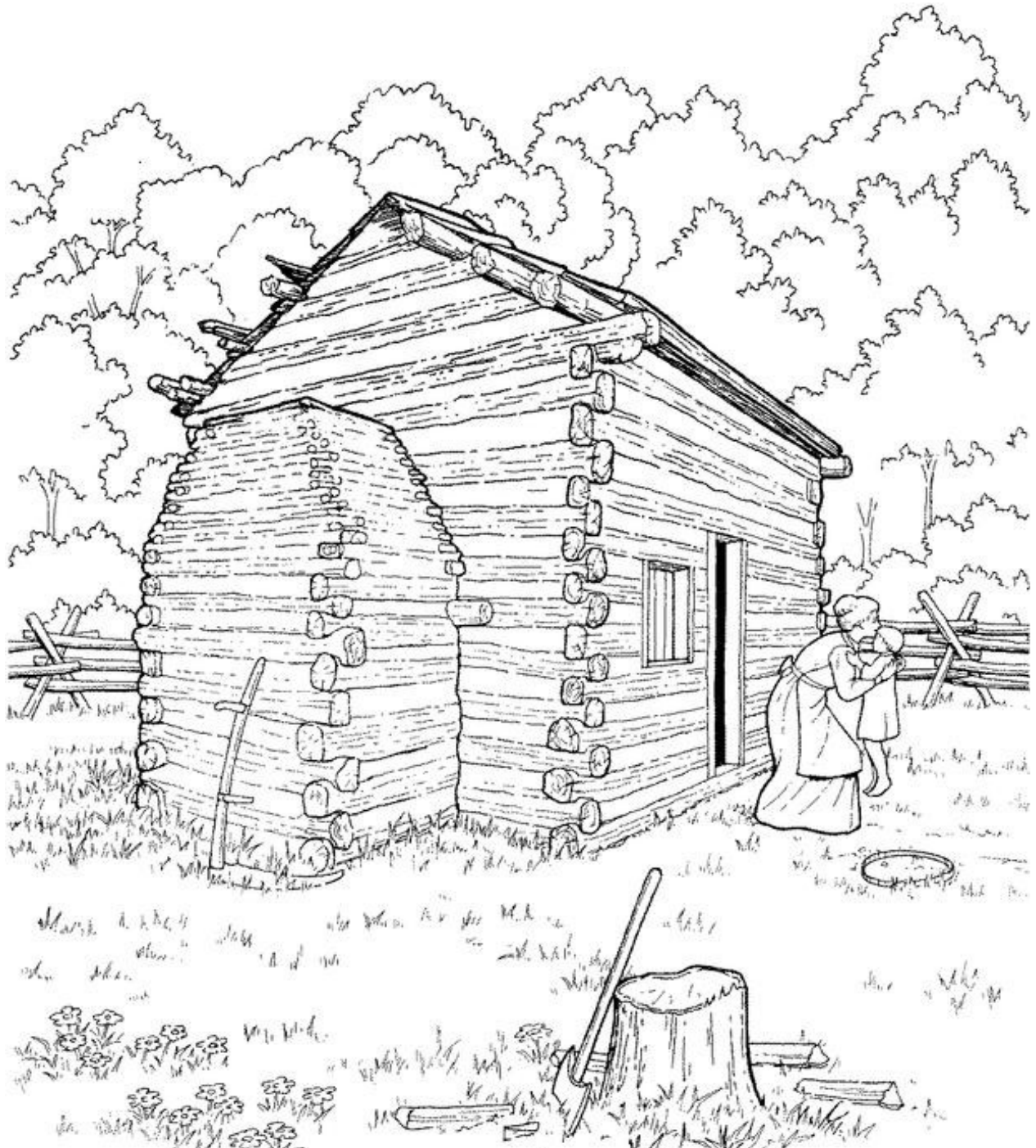


Sarah, Plain and Tall



Unit Study & Lapbook

Sarah, Plain and Tall

Book by Patricia MacLachlan

Unit prepared by Ginger A., Celia H., Heidi, and Wende

This unit has been created for use in 4th grade. It can easily be adapted for use in 3rd or 5th grades. The skills listed are commonly found on 4th grade scope and sequence charts and 4th grade curriculum guides.

Reading Skills

1. Singular and Plural

Keep a list of all plants and animals mentioned. Change the singular words to plural.

2. Alphabetize

Write all the plants and animals in alphabetical order.

3. Comprehension

Create a set of paper dolls based on this book. Use the dolls to retell the story. [www.freepapertoys.com has numerous paper doll sites. Susie's Stuff has a 1910 paper doll named Eliza that can be colored]

4. Spelling

Choose 10-15 words from the plant and animal list to use for spelling. Design a word search puzzle using graph paper. Exchange papers and solve the puzzles. [If this is done in a home school, mom needs to make a puzzle. The student should practice writing and identifying the spelling words]

5. Vocabulary

Discuss the meaning of the vocabulary words. Students can practice using the dictionary, but copying the definitions isn't necessary.

Create a crossword puzzle using graph paper. Check for understanding by reading the sentences the student wrote for the puzzle.

Vocabulary List

1. hearthstones
2. prairie
3. insult
4. dune
5. mica
6. stubbornly
7. pungent
8. squall
9. hailstones
- 10.eerie

English Skills

1. Friendly Letters

Study Sarah's letters. Write a friendly letter. The teacher should address an envelope correctly to serve as a model. Mail the letter.

2. Address Book

Write the names and addresses of a few friends to begin an address book. This is a very pleasing activity for most children.

3. Business

Read an advertisement from your local newspaper. Follow the guidelines in your newspaper to write an ad for something you wish to purchase. Figure the cost based on the number of words.

4. Common and Proper Nouns, Pronouns, Verbs

Review these parts of speech. Find all of these in one sentence.

5. Complete Copywork Pages

Math Skills

1. Consumer Math

Answer the following questions.

What is the approximate mileage from Maine to Kansas?

What information would you need in order to calculate the gas cost from Maine to Kansas?

2. Write one and two step word problems.

3. Solve one and two step word problems.

Note: the objective is to write and solve word problems, not to solve difficult arithmetic problems

One Step Word Problems

1. Sarah bought a sketchbook for .25, an apple for .03, and a pencil for .05. What is the total cost of Sarah's purchases?

2. Jacob owns 20 sheep. He will buy 6 more after the harvest. If all his sheep live, how many sheep will Jacob own after the harvest?

Two Step Word Problems

1. Sarah bought a spool of thread for .10, a sack of flour for \$2.00, and .25 worth of hard candy. How much change will she receive from \$5.00?

2. Anna has saved .85. Caleb has saved .75. If they buy a harmonica that costs \$1.20, how much money will they have left?

3. Elapsed Time

Make a loaf of homemade bread, start to finish [no bread machine] Record the following times in your math notebook.

1. Time bread making process begins.
2. Time mixing process ends/ kneading begins
3. Time kneading process ends/ rising begins
4. Time rising process ends
5. Time dough is placed in oven

6. Time baking process ends
[You may need to adjust this depending on your recipe]

Use your notebook to answer the following questions.

1. How long did the entire process last?
2. How much time was spent working? [mixing, measuring, kneading]
3. How long did the bread rise?
4. How long was the bread in the oven?

Questions

Do you think a bread machine would be faster?

Repeat this process using a bread machine. Compare the times. Is the overall process faster or slower?

Some Ideas to Ponder

Did you have fun making homemade bread? Was it work? Can work be fun? Are modern conveniences sometimes helpful? Did you enjoy using the bread machine?

“When you eat the labor of your hands, you shall be happy, and it shall be well with you.” Psalm 128:2 NKJV

Nature Study/ Science

1. Define the terms Flora and Fauna.
2. Plant marigolds and zinnias. Observe plant growth. Explain conditions necessary for plant to develop.
3. Discuss conservation of water and drought conditions.
4. Learn more about types of rocks.

There are three rock groups: igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic.

Igneous rocks are formed from rocks that melted and then cooled. Molten rock inside the earth is called magma, above the earth it is called lava. Magma is formed deep inside the earth, where the high pressure and temperature makes the rocks melt. Magma pushes up through the earth and can be forced up through volcanoes, where the lava cools and becomes igneous rock. If the igneous rock is made from molten rock that slowly cooled within the earth, it is called intrusive, or plutonic, igneous rock. If the magma was pushed out to the surface of the earth and quickly cooled there, it is called extrusive, or volcanic, igneous rock. Most of the 700 kinds of igneous rocks are intrusive. Obsidian (also known as volcanic glass), basalt, pumice, and granite are all examples igneous rocks.

Sedimentary rocks are usually small pieces of rocks (called sediments) that become cemented together. As the wind and rains erode (break off pieces) rock, the small pieces drop in a layer of other sediments. These layers of tiny bits of rock become cemented together over time and are then called sedimentary rock. Most sediments are put down by water. Think of the sand at the beach. Sandstone, limestone, and shale are kinds of sedimentary rocks.

Metamorphic rocks are rocks that have been changed by pressure or heat (but not melted). Sedimentary, igneous, or even older metamorphic rock that changes due to heat or pressure becomes a metamorphic rock. If your student has studied butterflies, he may remember the word metamorphosis means "to change." Examples of metamorphic rock include marble, slate, gneiss (pronounced 'nice'), and schist. Gneiss was once granite (an igneous rock). Slate was once shale (a sedimentary rock).

Use this list of plants and animals to begin your nature study.

Plants

Indian Paintbrush

Clover

Prairie violets

Bride's Bonnet

Seaside Goldenrod

Wild asters

Woolly ragwort

Zinnia
Marigold
Wild feverfew
Dahlias
Columbine
Nasturtiums
Tansy

Note: The flowers would make a very interesting study. Here is some information to get you started.

Edible

Violets-used to decorate desserts, can be added to salads, and fruity drinks, subtle flavor, people used to make a tea from violets, violet water can be used in baking

Nasturtiums- leaves or flowers can be used in salads and sandwiches, peppery taste

Tansy-can be chopped and used in baking and in egg dishes, in earlier times was used as a home remedy but is not recommended today

Feverfew-once was used to reduce fever and for headaches, camphor smell and taste

Common Dyes

Seaside Goldenrod

Tansy

Animals

Flounder
Sea bass
Blue fish
Whales
Sea birds

Dog
Cat
Cow
Gopher
Woodchuck
Sheep
Meadowlark
Turkey buzzard
Chickens

1 Research

Read extra information on one plant or animal. Write a paragraph (5 sentences) about the plant/ animal. Draw or paint a detailed picture, be sure to include the common and scientific name (Watercolor pencils are especially nice for this type of activity; a child this age can control these and add detail without ruining the picture).

If a paragraph is too much writing add a caption to the picture.

2. Classification

Classify the animals. The student should tell his reason for placing animals together. Use the terms vertebrate, mammals, etc. in talking with your student.

Music

Listen to some Folk Songs and then to a piece of Classical music. Discuss how the music sounds different. Why does it sound different? Why is Folk Music called the “people’s music”?

Listen to some hymns. How are hymns different from Folk Songs and Classical music? How are they similar?

Learn to sing a Folk Song [*Billy Boy* or *Aunt Rhody*] and a Hymn [*Happy the Home* by Henry Ware the younger]

Poetry

Invitation by Myra Cohn Livingston

This is a poem about a new mother joining a family.

Invitation

Listen! I've a big surprise!

My new mom has light-green eyes

And my brother, almost ten,
is really smart. He helped me when

we did our homework. They moved in
a week ago. When we begin

to settle down. She said that you
could come for dinner. When you do

you'll like them, just like Dad and me,
so come and meet my family.

Myra Cohn Livingston

Arts/ Crafts

1. Pointillist Painting

Lightly draw a picture of a farm scene as you imagine it. Fill the picture with color using Q-tips dipped into the appropriate paint color and dabbed onto the picture. Some white spaces should show. Let the picture dry then add more dots to outline your picture.

Social Studies

1. Compare Past and Present

What is the time period for Sarah, Plain and Tall?

What are the differences between then and now?

What things have stayed the same?

Do you think our modern way of life is better?

Look at clothing styles for the early 1900's. Especially notice the difference in women's and children's clothing styles. Which do you prefer?

[www.freepapertoys.com lists historical paper doll sites –some of the other paper dolls are very mature Barbie type dolls so parents will need to check the site I have by no means viewed everything!!!]

How would a trip today be different from Sarah's trip?

Geography

1. Map Skills

Plan a route from Maine to Kansas using a U.S. Highway map.

How many states did you cross?

Are there any changes in terrain?

Are there any mountains, rivers etc. on your route?

Bible Lessons

Anna and Caleb are hardworking and helpful. Their father has taught them well.

The Bible teaches that we need time to work, play and rest. Most of us understand rest and play here is a verse to help us in our work.

“It is good for a man to bear the yoke in his youth” Lamentations 3:27

Lapbook and Notebook Printables

General Printables

- Cursive Copywork Pages (use with all chapters)
- Wagon Shaped Vocabulary Book (use with any new word you find as you read)
- Sea vs. Prairie Venn Diagram Flap Book (use as you learn new things about these two habitats)

- Flower Graduated Book (use as many of these as you like as you learn about different varieties of flowers)
- Plants Pocket

Chapter 1 Printables

Maine shutterfold

Rocks Tab Book

Chapter 2 Printables

Types of Fog

There are several different types of fog, including radiation fog, advection fog, valley fog, and freezing fog. Research these and complete the mini-book.

Chapter 4 Printables

Research seashells. Record information in the mini-book.

Chapter 5 Printables

Check out [Homeschool Share's Birds of Prey lapbook](#).

Chapter 6 Printables

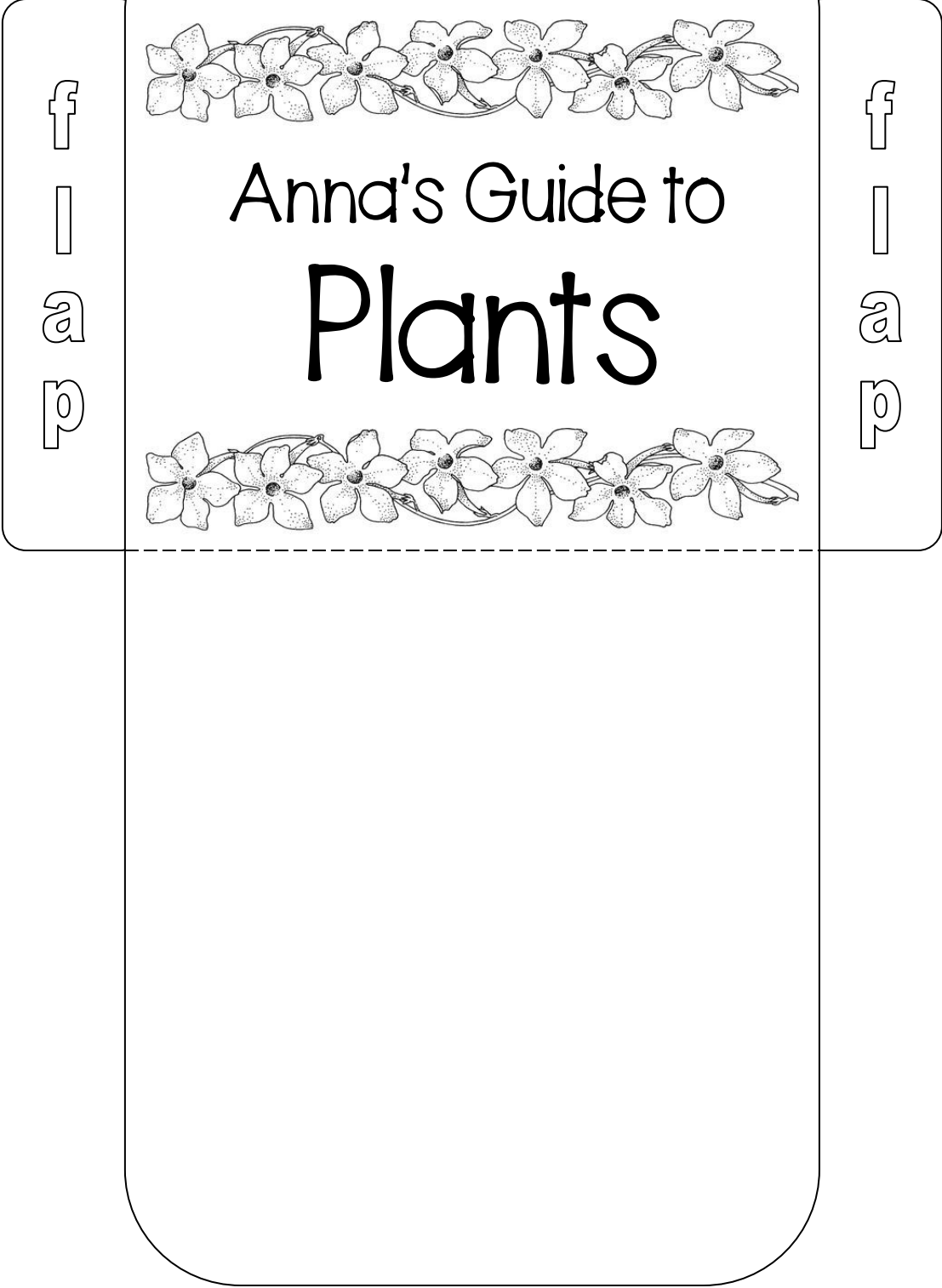
Research killdeer and complete the tab book.

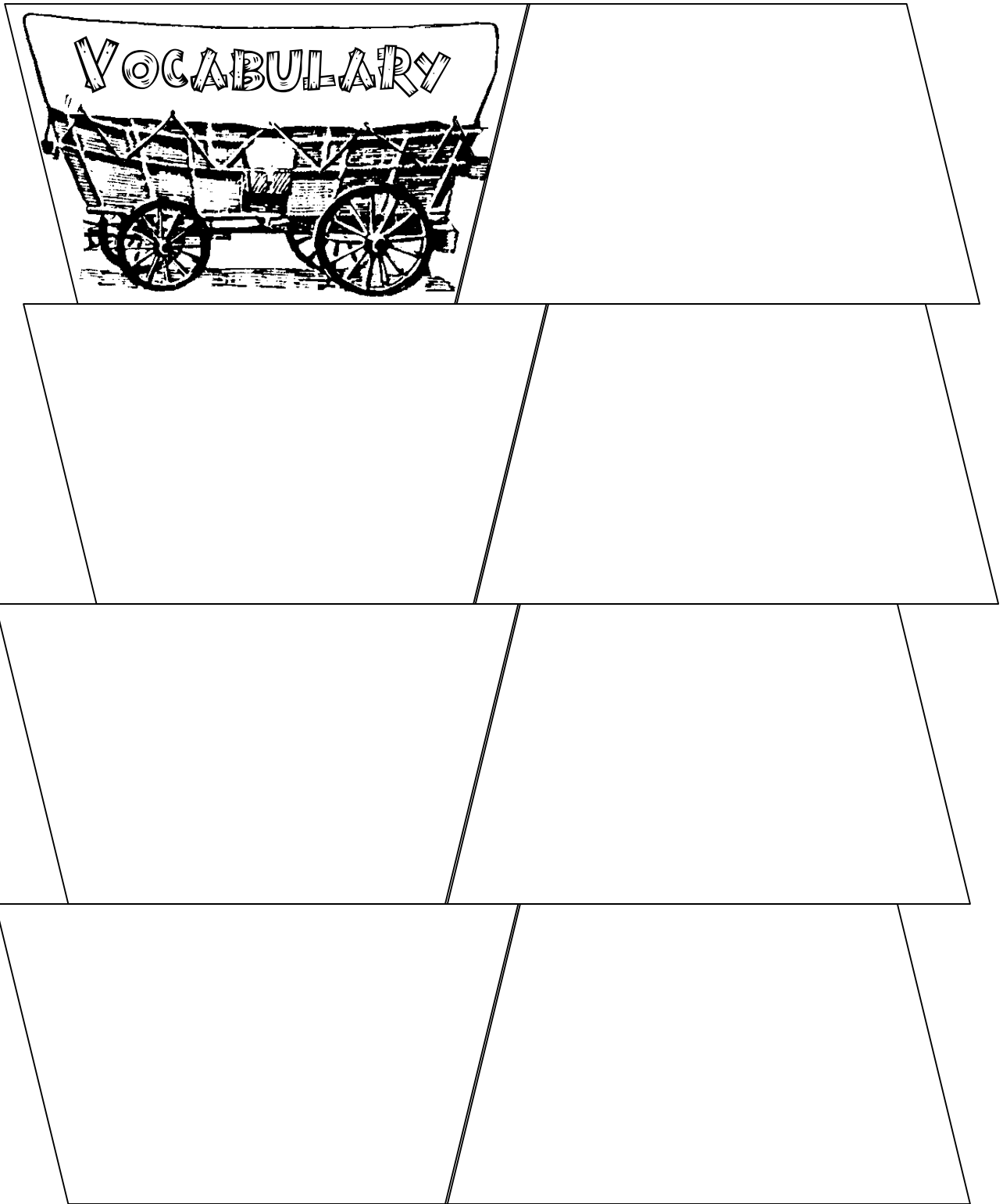
What are the colors of the sea? Complete the mini-book provided.

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Cut out pocket as one piece. Fold back up. Wrap flaps around the back and glue down.





Cut out all pages on solid lines. Stack with cover on top and staple in corner. Record vocabulary words and definitions on pages. Print out more pages as needed.

What kind of leaves?
(circle one)

Jagged Smooth Rounded

What colors are the blooms?

Where does it grow?

How many leaves on the stem?

Circle One:

Annual
Perennial
Biennial

Draw a Picture

What kind of life cycle?

This is a graduated book. Cut out all pages on solid lines. Stack from smallest to largest. On the following page are various flowers mentioned throughout the story. (Not all flowers are included) These are the book covers. Report on as many flowers as desired, printing out more pages as needed, and use the rest of the flower graphics to decorate your lapbook. To save ink, you can just draw a picture of the flower or write its name on the cover instead. Staple covers on top.

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Asters



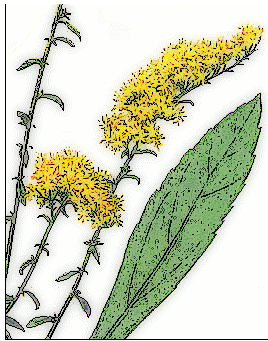
Violets



Dahlia



Feverfew



Goldenrod



Marigold

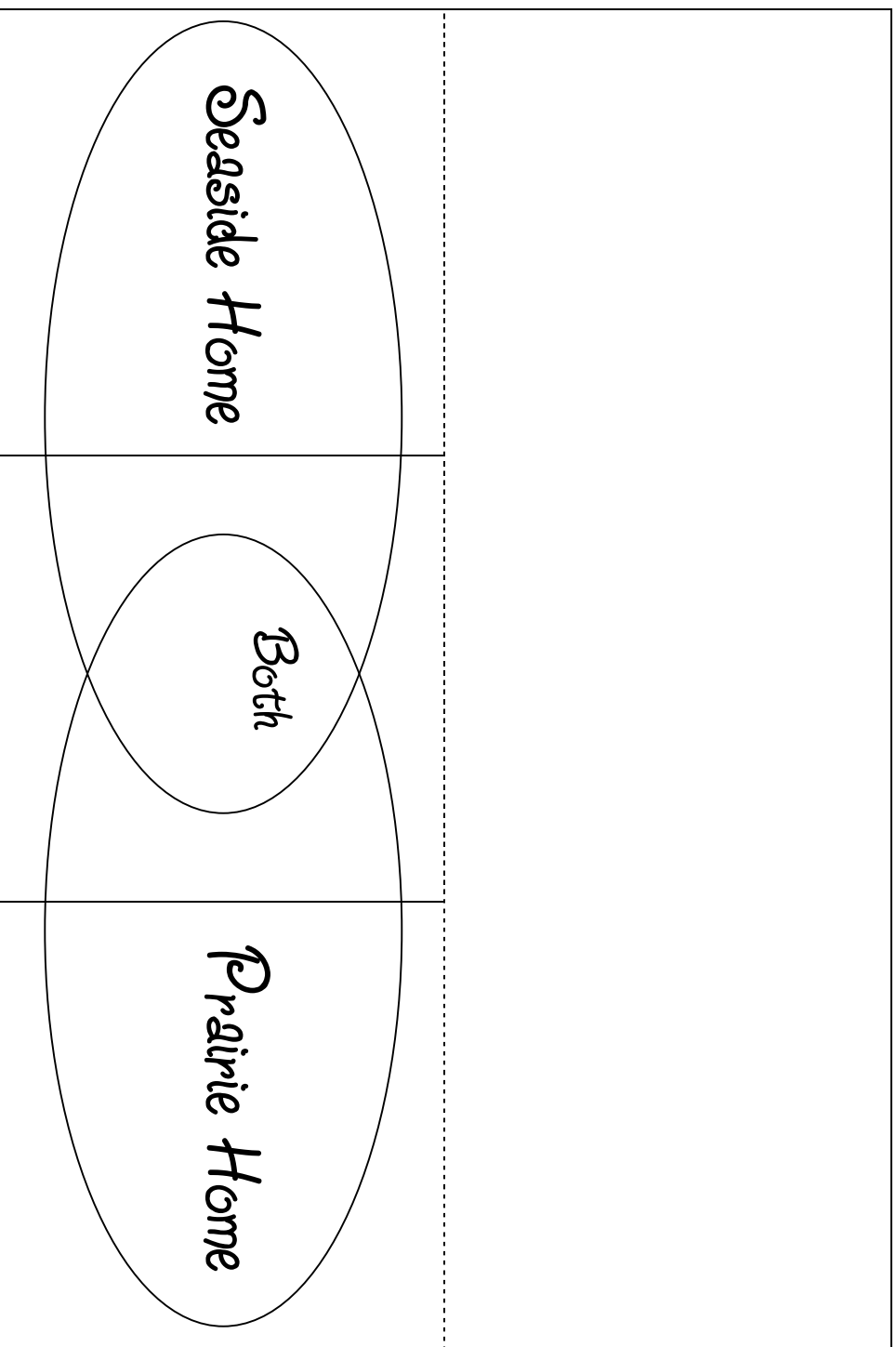


**Indian
Paintbrush**

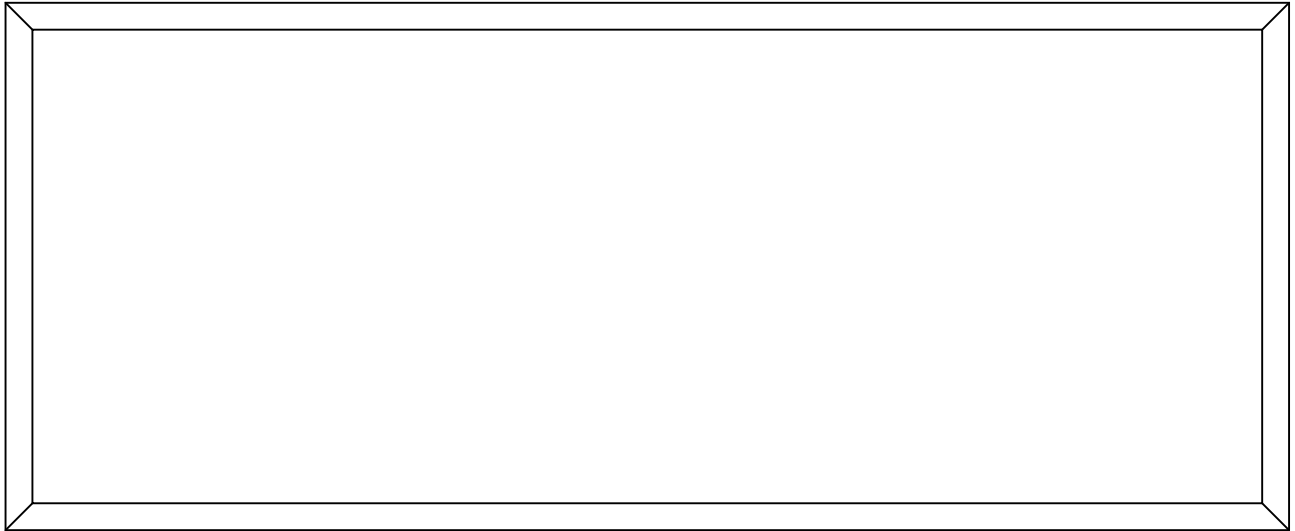


Clover

Cut out as one piece on solid lines. Mountain Fold on dotted line, so that text is on top. Cut flaps on solid lines.



Under flaps, compare and contrast the characteristics of life in both places.

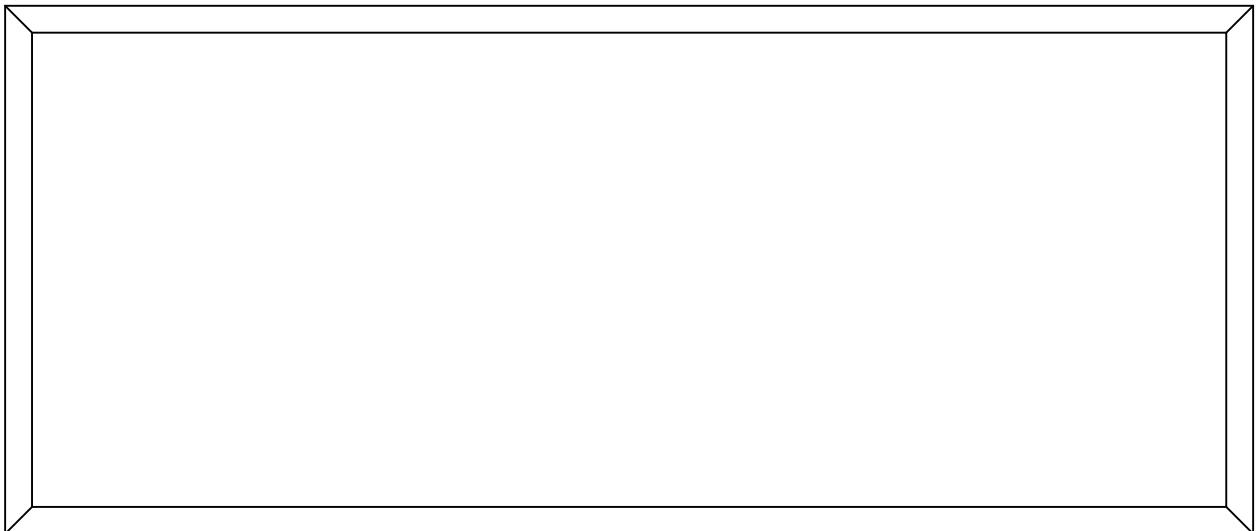


It was hard to think of Caleb as beautiful.

It took three whole days for me to love him,
sitting in the chair by the fire, Papa washing
up the supper dishes, Caleb's tiny hand
brushing my cheek. And a smile. It was the
smile, I know.

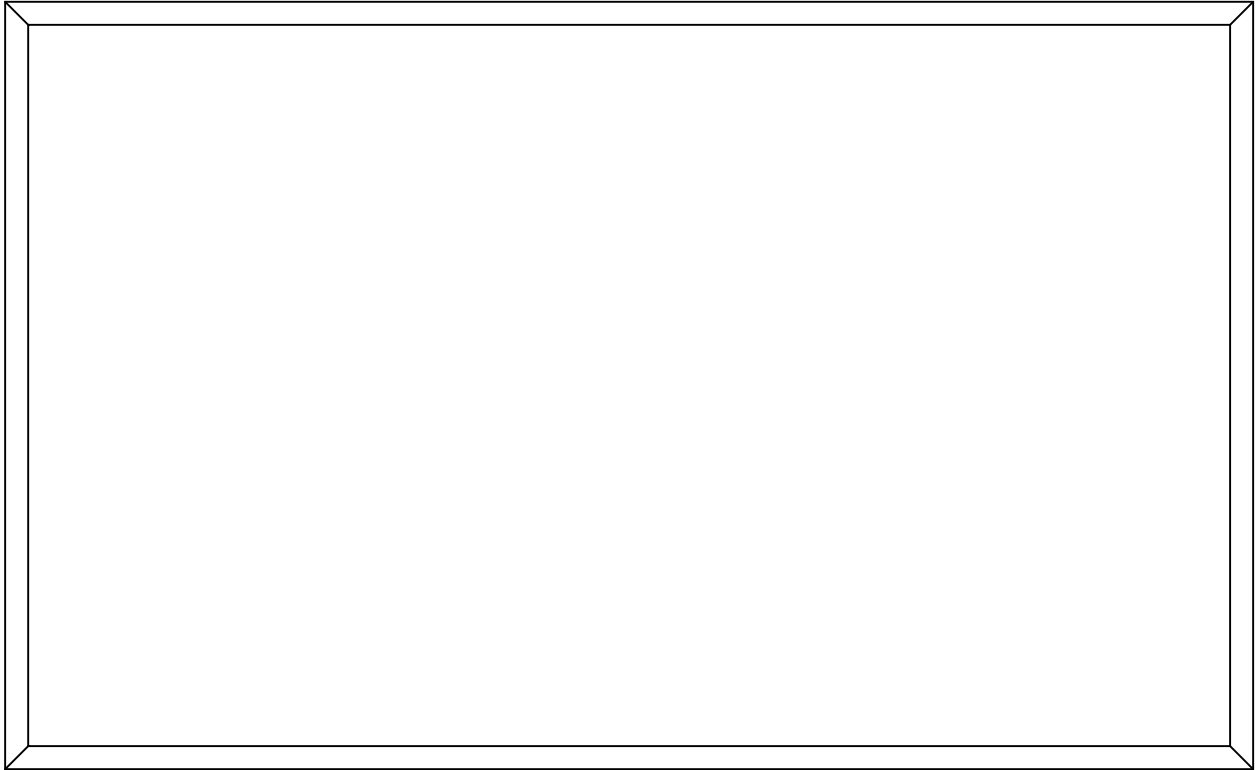
Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of three horizontal lines (top, middle, bottom) with a dotted midline for letter height guidance.

The next day Papa went to town to mail his letter to Sarah. It was rainy for days, and the clouds followed. The house was cool and damp and quiet. Once I set four places at the table, then caught myself and put the extra plate away.



Sarah stepped down from the wagon, a cloth bag in her hand. She reached up and took off her yellow bonnet, smoothing back her brown hair into a bun. She was plain and tall.





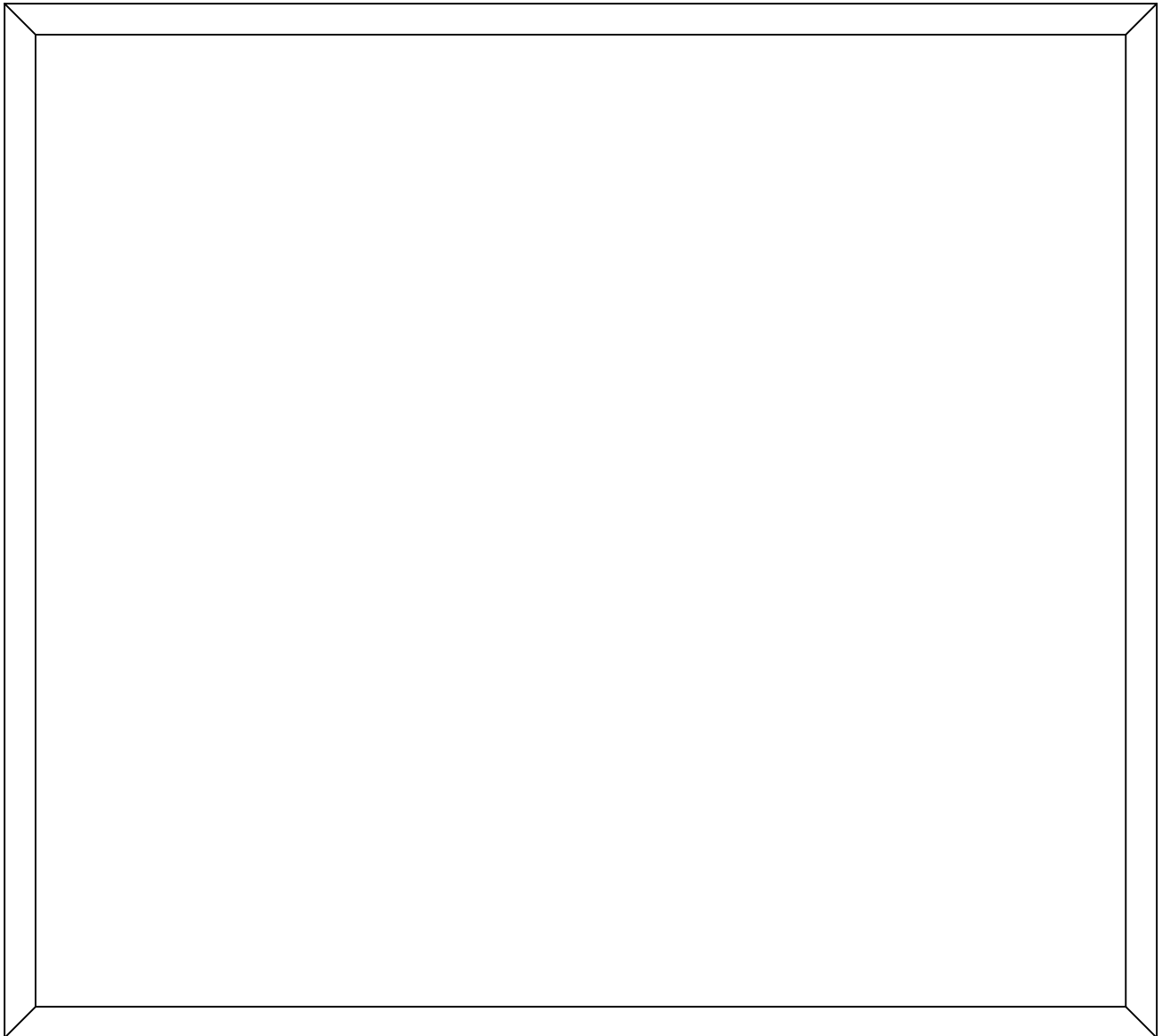
At dusk Sarah cut Caleb's hair on the front steps, gathering his curls and scattering them on the fence and ground. Seal batted some around the porch as the dogs watched.

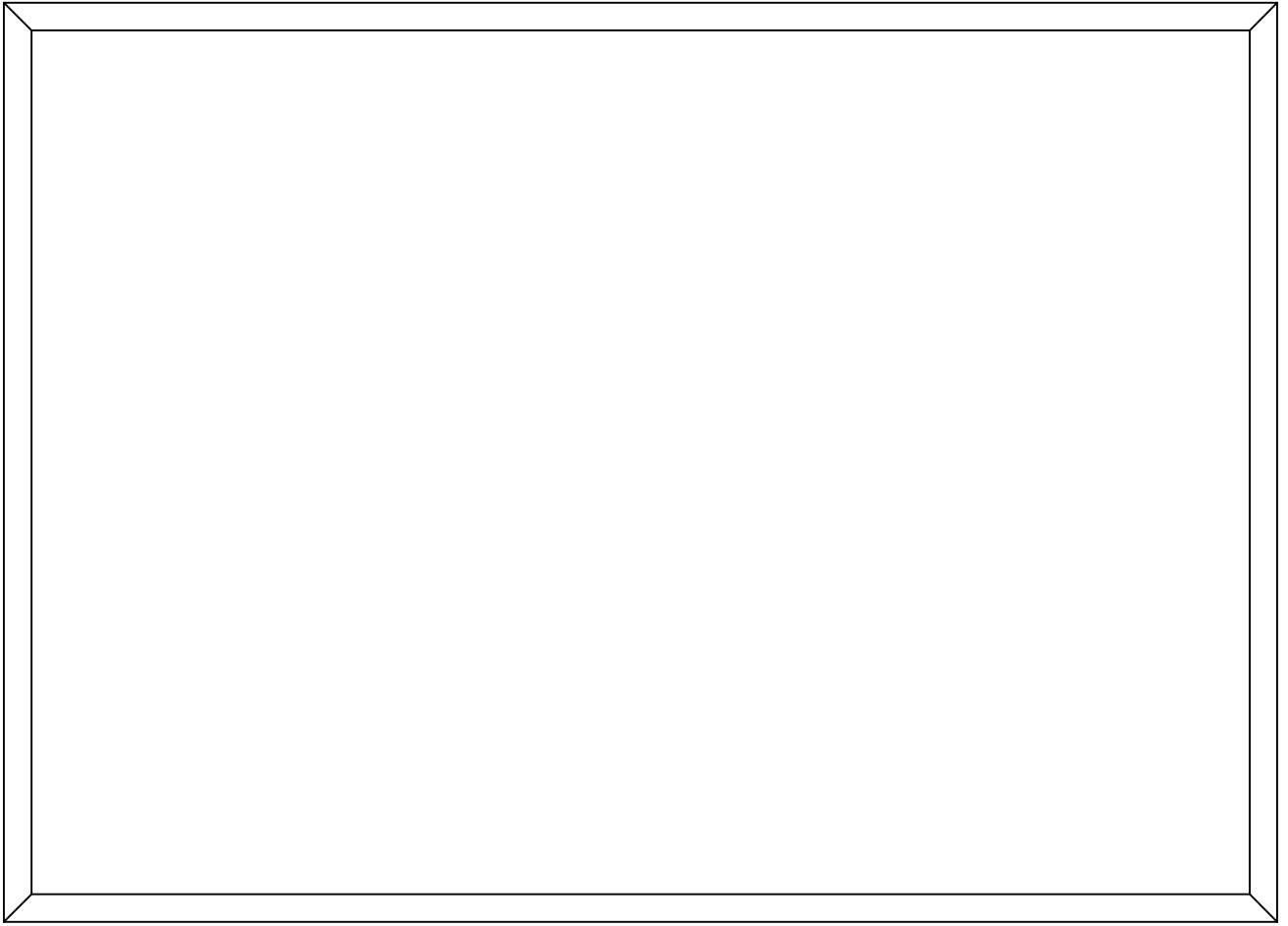
Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of horizontal lines (top, middle, bottom) with a dashed midline for letter height guidance.

The sheep made Sarah smile. She sank her fingers into their thick, coarse wool. She talked to them, running with the lambs, letting them suck on her fingers. She named them after her favorite aunts, Harriet and Mattie and Lou.



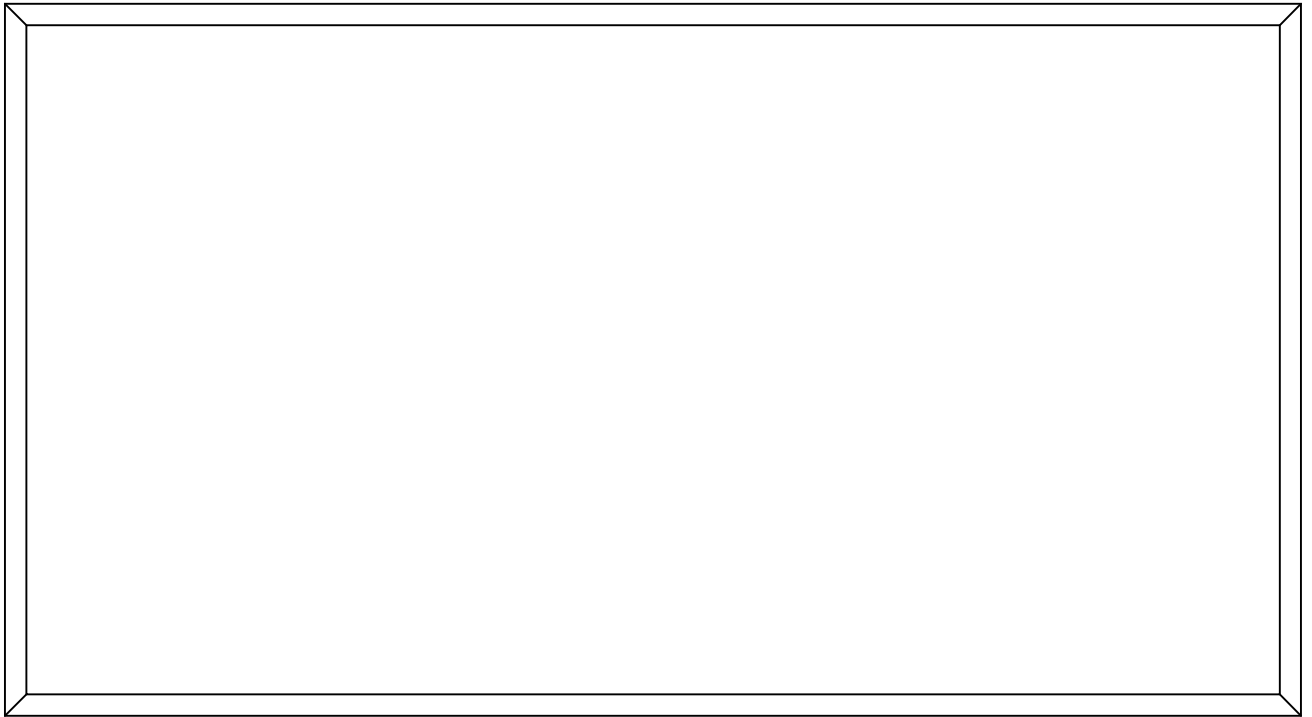
"The sea is salt," said Sarah. "It stretches out
as far as you can see. It gleams like the sun
on glass. There are waves."





Sarah loved the chickens. She clucked back to them and fed them grain. They followed her shuffling and scratching primly in the dirt. I knew they would not be for eating.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline.



We slept in the hay all night, waking when the wind was wild, sleeping again when it was quiet. And at dawn there was the sudden sound of hail, like stones tossed against the barn.

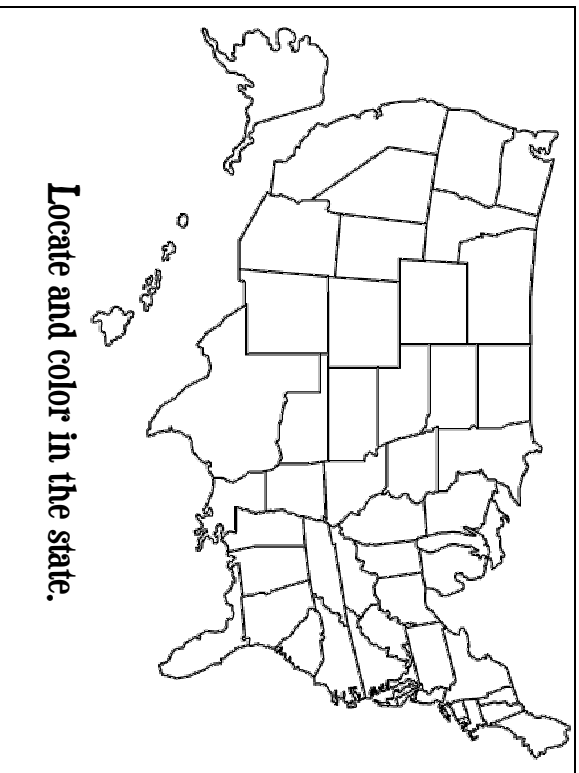
Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline.

"We thought you might be leaving us," I told her. "Because you miss the sea." Sarah smiled. "No," she said. "I will always miss my old home, but the truth of it is I would miss you more."



Maine

**Where in the
United States
is...**



Locate and color in the state.

Cut out book as one piece on solid lines. Fold on dotted lines.
Cut out map on solid lines and glue under shutters.

TYPES OF FOG



TYPE

TYPE

TYPE

TYPE

This square gets glued down

Cut out as one piece. Mountain fold vertical dotted line. Cut flaps on solid lines. Then
accordion fold gray dotted lines.

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SHIPS



SHIPS

Cut on solid lines. Mountain fold on dotted lines. Research seashells and record information under flaps.

Killdeer



Home

Where do they live?

What kind of home do they make?

Diet

Circle one:

Herbivore

Carnivore

Omnivore

What do they eat?

Body

Circle one:

Vertebrate

Invertebrate

What kind of mouth?

What kind of body covering?

Survival

How do they protect themselves?

Interesting
Facts

Cut out all pages on solid lines. Stack with cover on top and staple on side.

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Print out on cardstock. Cut on solid lines.
Stack with cover on top.
Hole punch and attach with a brad or
string. Store in pocket.

Color the blades the colors of the sea.

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○ **Colors of the Sea**

