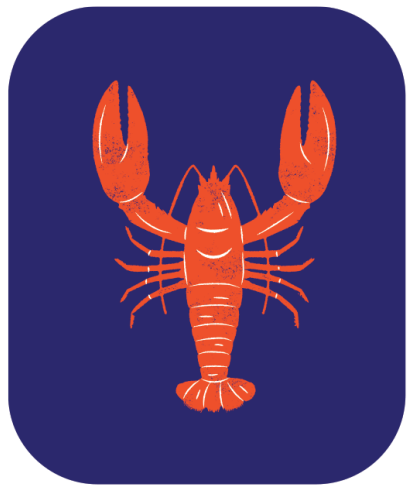
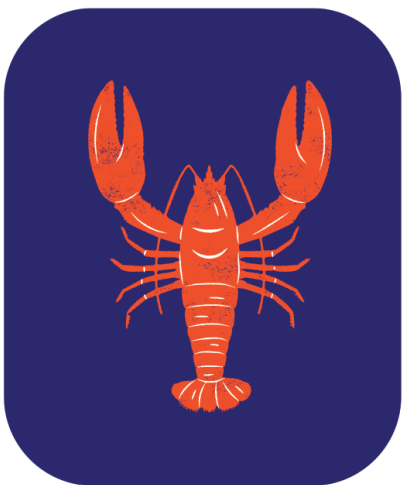
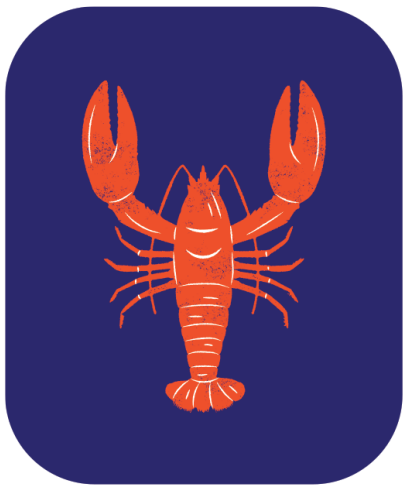
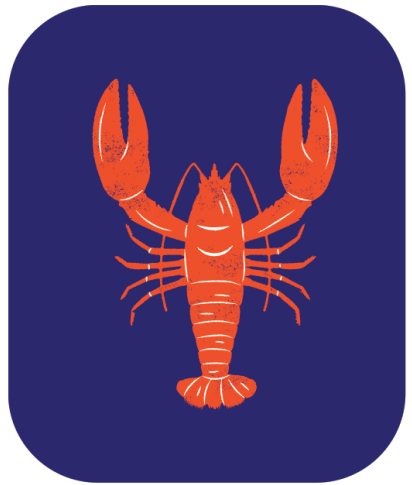
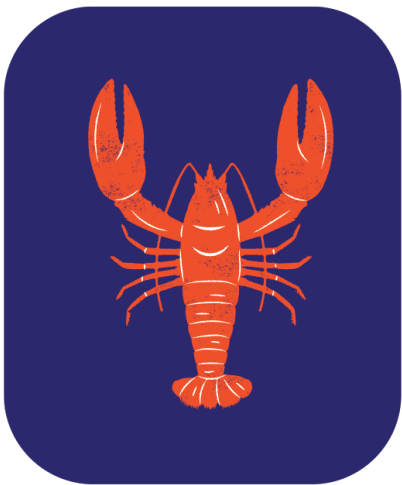
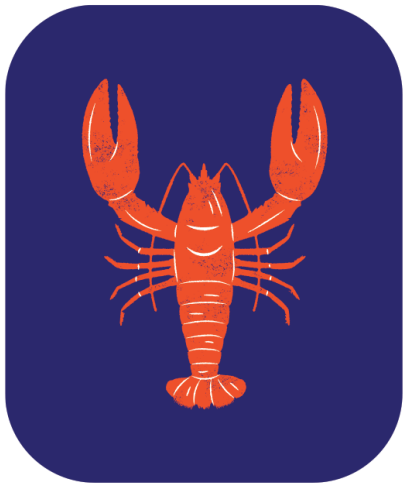
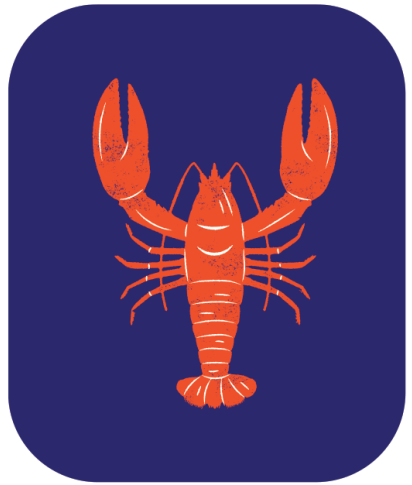
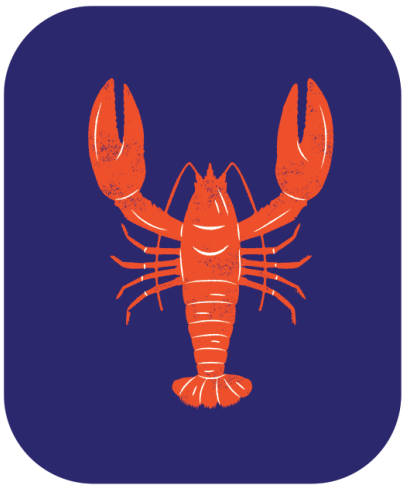
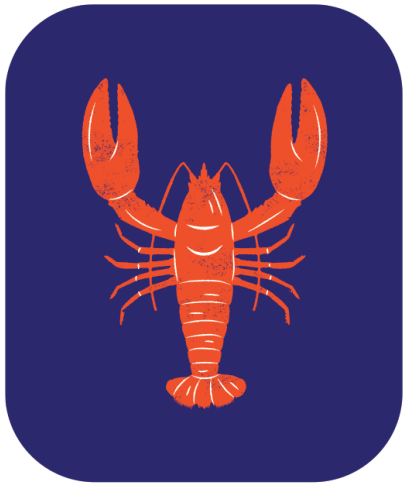
Spleeny –
wimpy

Spleeny –
wimpy

Ugly –
angry or
upset
(Ain't you
ugly deah!)

Ugly –
angry or
upset
(Ain't you
ugly deah!)

Dooryard-
the place
right
outside
your door



Dooryard-
the place
right
outside
your door

Hosey -lay
claim to
something
up for
grabs

Hosey -lay
claim to
something
up for
grabs

Double ender
– any boat
with a bow or
a stern
shaped alike

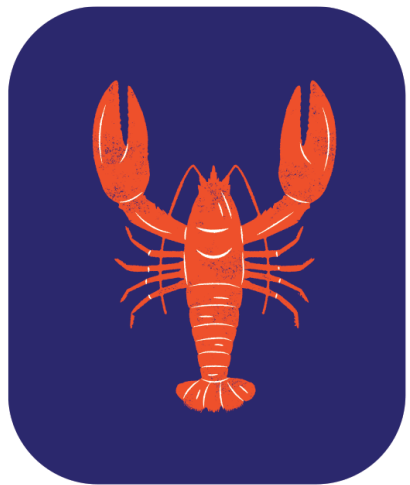
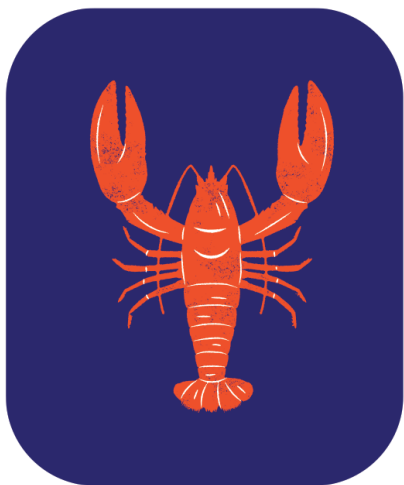
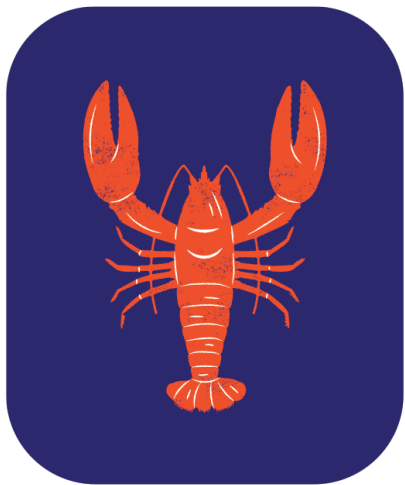
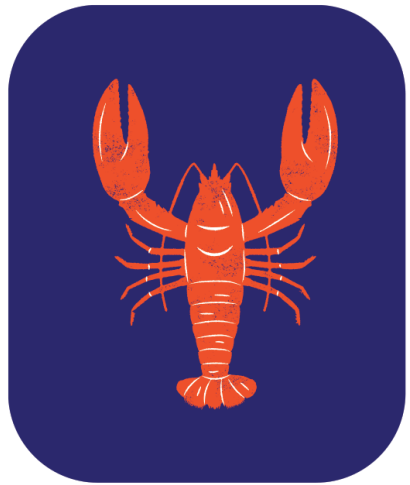
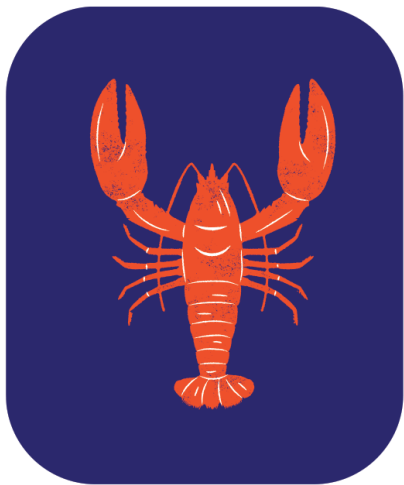
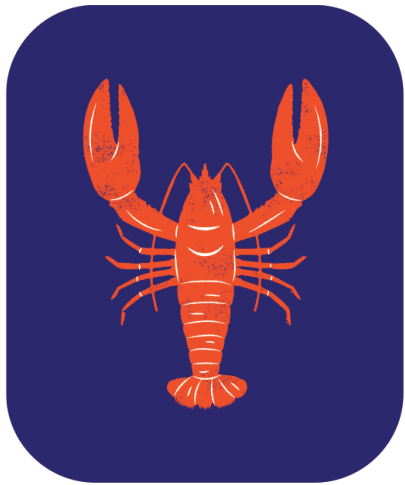
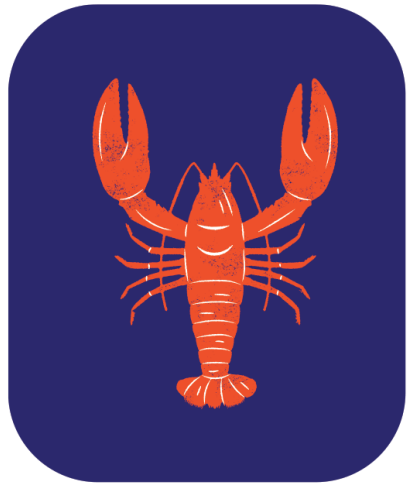
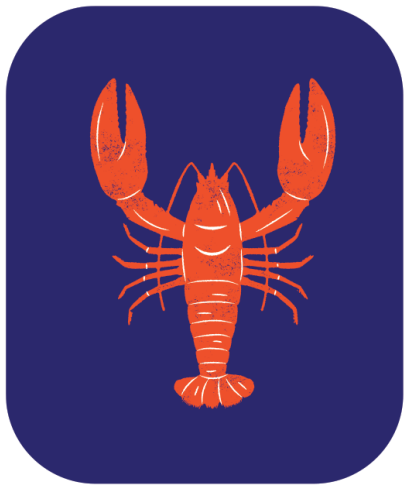
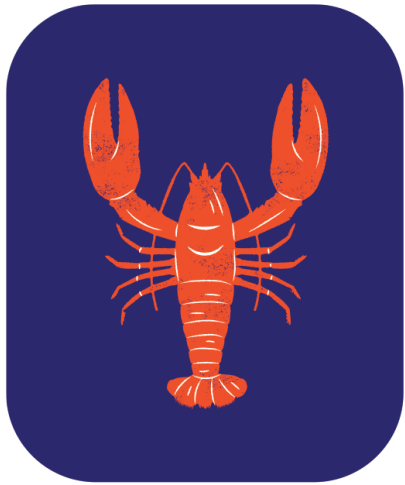
Double ender
– any boat
with a bow or
a stern
shaped alike

Blowdown –
an uprooted
tree

Blowdown –
an uprooted
tree

Culch –
rubbish

Culch –
rubbish



*Carrying
place –
where
people lug
canoes over
land*

*Carrying
place –
where
people lug
canoes over
land*

*The
County –
always
Aroostook*

*The
County –
always
Aroostook*

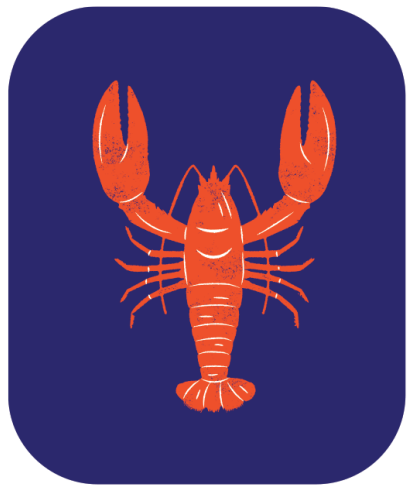
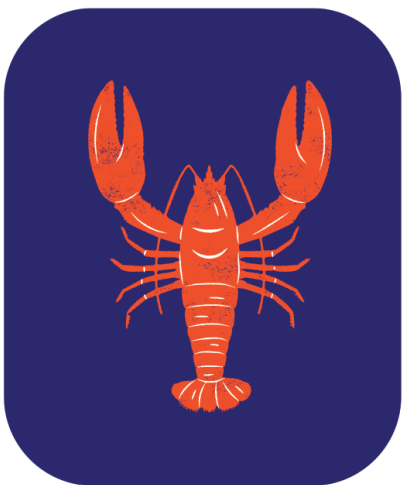
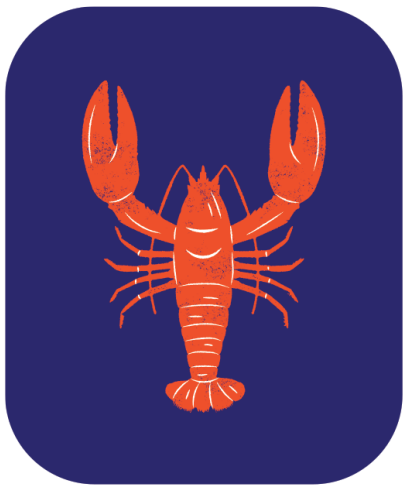
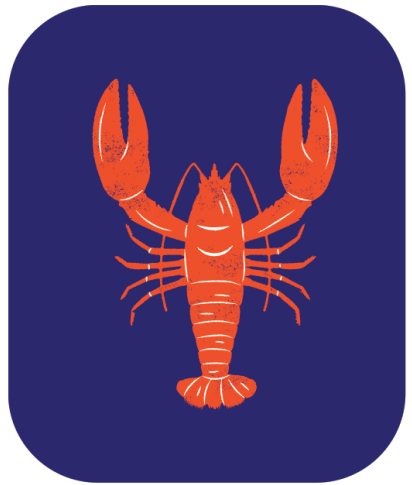
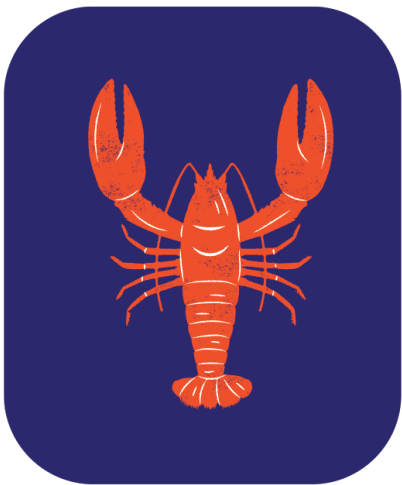
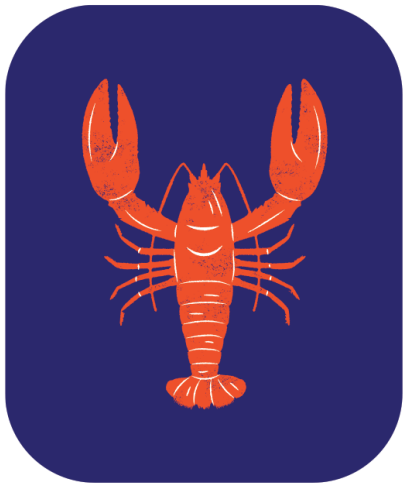
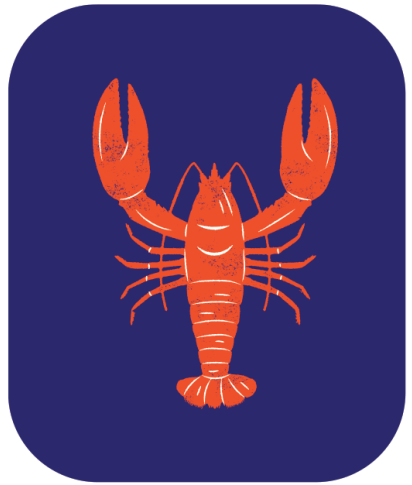
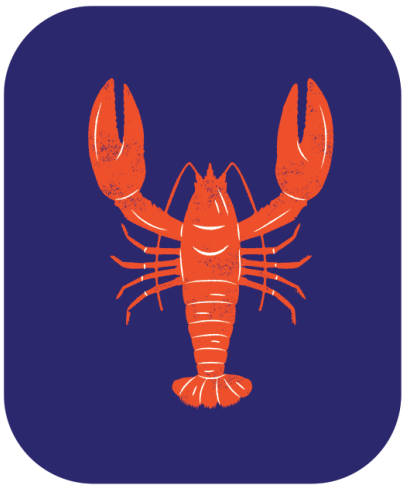
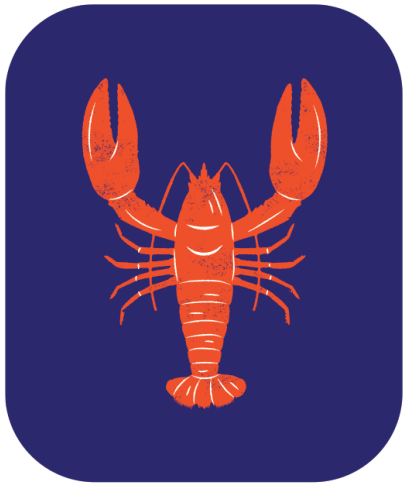
*Nineteen- a
cribbage
hand that has
nothing in it*

*Nineteen- a
cribbage
hand that has
nothing in it*

*Plague
(pronounced
pleg)-
ruthless
teasing*

*Plague
(pronounced
pleg)-
ruthless
teasing*

*Rugged –
hearty,
chubby,
exhausting*



Rugged –
hearty,
chubby,
exhausting

Willi-wags –
middle of
nowhere

Willi-wags –
middle of
nowhere

Stoved up –
crashed,
broken

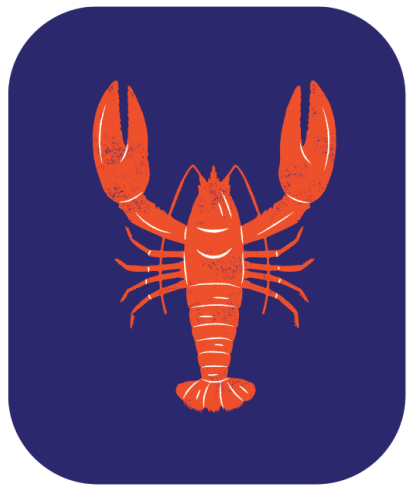
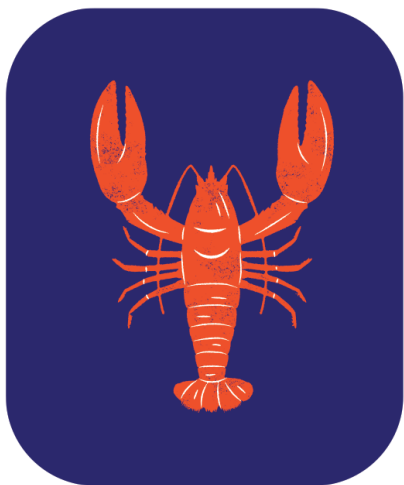
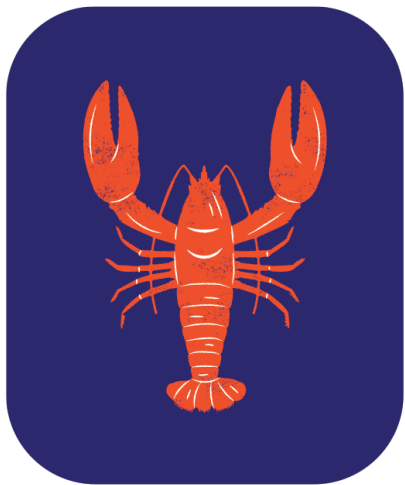
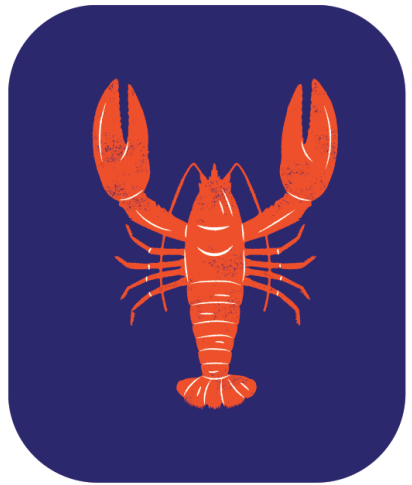
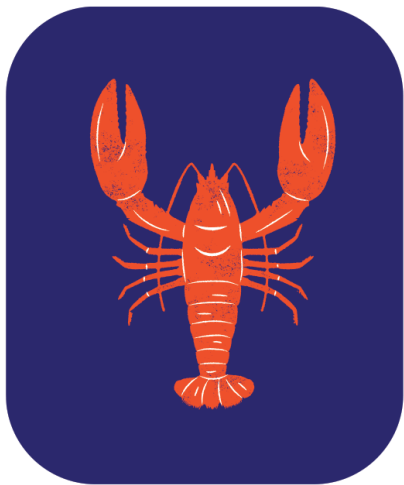
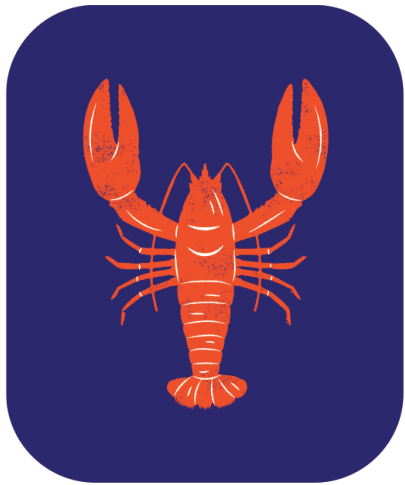
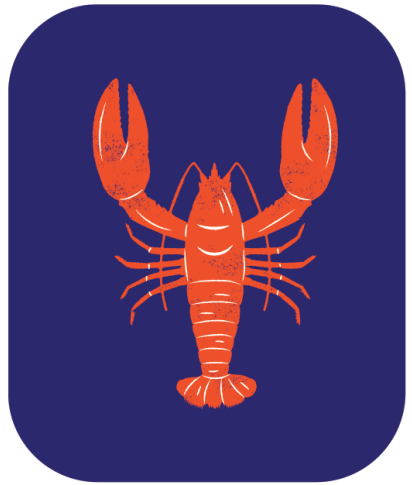
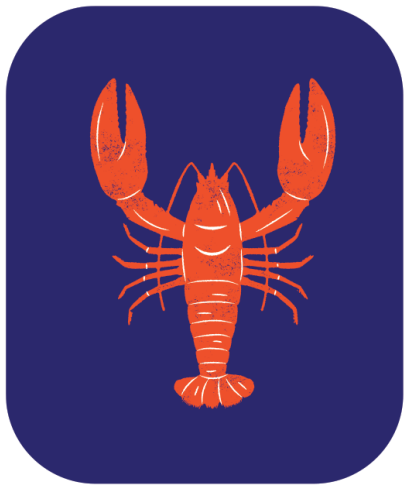
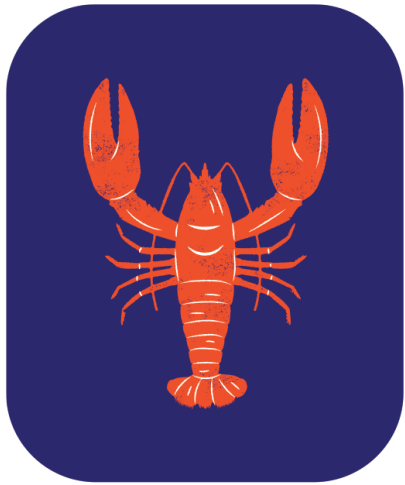
Stoved up –
crashed,
broken

Ayuh – yup,
yes sir

Ayuh – yup,
yes sir

Boiled owl –
tougher than
or tough as

Boiled owl –
tougher than
or tough as



Billdad – a
mythical
being that
slaps trout
with its tail

Billdad – a
mythical
being that
slaps trout
with its tail

Wicked -
good

Wicked -
good