

State of Maine  
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES  
State House - Station #21  
Augusta, Maine 04333

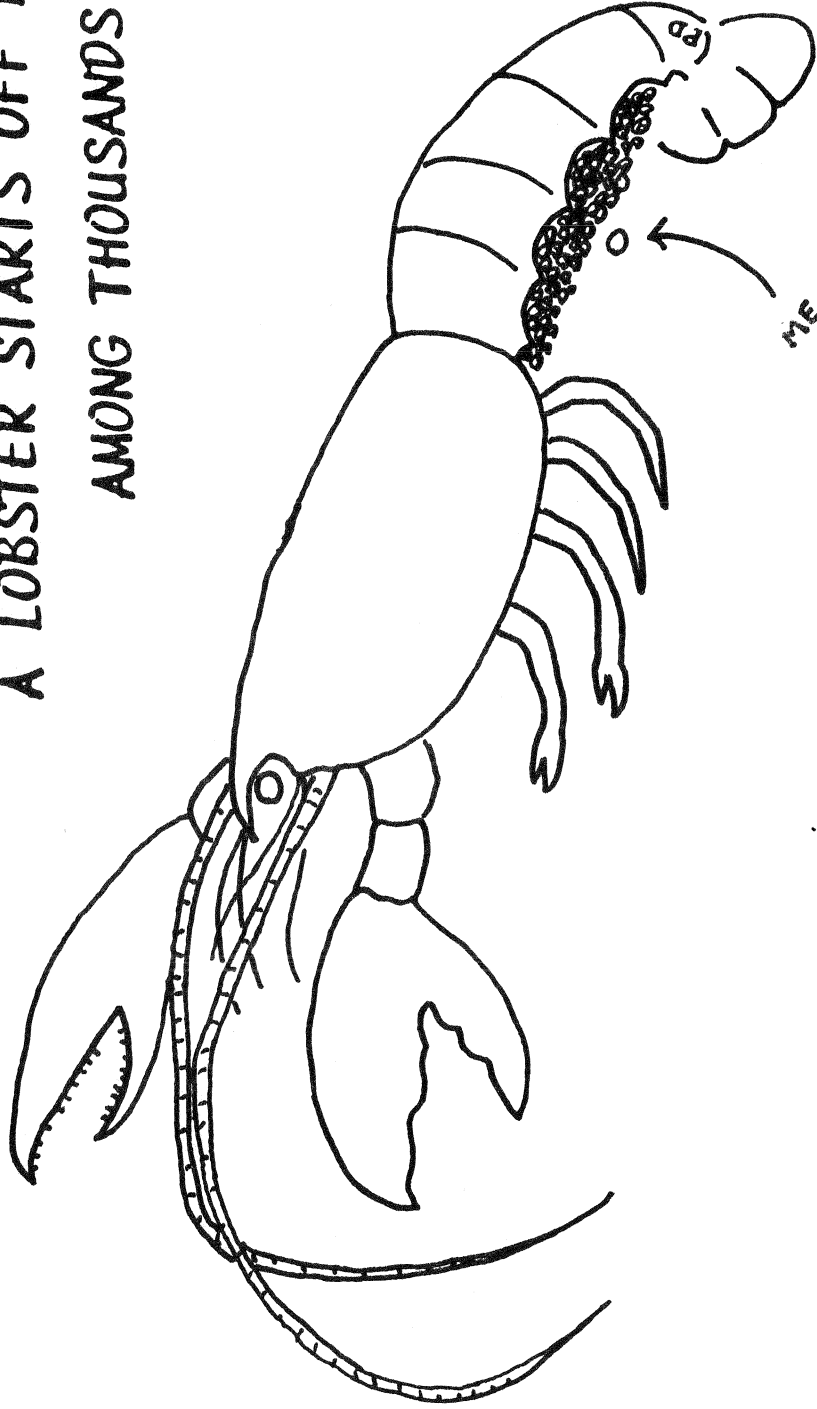
# A Lobster's Life



by DUNNORF  
Peter J. Dunmore  
Marine Science Educator

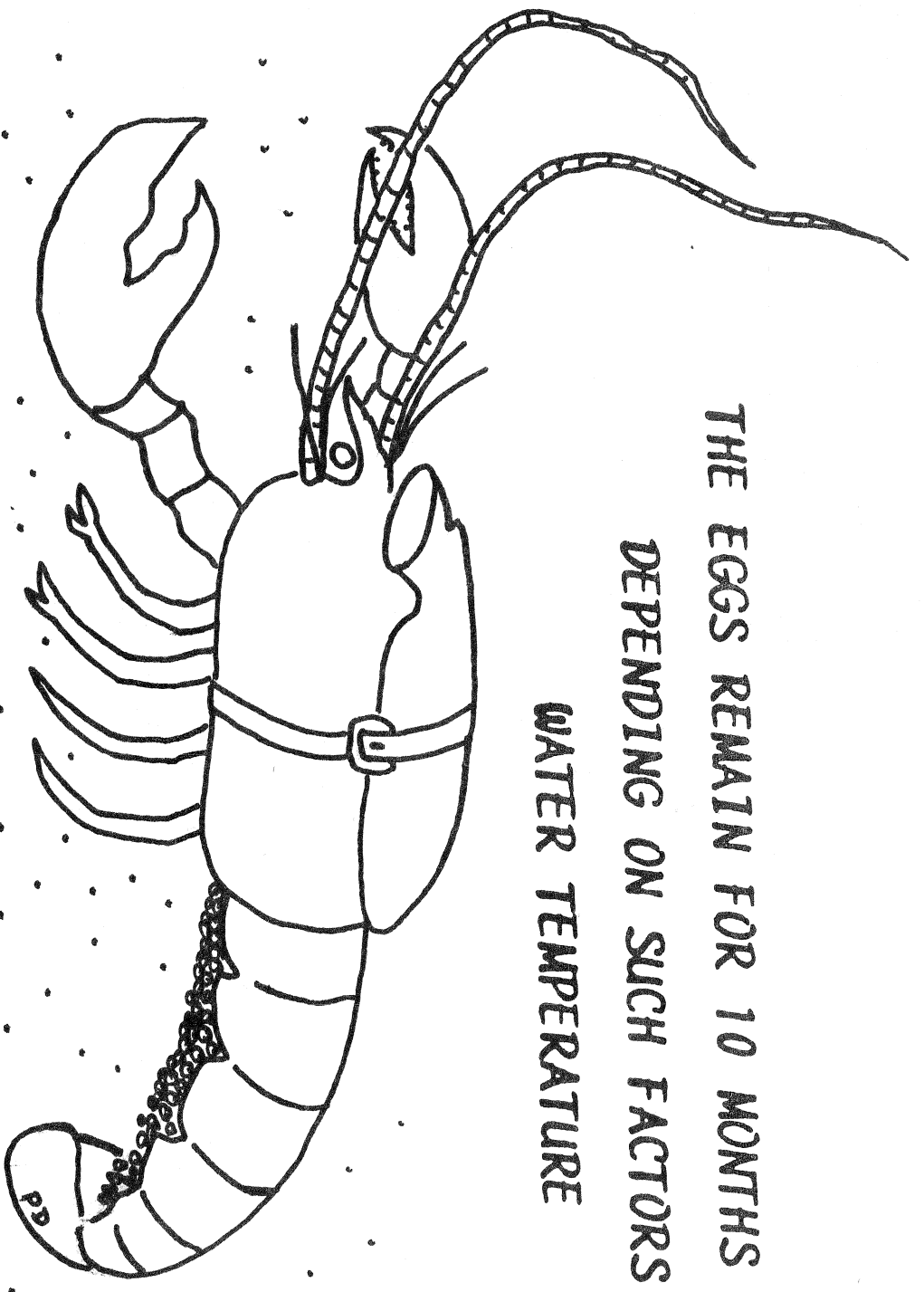
This project is supported with Federal Funds  
under the Dingall-Johnson Fish Restoration Program.

A LOBSTER STARTS OFF LIFE AS AN EGG  
AMONG THOUSANDS OF EGGS

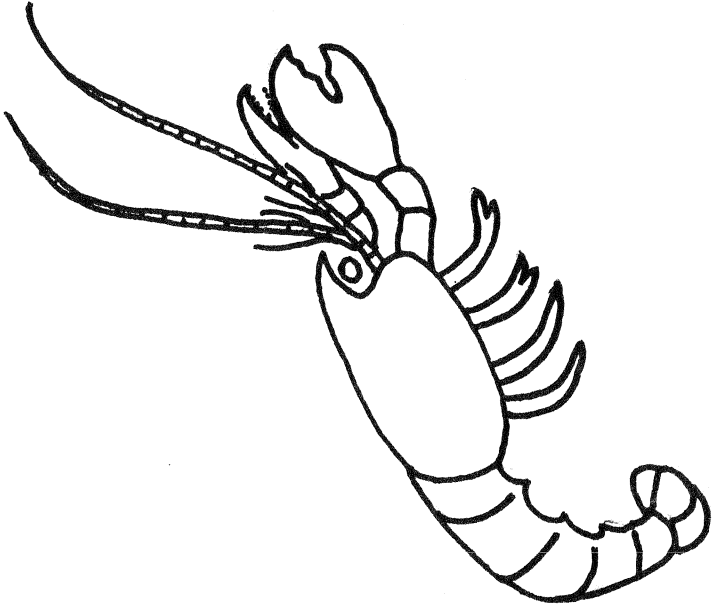


THAT ARE GLUED TO THEIR  
MOTHER'S TAIL

THE EGGS REMAIN FOR 10 MONTHS OR MORE  
DEPENDING ON SUCH FACTORS AS  
WATER TEMPERATURE

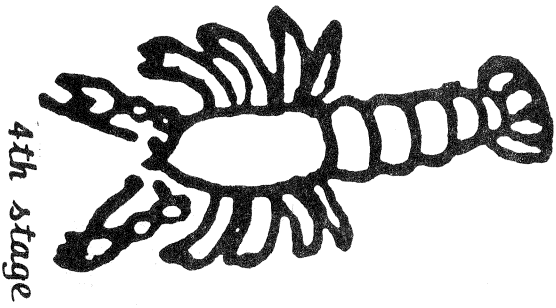
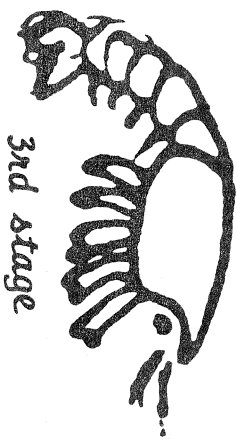
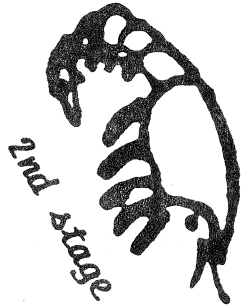


THE COLDER THE WATER THE LONGER THE EGGS TAKE TO HATCH



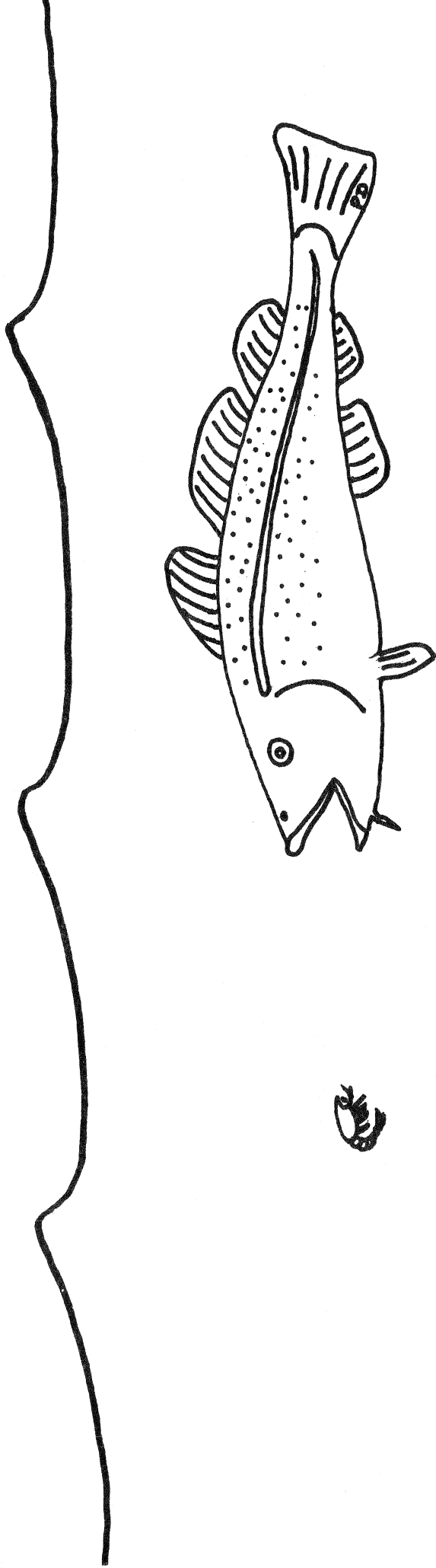
**ALTHOUGH THE LOBSTER WILL EAT ALMOST ANYTHING  
THAT IT GETS IT'S CLAWS ON, IN TURN, SO WILL  
MANY ANIMALS TRY TO EAT IT.**

**(INCLUDING ANOTHER LARGER LOBSTER)**



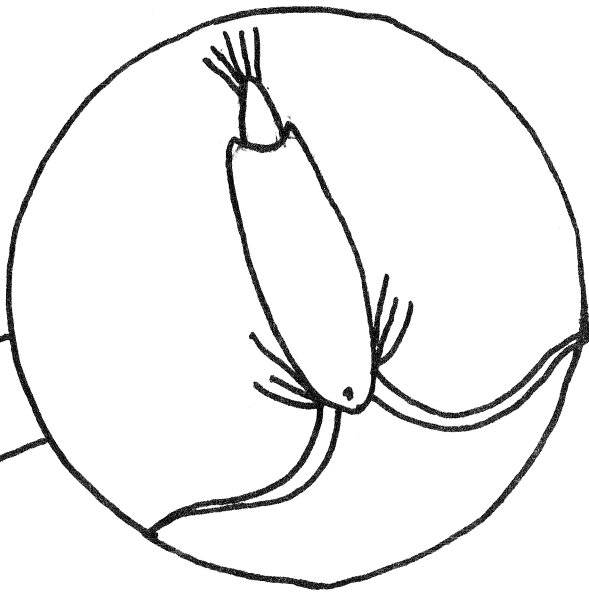
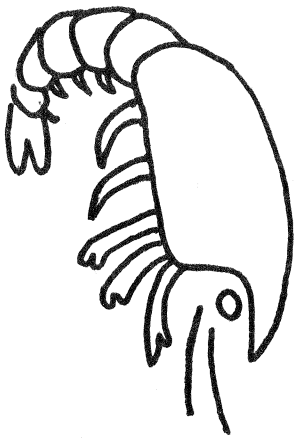
WHEN THE EGGS HATCH

THEY FLOAT TO THE SURFACE BY THE THOUSANDS.  
THEY GO THROUGH FOUR STAGES OF GROWTH.



**WHILE THE LOBSTERS ARE FLOATING  
THEY ARE IN GREAT DANGER OF BEING EATEN  
BY PREDATORS**

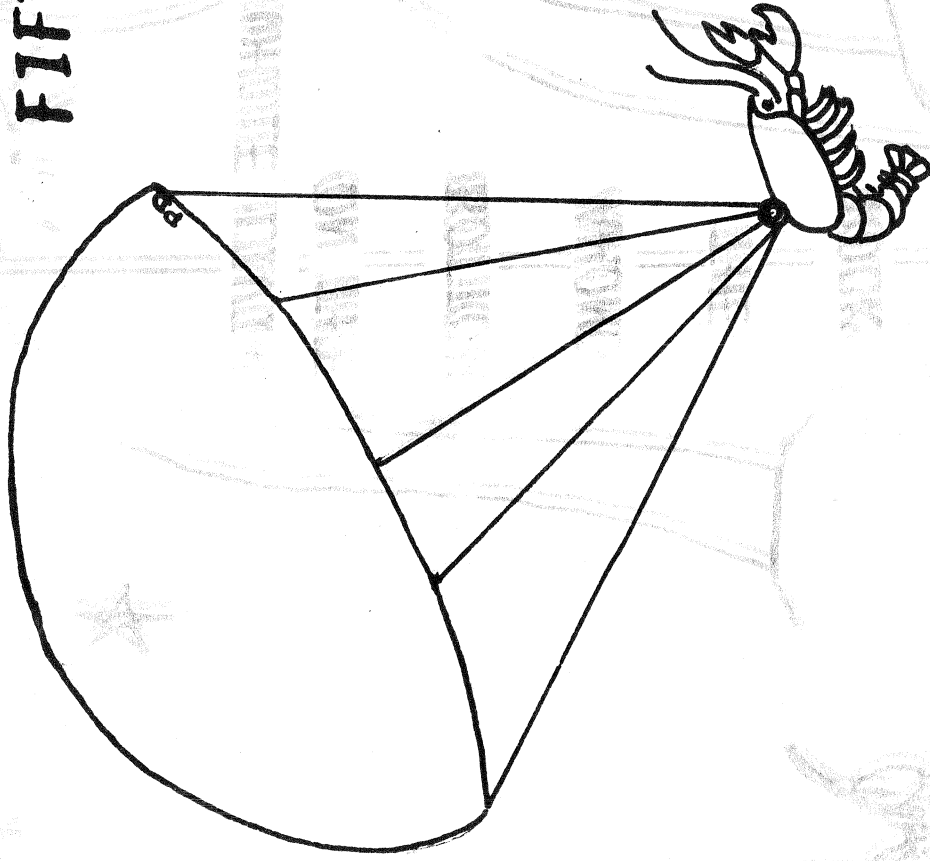
THEY MUST ALSO FIND



MICROSCOPIC FOOD

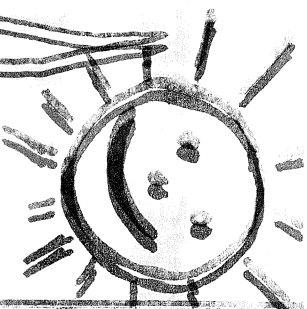
IF THEY ARE TO SURVIVE

WHEN THE LOBSTER REACHES THE  
FIFTH STAGE



HE/SHE IS READY TO RETURN  
TO THE OCEAN FLOOR TO START LIFE  
AS A BOTTOM DWELLER





WHILE LIVING

ON THE

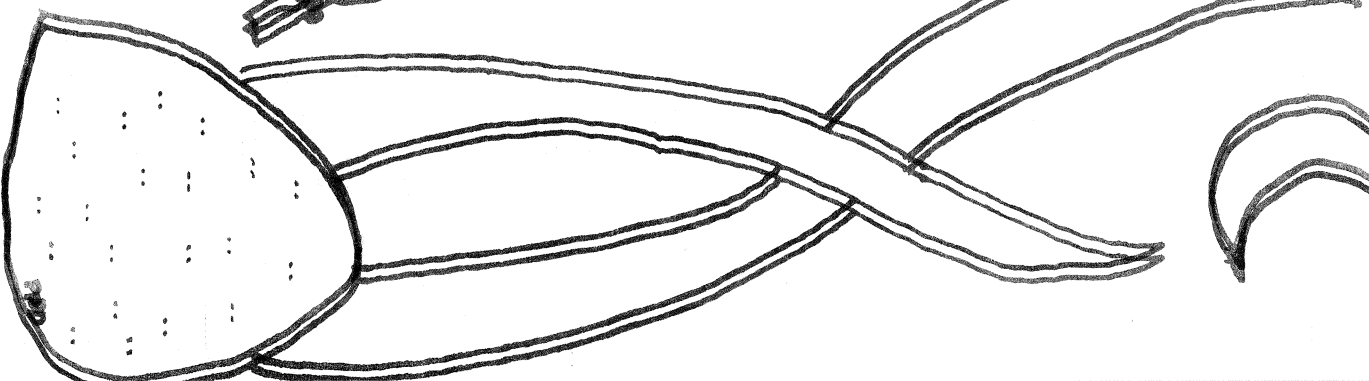
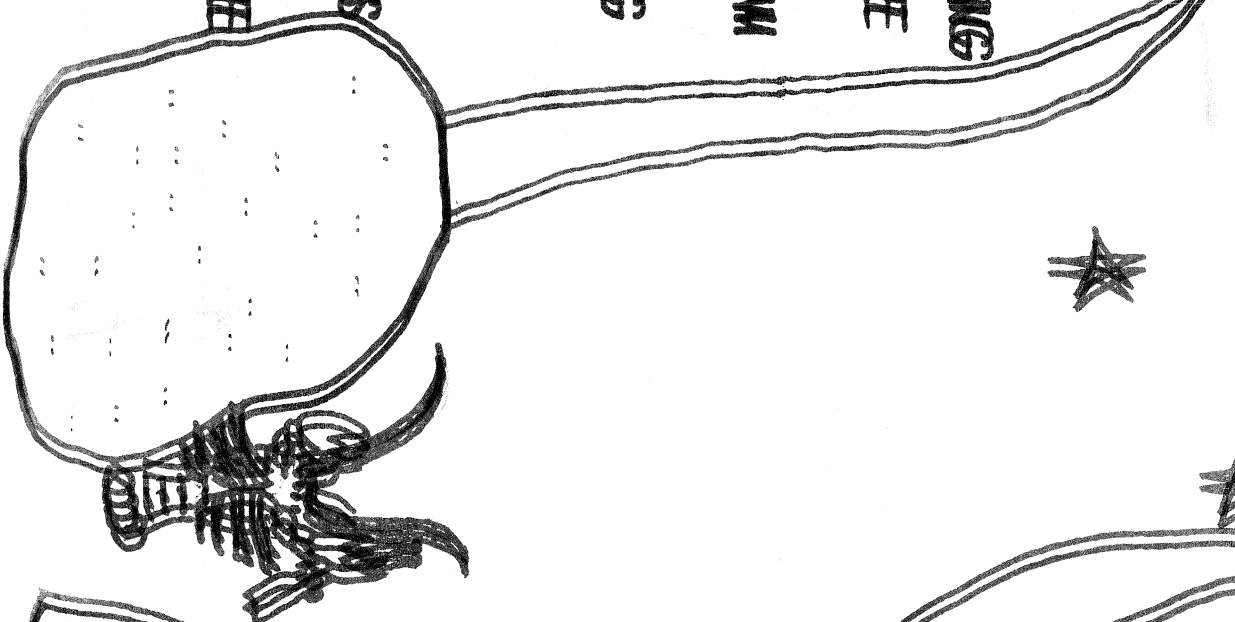
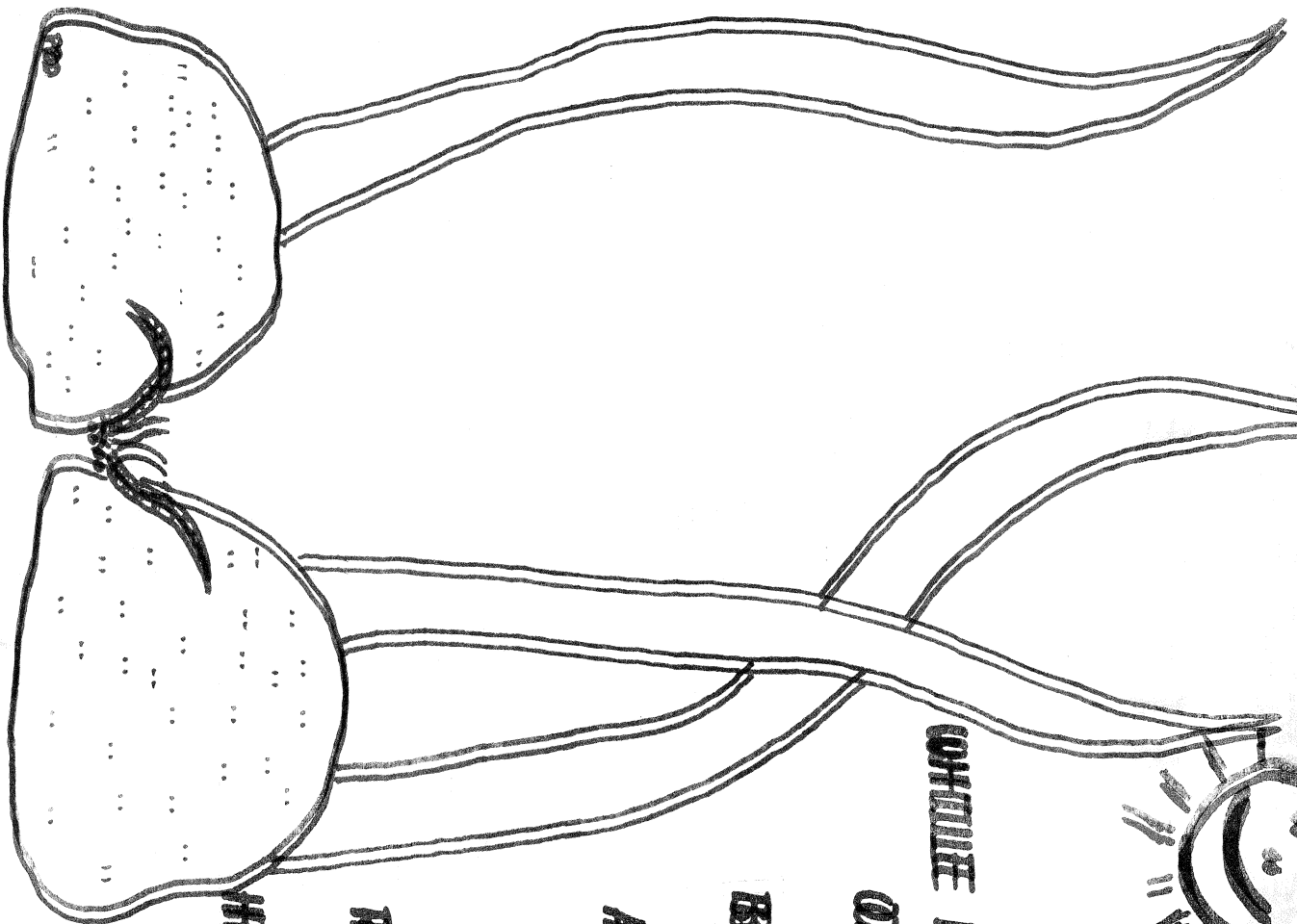
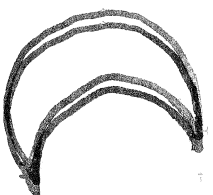
BOTTOM

AMONG

THE

ROCKS

HE/SHE

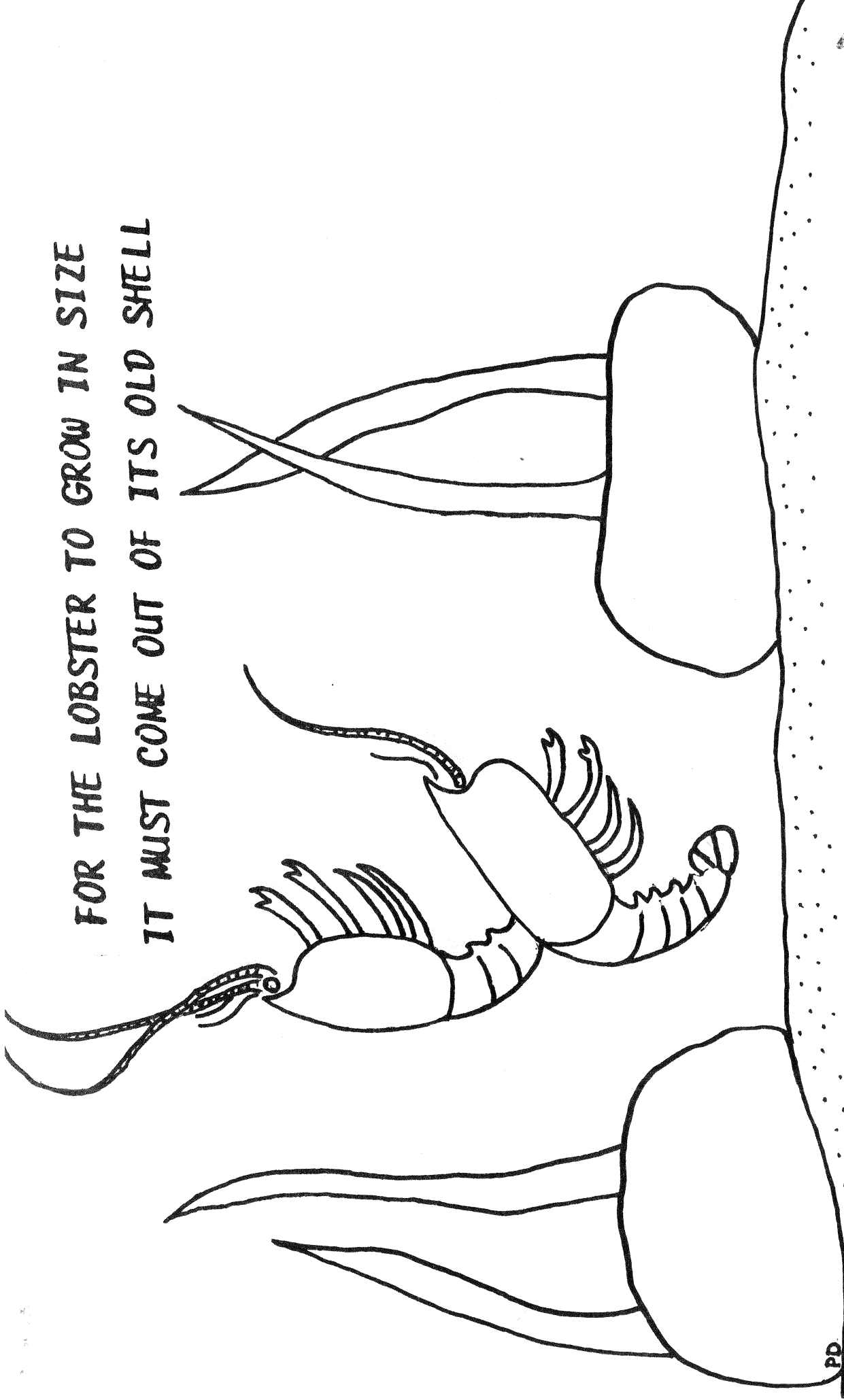


WILL HIDE DURING THE DAY AND

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USUALLY COME OUT AT NIGHT TO HUNT FOR FOOD

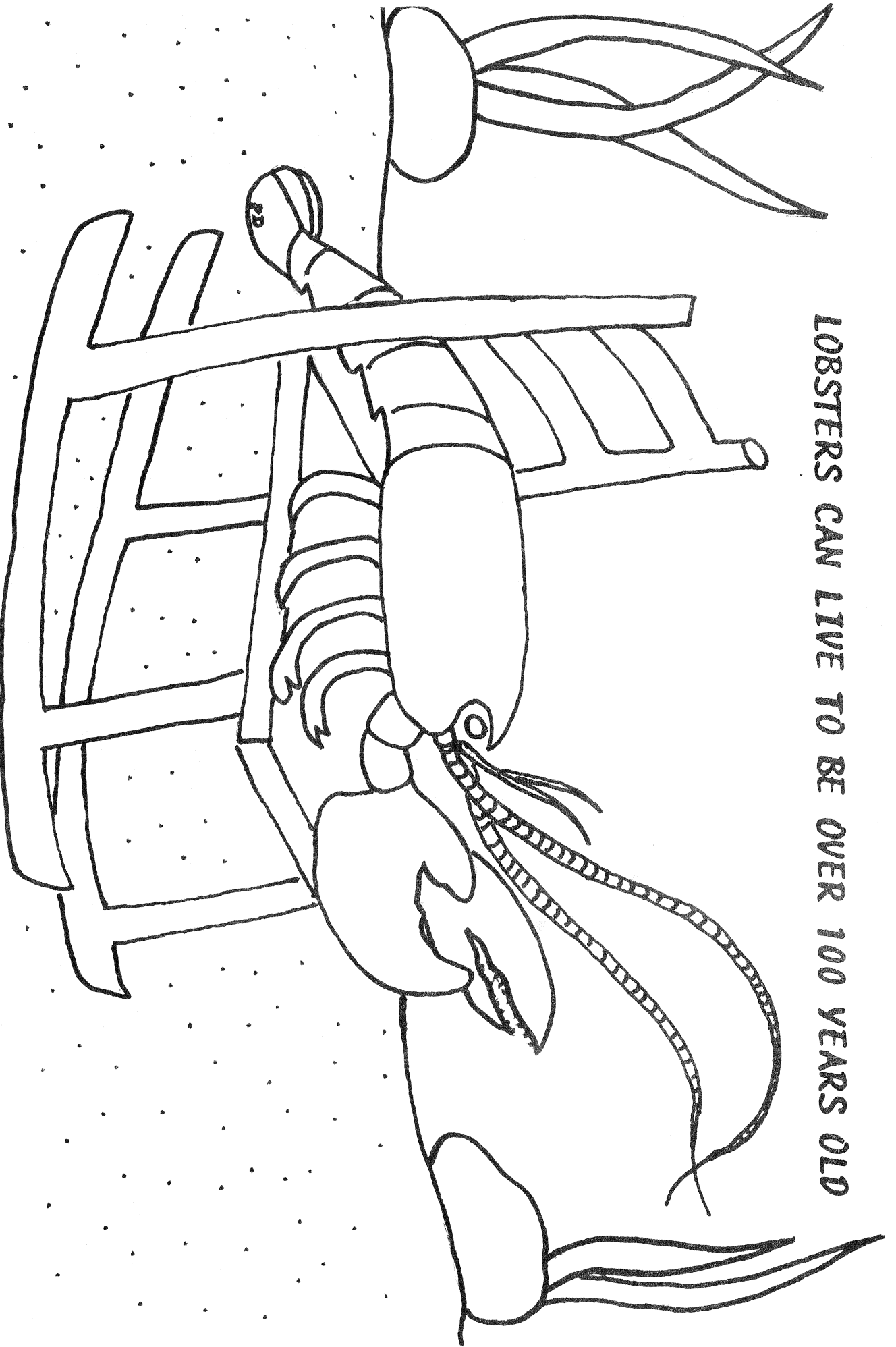
FOR THE LOBSTER TO GROW IN SIZE  
IT MUST COME OUT OF ITS OLD SHELL



PD.

A NEW SHELL HAS ALREADY FORMED UNDER THE OLD ONE, BUT IT IS  
VERY SOFT AND IT WILL REQUIRE SEVERAL DAYS TO HARDEN.  
DURING THIS PERIOD THE LOBSTER<sup>y</sup> IS IN DANGER OF BEING ATTACKED

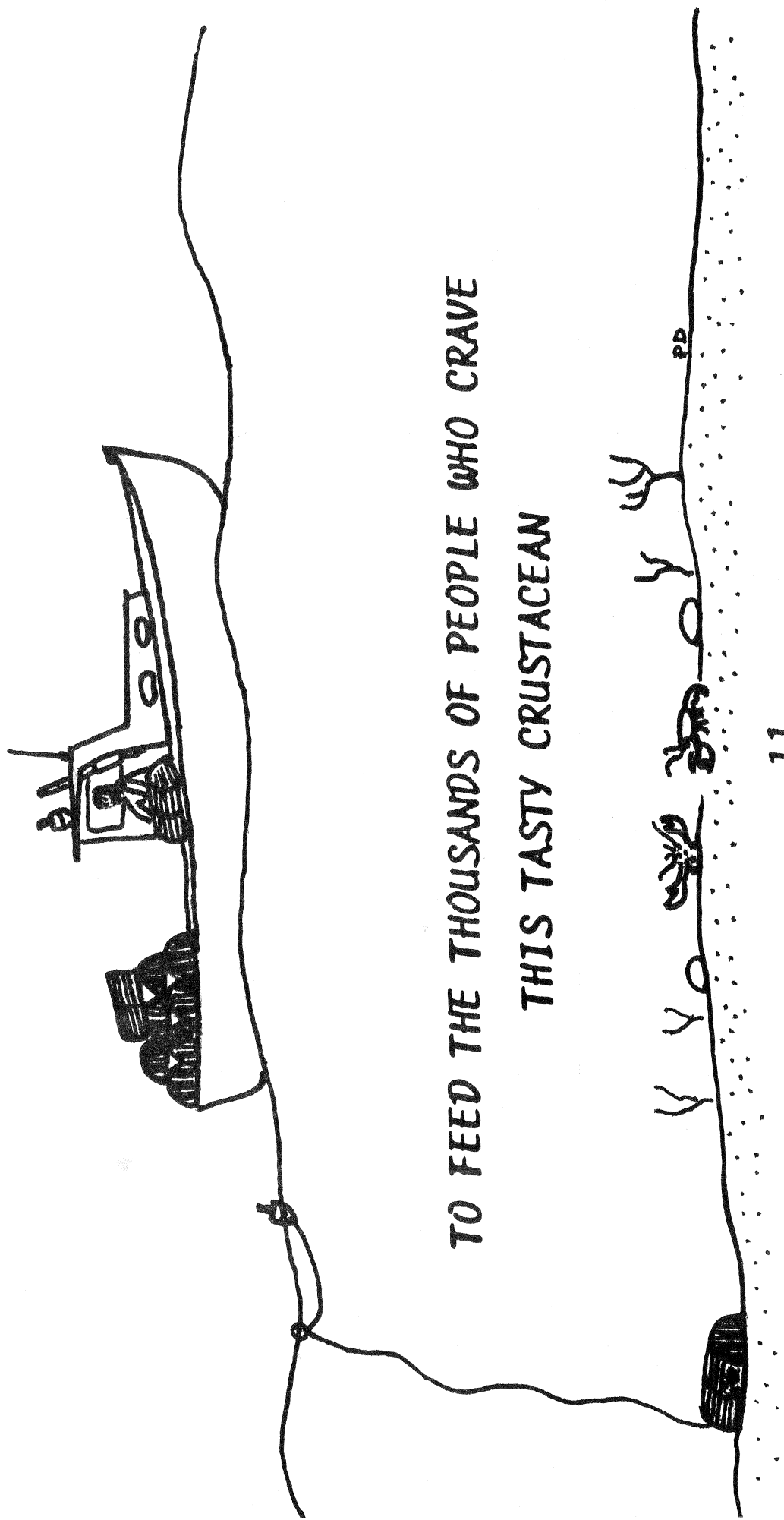
LOBSTERS CAN LIVE TO BE OVER 100 YEARS OLD



AND GROW TO BE 3 FEET (OR MORE) IN LENGTH  
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EVERY YEAR HUNDREDS OF FISHERMEN GO OUT AND CATCH THE "LOBSTER"

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TO FEED THE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO CRAVE  
THIS TASTY CRUSTACEAN

