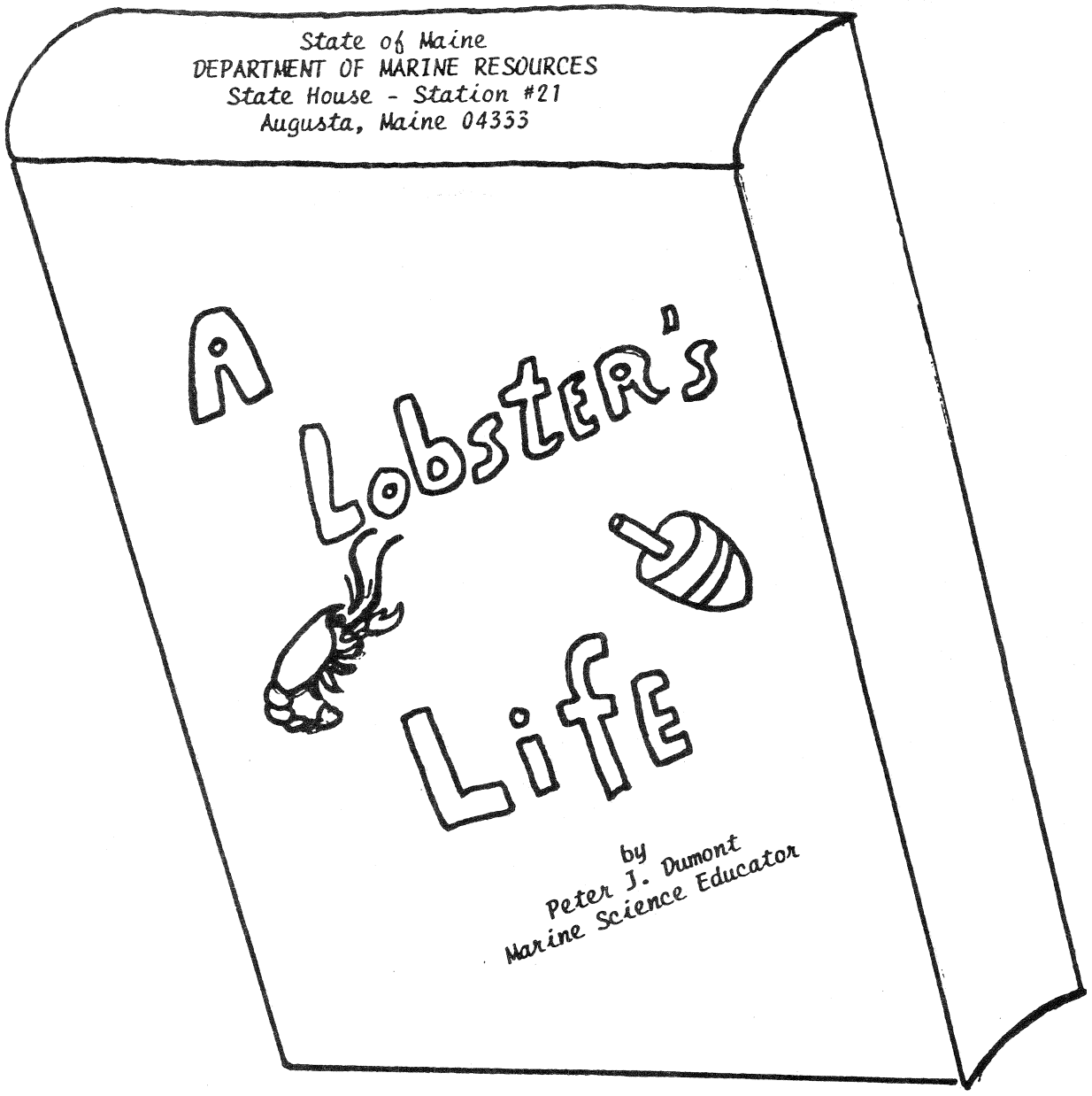
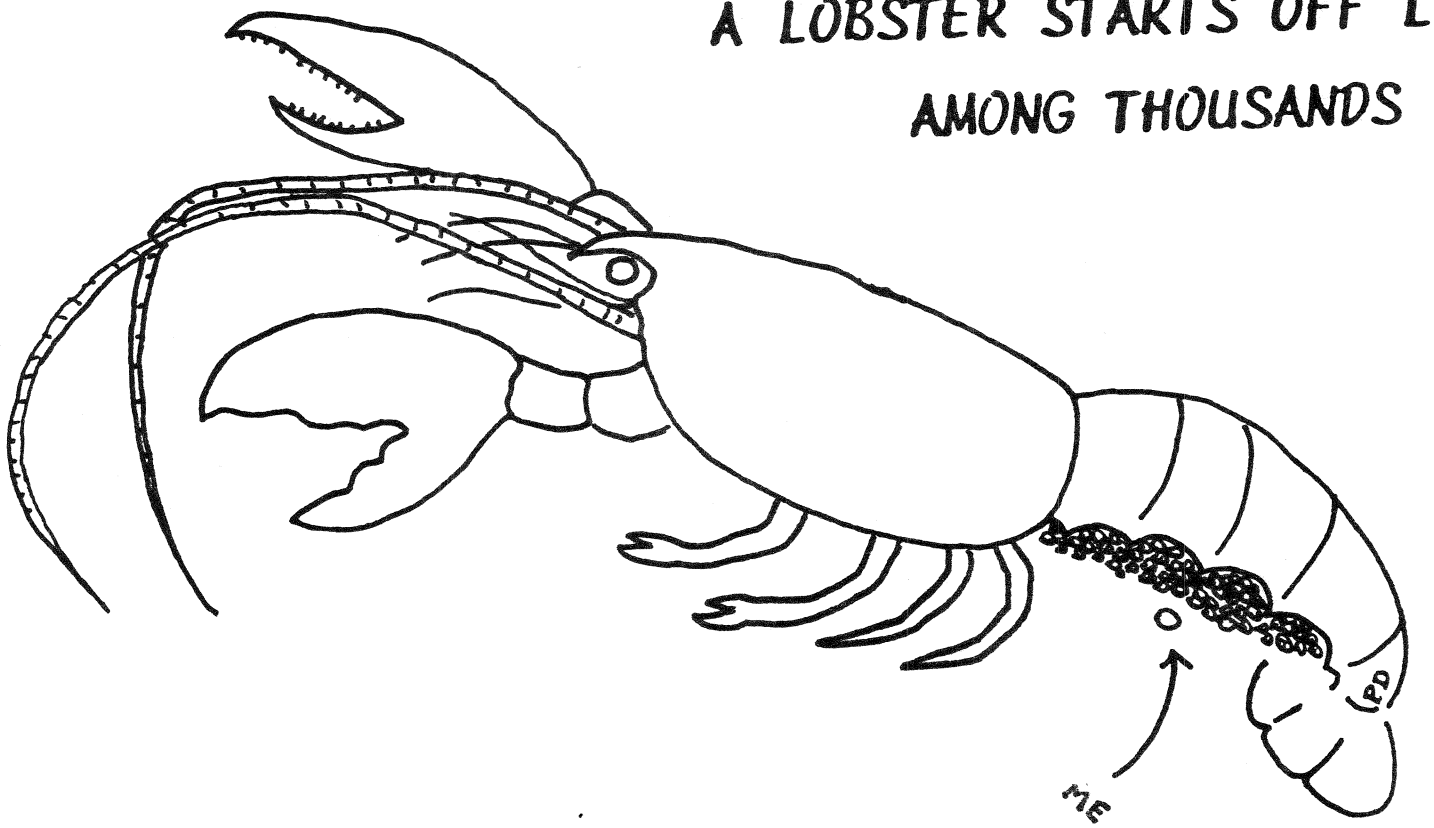


This project is supported with Federal Funds
under the Dingall-Johnson Fish Restoration Program.

013-13A-2026-30

A LOBSTER STARTS OFF LIFE AS AN EGG

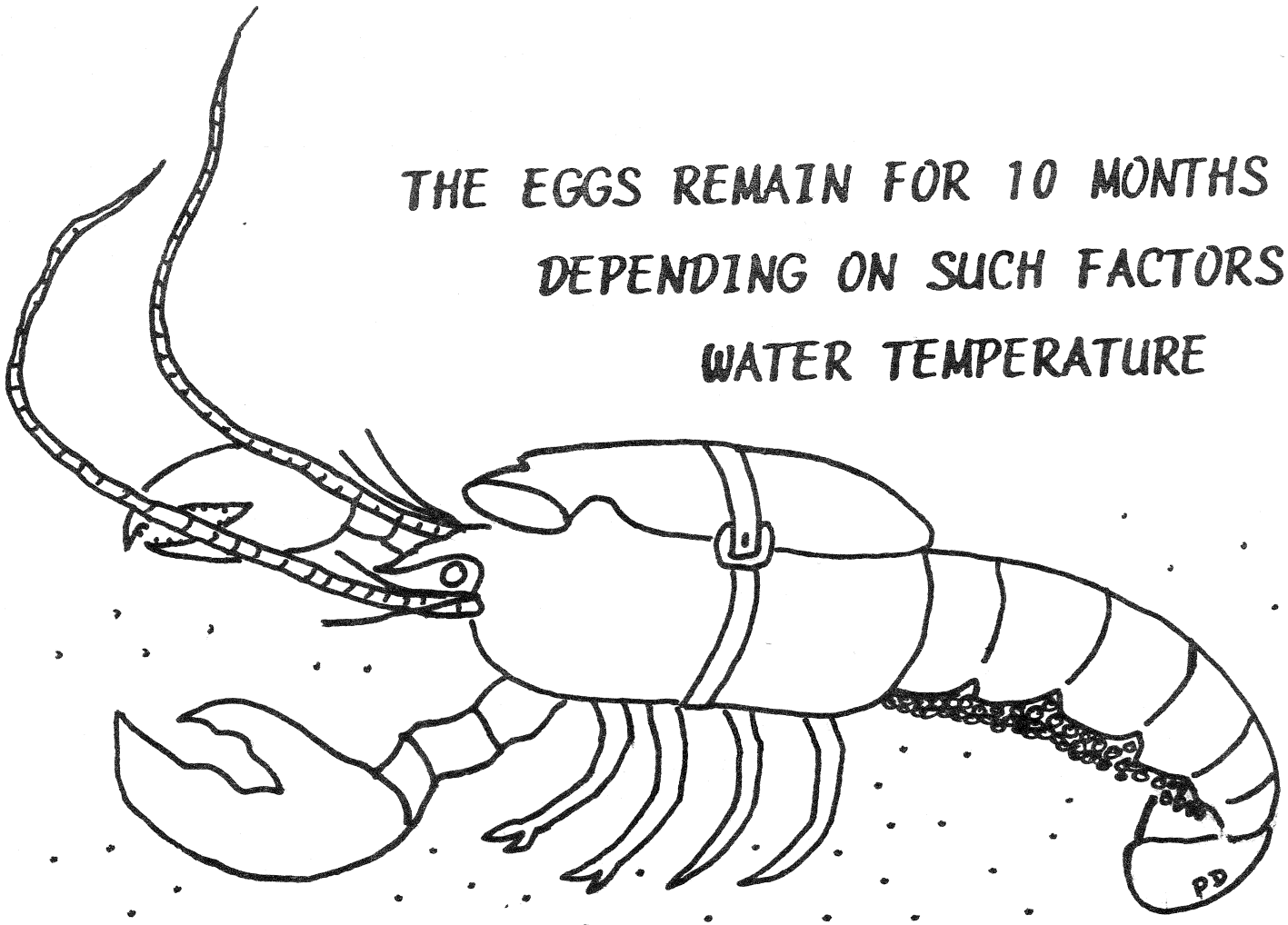
AMONG THOUSANDS OF EGGS



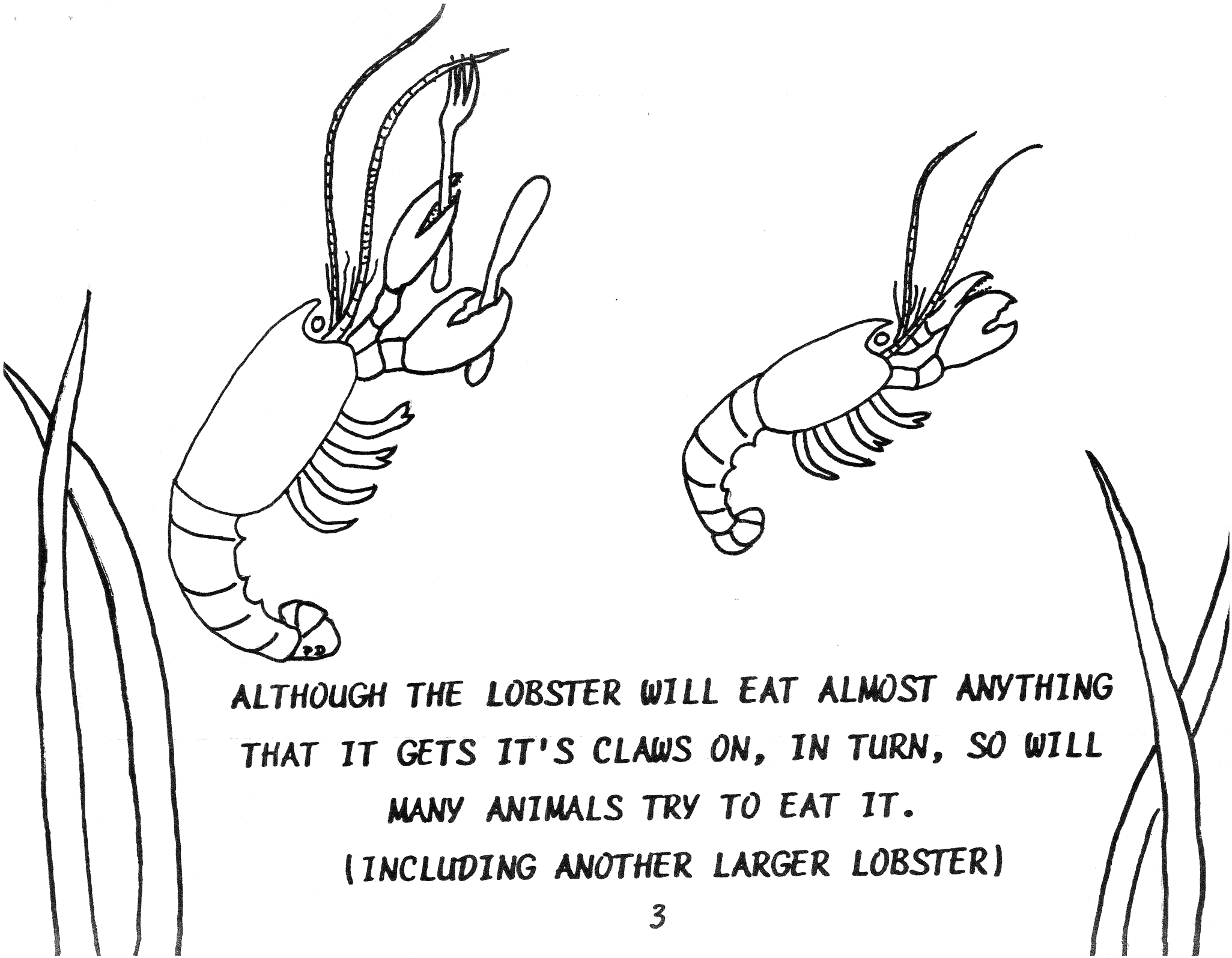
THAT ARE GLUED TO THEIR

MOTHER'S TAIL

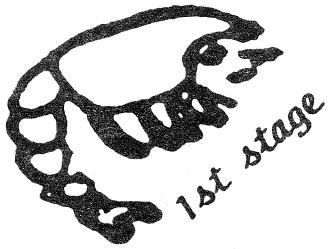
THE EGGS REMAIN FOR 10 MONTHS OR MORE
DEPENDING ON SUCH FACTORS AS
WATER TEMPERATURE

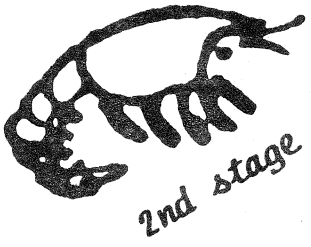


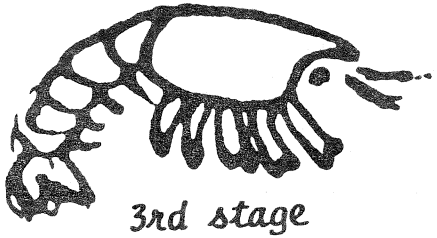
THE COLDER THE WATER THE LONGER THE EGGS TAKE TO HATCH

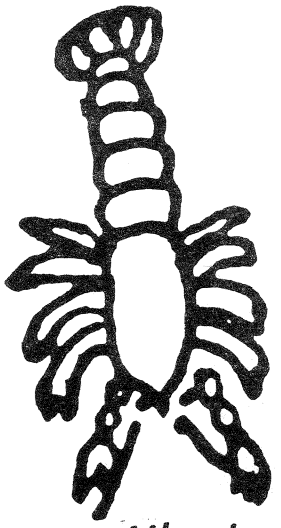


ALTHOUGH THE LOBSTER WILL EAT ALMOST ANYTHING THAT IT GETS IT'S CLAWS ON, IN TURN, SO WILL MANY ANIMALS TRY TO EAT IT.
(INCLUDING ANOTHER LARGER LOBSTER)

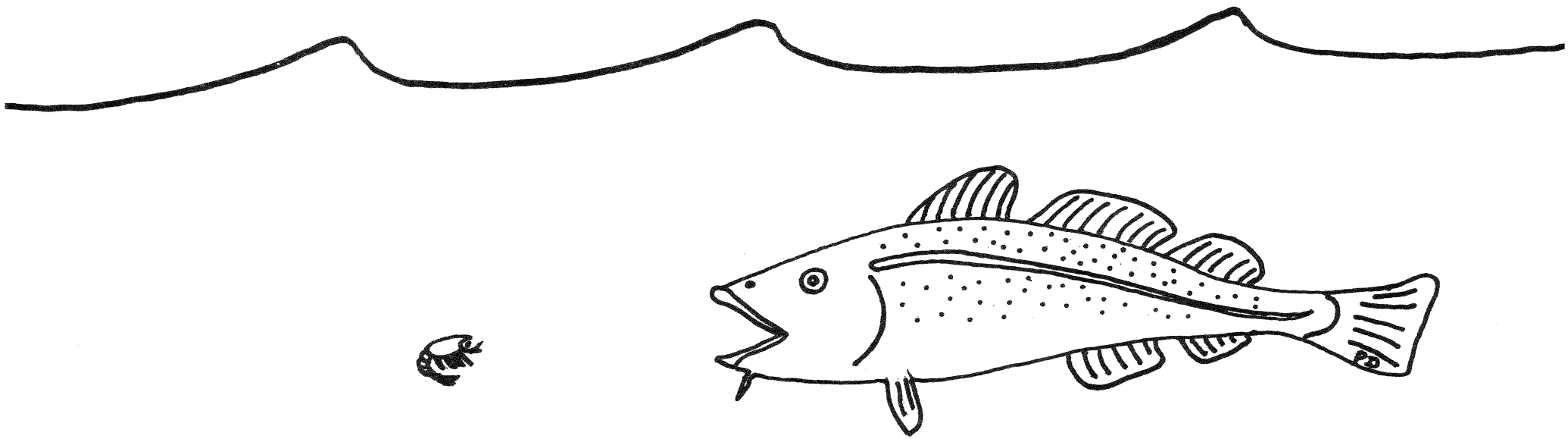






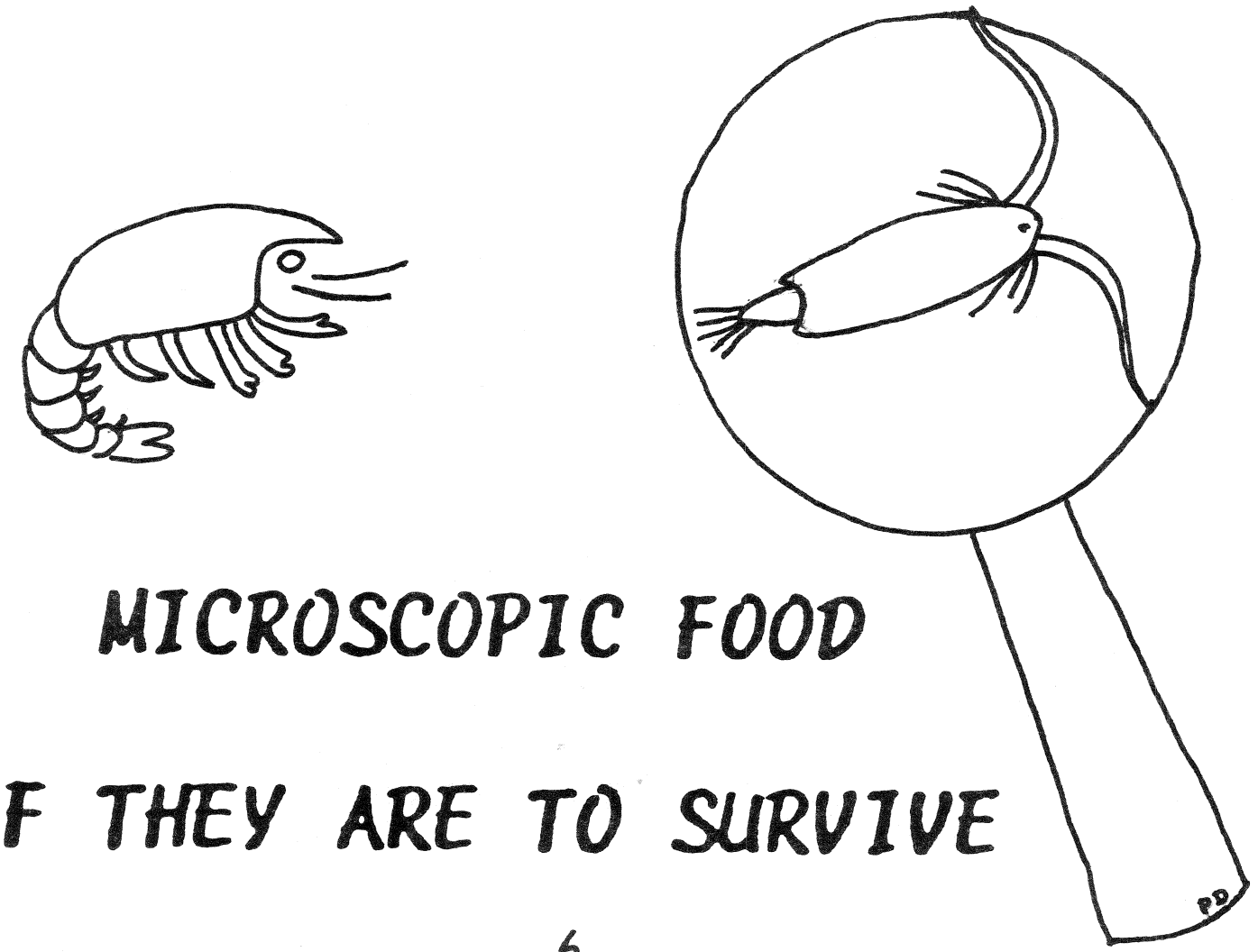


WHEN THE EGGS HATCH
THEY FLOAT TO THE SURFACE BY THE THOUSANDS.
THEY GO THROUGH FOUR STAGES OF GROWTH.



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

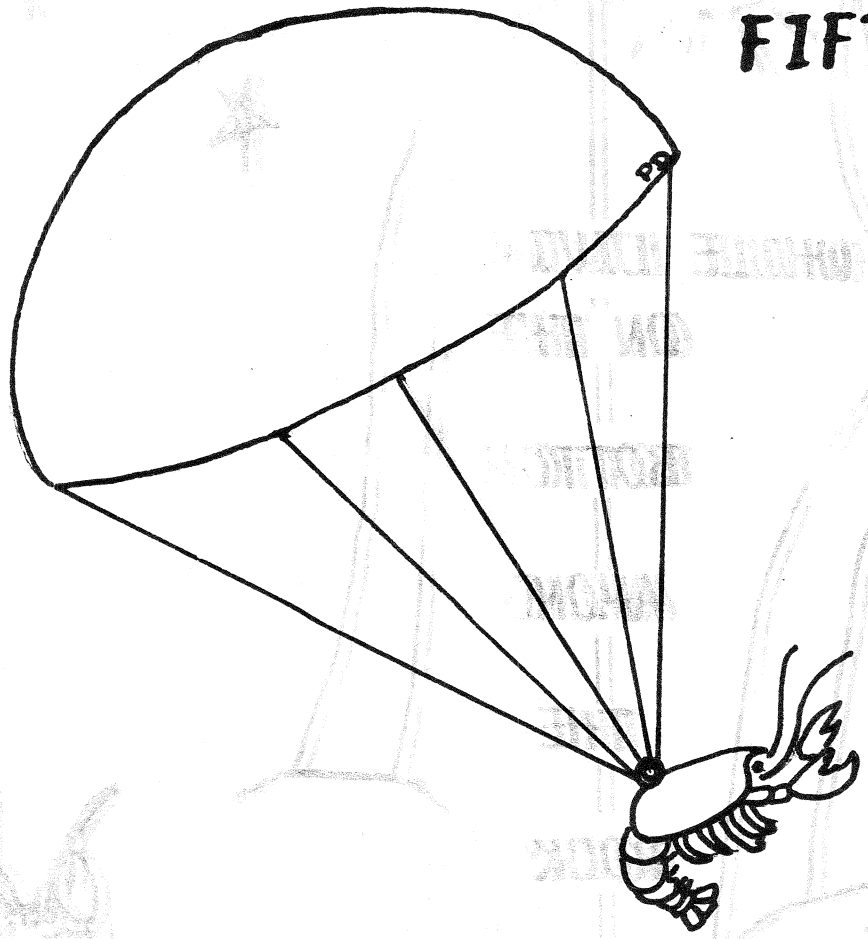
THEY MUST ALSO FIND



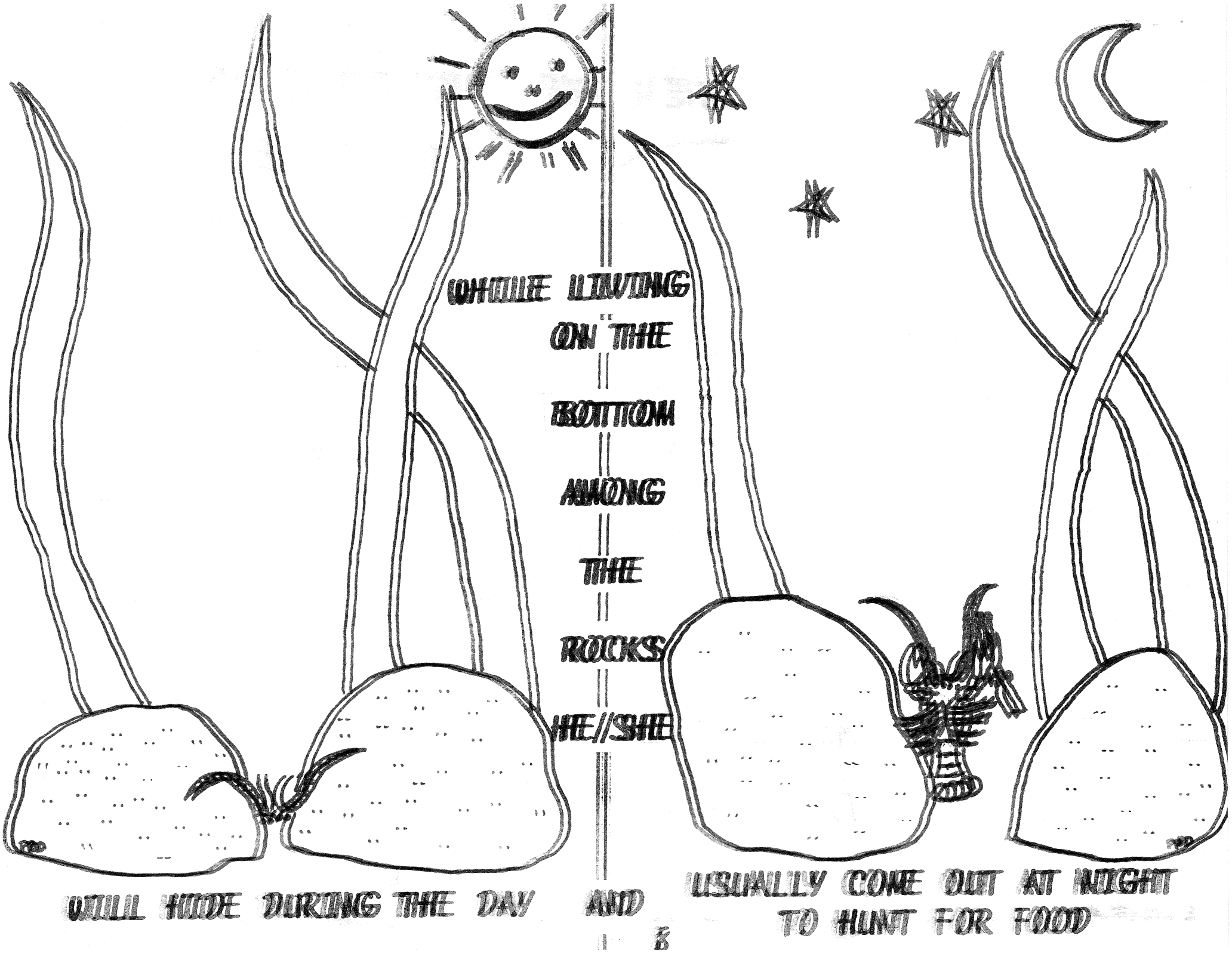
MICROSCOPIC FOOD

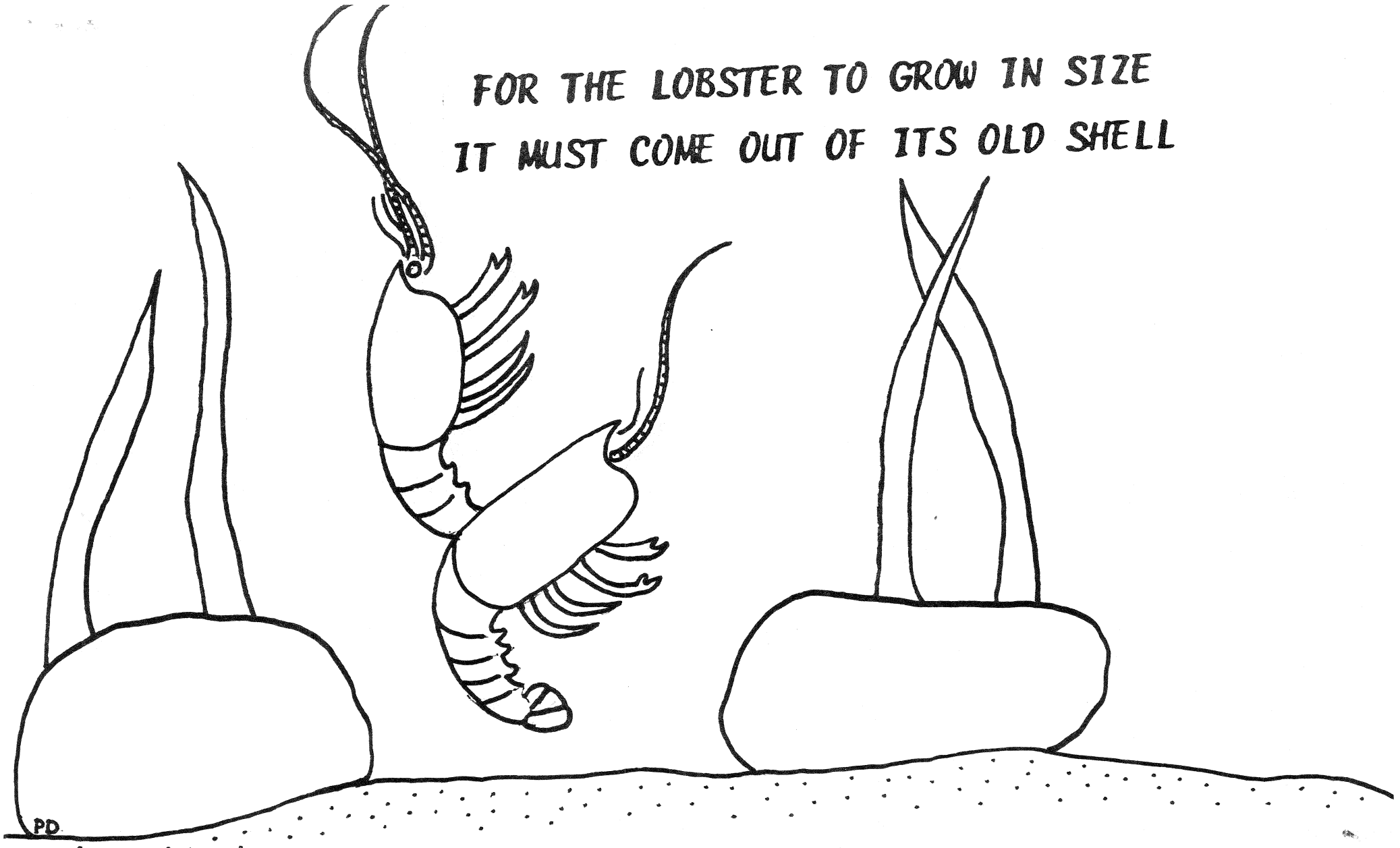
IF THEY ARE TO SURVIVE

WHEN THE LOBSTER REACHES THE FIFTH STAGE



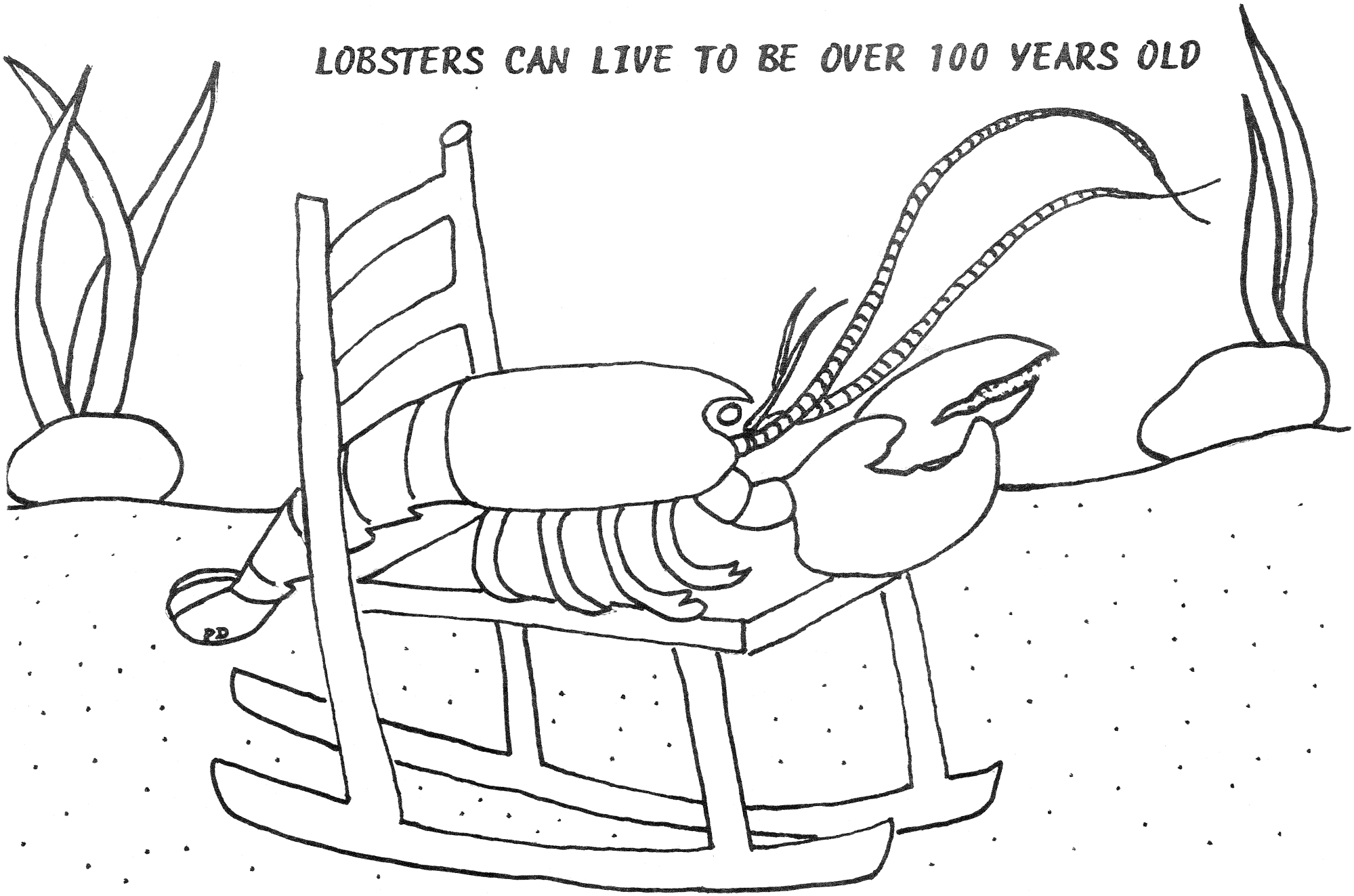
HE/SHE IS READY TO RETURN TO THE OCEAN FLOOR TO START LIFE AS A BOTTOM DWELLER


WHILE LIVING
ON THE
BOTTOM
AMONG
THE
ROCKS
HE//SHE
WILL HIDE DURING THE DAY AND
USUALLY COME OUT AT NIGHT
TO HUNT FOR FOOD



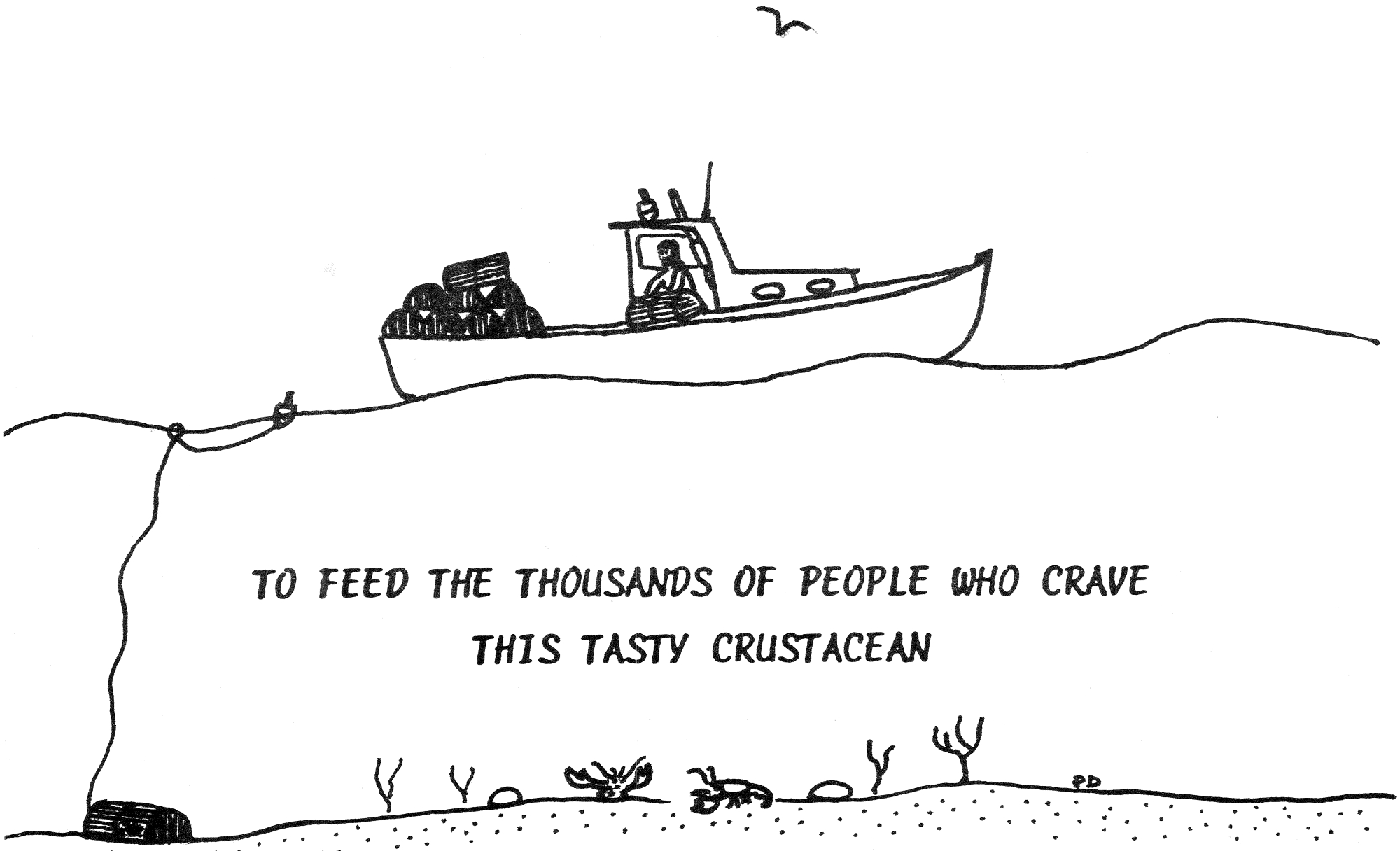
A NEW SHELL HAS ALREADY FORMED UNDER THE OLD ONE, BUT IT IS VERY SOFT AND IT WILL REQUIRE SEVERAL DAYS TO HARDEN. DURING THIS PERIOD THE LOBSTER IS IN DANGER OF BEING ATTACKED

LOBSTERS CAN LIVE TO BE OVER 100 YEARS OLD



AND GROW TO BE 3 FEET (or more) IN LENGTH

EVERY YEAR HUNDREDS OF FISHERMEN GO OUT AND CATCH THE "LOBSTER"



TO FEED THE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO CRAVE
THIS TASTY CRUSTACEAN