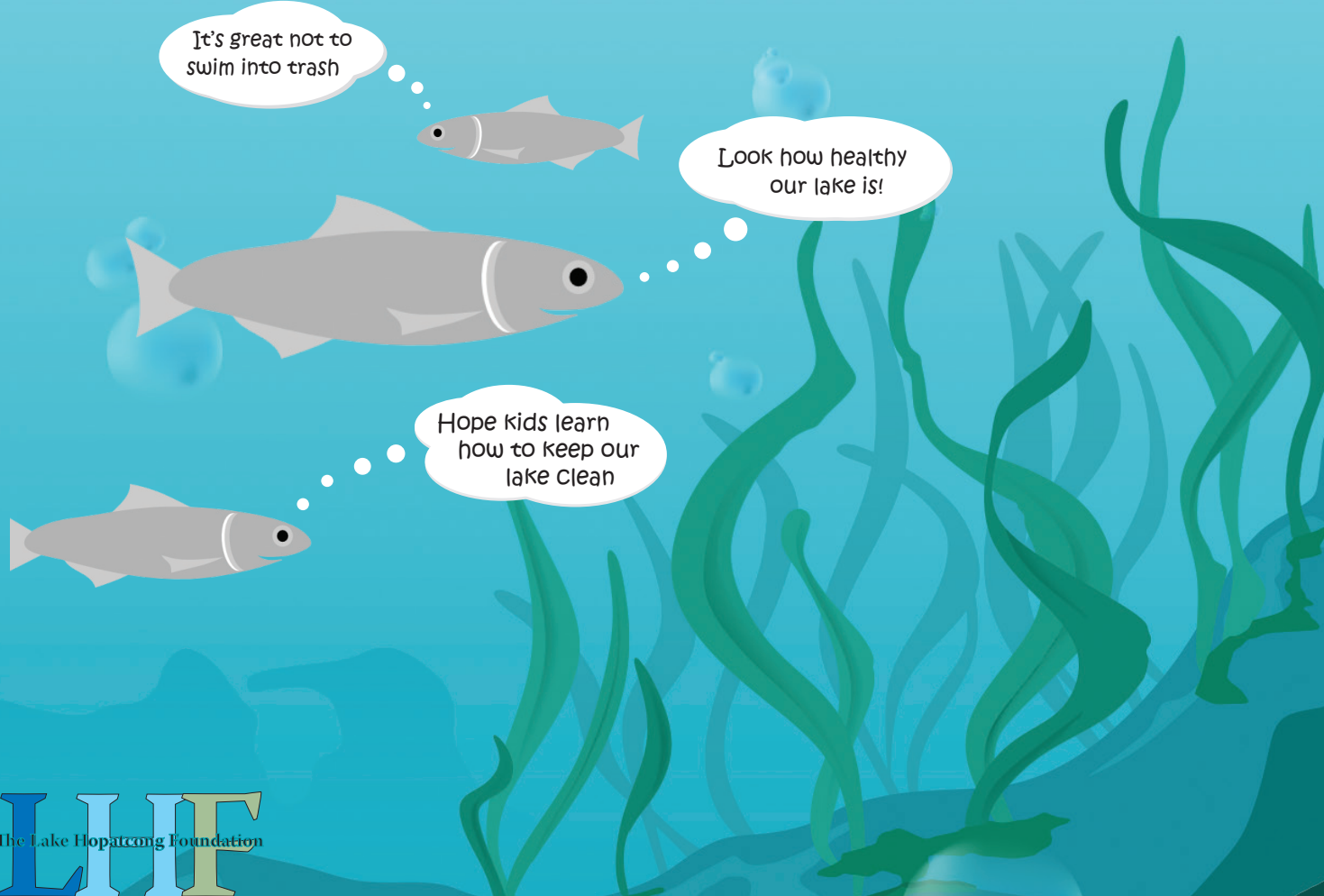




# LIFE AROUND THE LAKE

## Lake Hopatcong Games and Activities



It's great not to  
swim into trash

Look how healthy  
our lake is!

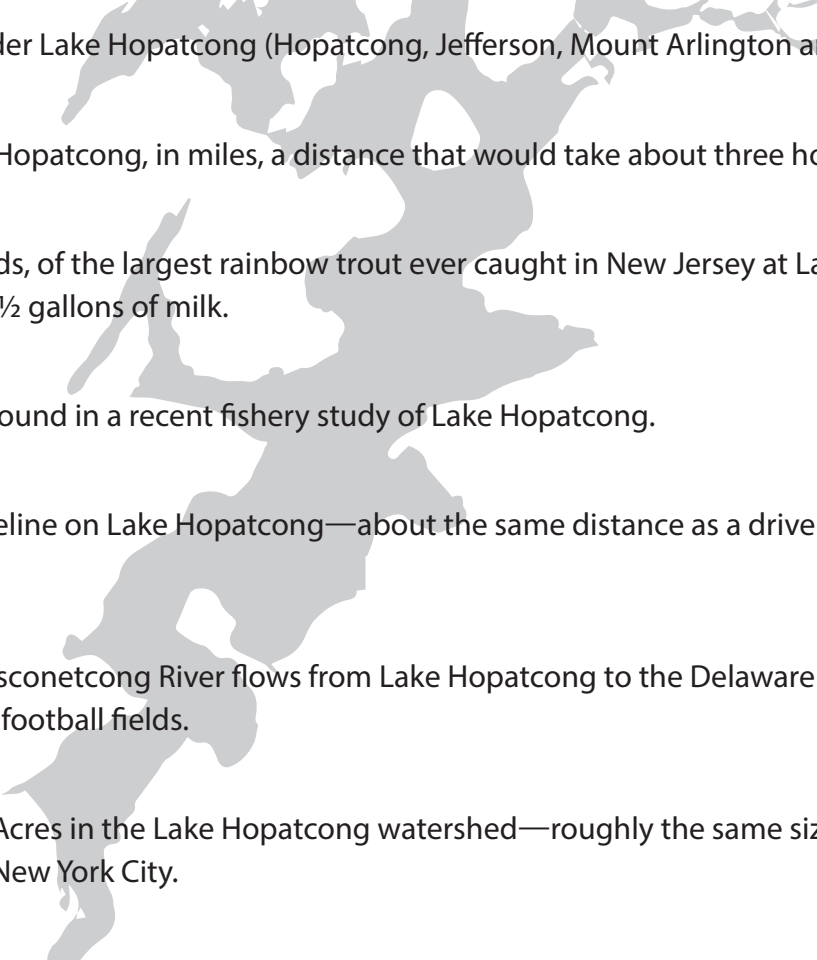
Hope kids learn  
how to keep our  
lake clean

# The Lake Hopatcong Watershed

A lake is not just like a huge bucket of water. There's a lot more to it than that. The life of a lake includes hills, slopes, plants, trees, streams, rivers... pretty much every part of the land surrounding it. It's called a watershed. A watershed is an area of land that drains into a body of water. Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes. Some are as small as a backyard that drains into a pond, others are thousands of acres in size. No matter where you are, you are in a watershed! Lake Hopatcong is in the Middle Delaware–Musconetcong Watershed.

Lake Hopatcong is the largest of the more than 3,500 lakes, reservoirs and ponds in New Jersey! It drains into the Musconetcong River and has more types of game fish than any other lake or waterway within the state.

Let's take a look at Lake Hopatcong and its watershed by the numbers:

- 
- 4:** Towns that border Lake Hopatcong (Hopatcong, Jefferson, Mount Arlington and Roxbury).
  - 9:** Length of Lake Hopatcong, in miles, a distance that would take about three hours to walk.
  - 13:** Size, in pounds, of the largest rainbow trout ever caught in New Jersey at Lake Hopatcong—about as heavy as 1½ gallons of milk.
  - 28:** Fish species found in a recent fishery study of Lake Hopatcong.
  - 45:** Miles of shoreline on Lake Hopatcong—about the same distance as a drive from the lake to New York City.
  - 46:** Miles the Musconetcong River flows from Lake Hopatcong to the Delaware River, which is as long as about 810 football fields.
  - 13,500:** Acres in the Lake Hopatcong watershed—roughly the same size as Manhattan in New York City.
  - 9,745,000,000:** The most water, in gallons, ever officially recorded in Lake Hopatcong, enough to fill nearly 15,000 Olympic-size swimming pools.



# Nature Discoveries

When you're out in nature, take the time to appreciate what you see, hear, smell and feel. How many of the items below did you notice on your nature hike? Add other items you found to the list and draw some of your favorites into the picture!

- Ladybug
- Animal footprint
- Bird feather
- Pinecone
- Acorn
- Spiderweb
- Bird's nest
- Wild mushroom
- Green moss
- Worm
- Animal hole (in the ground)
- Insect bites in a leaf
- Stream/river
- Fallen branch
- Ferns

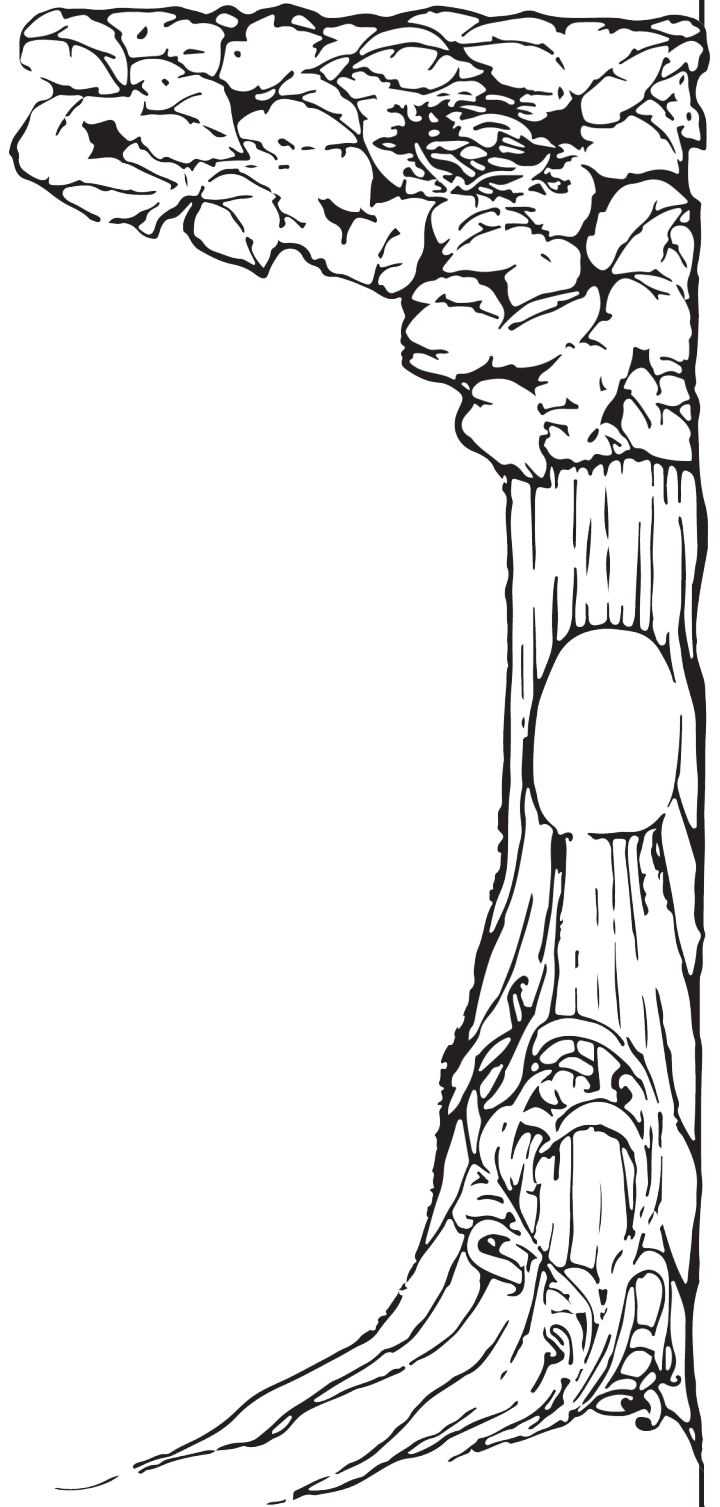
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# Museum Mix-Up

The Lake Hopatcong Museum archives have gotten all mixed-up! Use the clues to unscramble the words and help get the archives back in order.

**The first people to live at Lake Hopatcong are called:**

NEPLEA

\_\_\_\_\_

**This “road on water” helped move people and supplies:**

SROMRI LAANC

\_\_\_\_\_

**This mineral was transported across the lake after leaving the mines:**

RNIO ERO

\_\_\_\_\_

**During their vacations at the lake thousands of people stayed in:**

SHELTO

\_\_\_\_\_

**The creative and productive inventor once lived in Lake Hopatcong:**

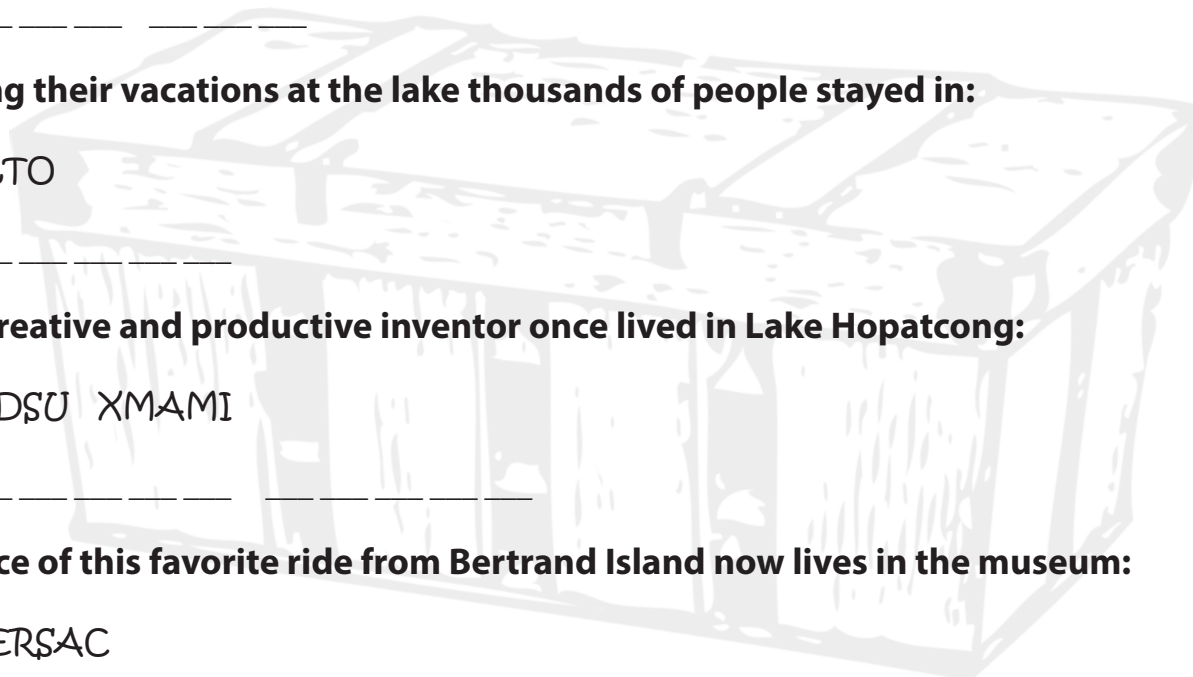
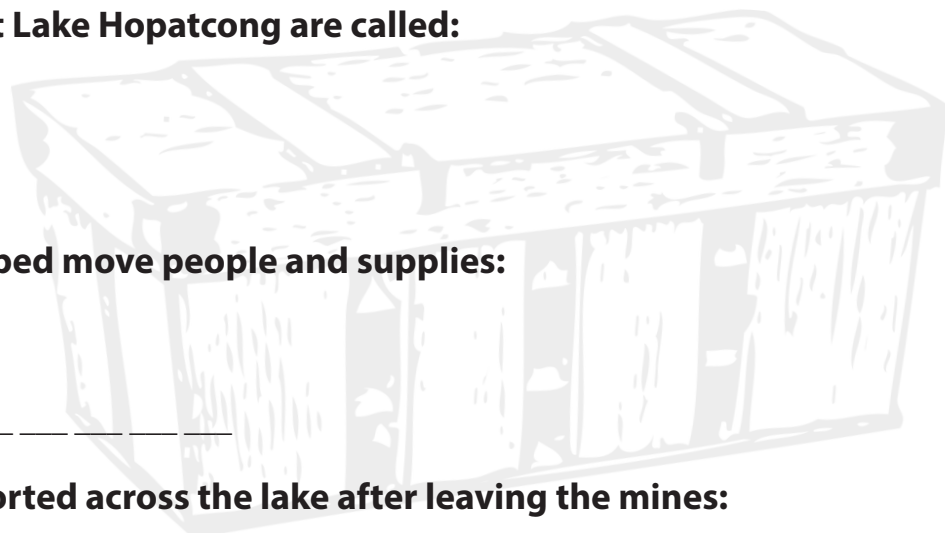
NOHDSU XMAMI

\_\_\_\_\_

**A piece of this favorite ride from Bertrand Island now lives in the museum:**

UOLERSAC

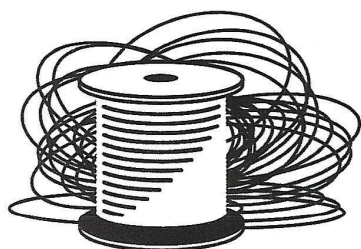
\_\_\_\_\_



# How Long Will it Take?

It takes just a moment for an item to be carelessly discarded or blown by the wind into the woods or a lake, but it can take many, many years for that item to degrade. Test your knowledge about degradation times. Draw a line between each item (left) and its estimated degradation time (right). Degradation times can be used more than once.

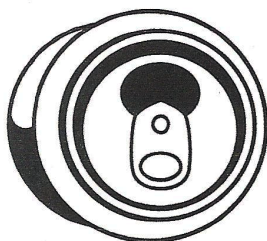
How long will it take for these items to decompose?



Fishing Line



Cigarette Filter



Aluminum Can



Glass Bottle



Banana Peel

Undetermined

MANY years

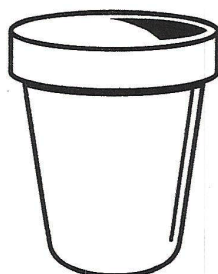
A few years

A few months

A few weeks



Milk Carton



Styrofoam Cup



Plastic Beverage Bottle

# No Excuses

## Have you ever littered and thought you had a good reason for it?

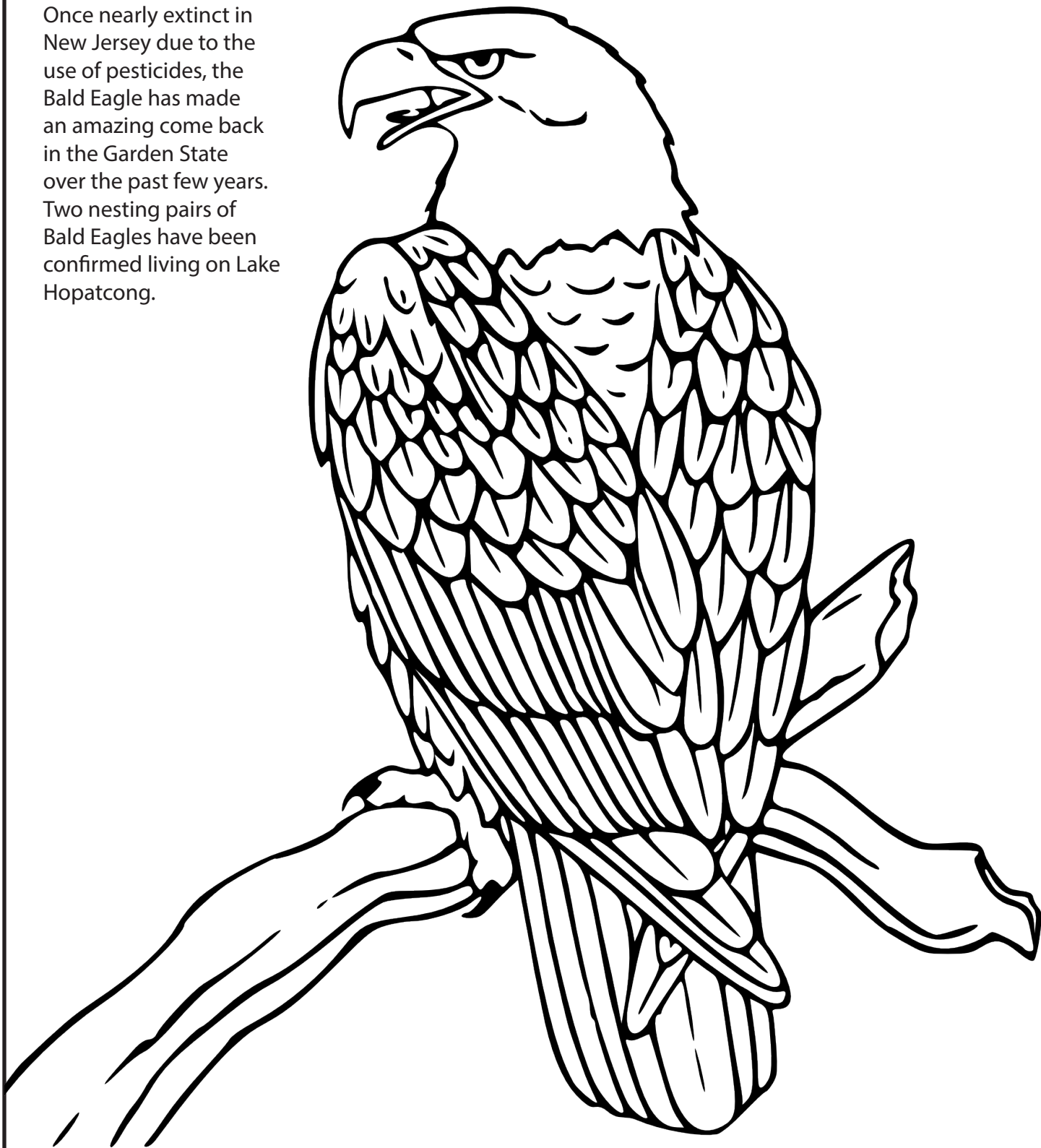
When people litter, they sometimes think they have a good reason for it, but, there is NEVER a good excuse for littering. Take a look at the list of reasons people use for littering. Put a check mark next to the excuses you have heard people use when they litter.

If your friends and family use these excuses, remind them there are no good excuses for littering and ask them to throw their trash away in a trash can.

- There's already trash there.
- I only did it one time.
- Why shouldn't I?
- Nobody told me not to.
- I don't want to mess up my backpack.
- The trash can was just too yucky to touch.
- It's too hard to find a trash can.
- It's so tiny, it won't matter.
- Mom would get upset if she knew I ate a snack before dinner.
- Bees were around the trash can.
- Everyone else does it!
- I saw an adult do it.
- Someone will pick it up for me.
- I don't care about the forest.
- It's JUST a candy wrapper.
- There wasn't a sign telling me not to litter.
- It's too heavy to carry.
- It fell out of my pocket.
- Nobody saw me.
- Nobody cares.

# Bald Eagle

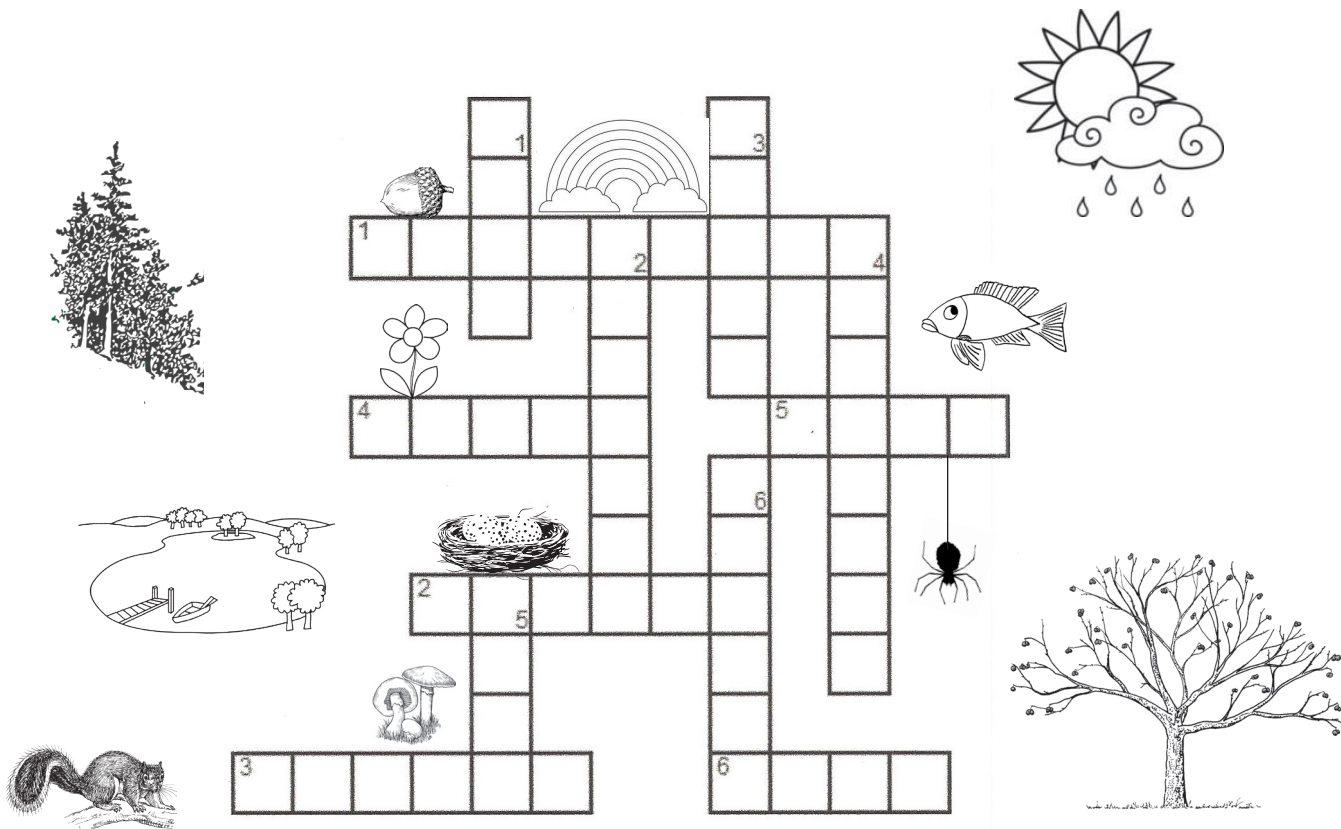
Once nearly extinct in New Jersey due to the use of pesticides, the Bald Eagle has made an amazing come back in the Garden State over the past few years. Two nesting pairs of Bald Eagles have been confirmed living on Lake Hopatcong.





# Nature Criss-Cross

Complete the crossword by filling in a word that fits each clue. The pictures are additional hints.



## ACROSS

1. A fungus (plural) sometimes found on pizza
2. A plant that blooms
3. A small creature with 8 legs
4. An oval nut that is the fruit of an oak tree
5. A creature that lives in water and has fins
6. A tall plant that has a hard trunk, branches and leaves

## DOWN

1. Where a bird lays its eggs
2. An arch of different colors you can sometimes see in the sky after it rains
3. A collection of tiny water droplets in the sky
4. A small animal with a bushy tail
5. A large inland body of water
6. A large area where trees grow close together

# The Three Rs of Good Stewardship

Good stewards protect and promote a clean, safe environment through their own actions - making our planet a place where future generations of both humans and animals will thrive.

Hidden in the phrase below are the three most important words to remember if you want to be a good steward of your environment. Link the missing letters in the phrase (in order) to spell out these words.

Pu<sub>1.</sub>chasing and r<sub>2.</sub>using <sub>3.</sub>isposable prod<sub>4.</sub>ucts  
 lik<sub>6.</sub> plastic containe<sub>7.</sub>s, groc<sub>8.</sub>ery bags, foam c<sub>9.</sub>ups  
 and gla<sub>10.</sub>s jars reduces th<sub>11.</sub> amount of t<sub>12.</sub>rash we  
 gen<sub>13.</sub>erate thereby redu<sub>14.</sub>ing the man<sub>15.</sub> pieces of  
 litter that <sub>16.</sub>an possib<sub>17.</sub>ly becom<sub>18.</sub> marine debris!

\_\_\_\_\_

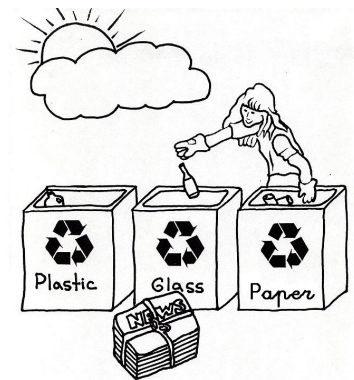
1.                    2.                    3.                    4.                    5.                    6.

\_\_\_\_\_

7.                    8.                    9.                    10.                    11.

\_\_\_\_\_

12.                    13.                    14.                    15.                    16.                    17.                    18.



# Museum Madness

The Lake Hopatcong Historical Museum is a fun and interesting place to visit. Many people are very serious about the history of Lake Hopatcong and visit it to learn about what it was like many years ago. Sometimes, though, it's fun to just be silly. Without reading the story out loud, ask someone else to come up with words so you can fill in the blanks. Then read the whole story and make history hilarious!

## It was fun to visit the Lake Hopatcong Historical Museum

The museum is in a \_\_\_\_\_ building that used to be the home of \_\_\_\_\_  
adjective female teacher's name

more than \_\_\_\_\_ years ago. It is located near a \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ and  
number pizza place planet name

has many displays of old \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ items that are related to  
noun plural adjective

historical Lake \_\_\_\_\_, which is New Jersey's most \_\_\_\_\_ body of water.  
male singer's last name adjective

We learned that the lake is the source of the \_\_\_\_\_ we drink every day. The lake used to be  
a liquid

a very \_\_\_\_\_ place years ago. Many famous \_\_\_\_\_ visited it and brought  
adjective animals

\_\_\_\_\_ for vacations. They all used to \_\_\_\_\_ in the lake and explore the  
a group of people verb

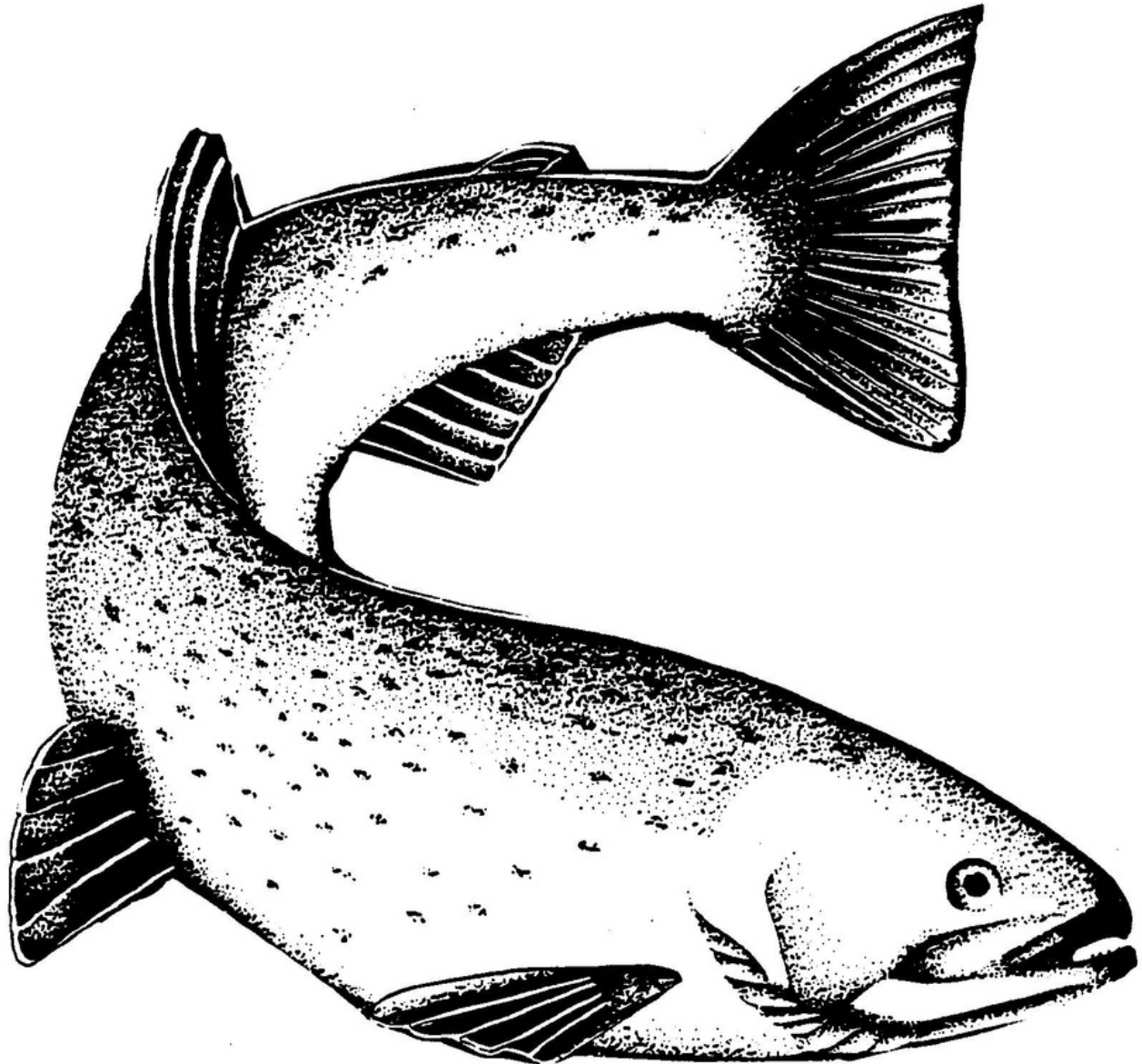
\_\_\_\_\_ nearby. It was also romantic so couples \_\_\_\_\_ there a lot.  
plural noun past tense verb

Some men even asked their girlfriends to \_\_\_\_\_ them and gave them a \_\_\_\_\_  
verb adjective

to wear on their finger. The history of the lake is \_\_\_\_\_!  
adjective

# Rainbow Trout

Rainbow trout are colorful fish. Their bodies are blue-green or yellow-green and have a rose-colored strip along each side. Their bellies are white and they have tiny black spots too.



# Watershed Word Sleuth

Find and circle all the words hidden in the puzzle. The words may be placed horizontally, vertically or diagonally and may read forward or backward.

S	D	S	D	X	D	R	A	F	R	X	K	M	D	Y	Y	N	I	M	T
S	E	H	I	U	R	H	B	R	F	X	D	E	P	V	M	E	U	Q	H
P	U	O	C	I	C	J	E	F	V	O	H	D	F	R	N	P	J	L	D
O	A	F	V	X	Z	R	M	S	P	L	N	E	I	V	S	D	F	D	F
L	O	E	M	V	W	N	E	J	L	Z	A	U	I	T	O	B	S	E	E
L	R	V	A	F	U	R	Y	E	E	Y	T	R	R	S	Q	L	K	H	Y
U	J	R	S	Q	N	A	Y	T	K	B	O	E	U	K	B	E	F	S	U
T	I	I	R	O	W	I	T	Y	O	N	A	K	R	B	M	K	I	R	E
I	K	D	E	Y	J	N	P	Y	M	M	I	K	O	G	T	R	C	E	B
O	X	G	T	B	V	W	D	E	V	E	L	O	P	M	E	N	T	T	C
N	G	E	A	F	A	A	N	U	O	J	S	Y	E	S	Z	V	M	A	K
H	L	P	W	B	G	T	F	C	B	U	H	B	E	L	Y	L	A	W	O
H	W	L	D	M	Q	E	A	G	R	P	Q	R	A	W	Z	M	X	T	A
Y	L	A	A	R	G	R	F	I	A	O	V	K	X	Z	U	O	T	Z	M
C	F	F	E	P	L	V	T	R	Z	O	E	B	W	I	J	U	B	E	V
W	C	H	H	Z	X	Q	G	N	I	F	A	A	J	Z	A	N	W	B	S
R	A	O	U	A	O	O	X	R	D	A	I	S	P	W	S	T	M	X	L
P	S	A	M	Z	E	S	O	K	M	M	H	I	T	F	E	A	L	Z	K
W	G	Z	U	G	P	M	A	E	R	T	S	N	W	O	D	I	U	G	Z
D	X	S	D	N	A	L	T	E	W	R	A	B	X	P	O	N	L	A	W

- WATERSHED
- ENVIRONMENT
- LAKE
- RIVER
- HEADWATERS
- CREEK
- RIDGE
- MOUNTAIN
- GEOGRAPHY
- BASIN
- RAINWATER
- DEVELOPMENT
- RUNOFF
- RESERVOIR
- UPSTREAM
- DOWNSTREAM
- WETLANDS
- POLLUTION



# Macroinvertebrate Match-Up

Draw arrows to match each macroinvertebrate with the correct name. Then color them in!

**Helgamite**



**Crayfish**



**Mayfly**



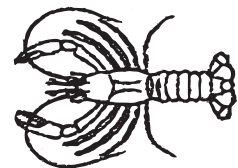
**Stonefly**



**Flatworm**



**Caddisfly**



**Air Breathing Snail**

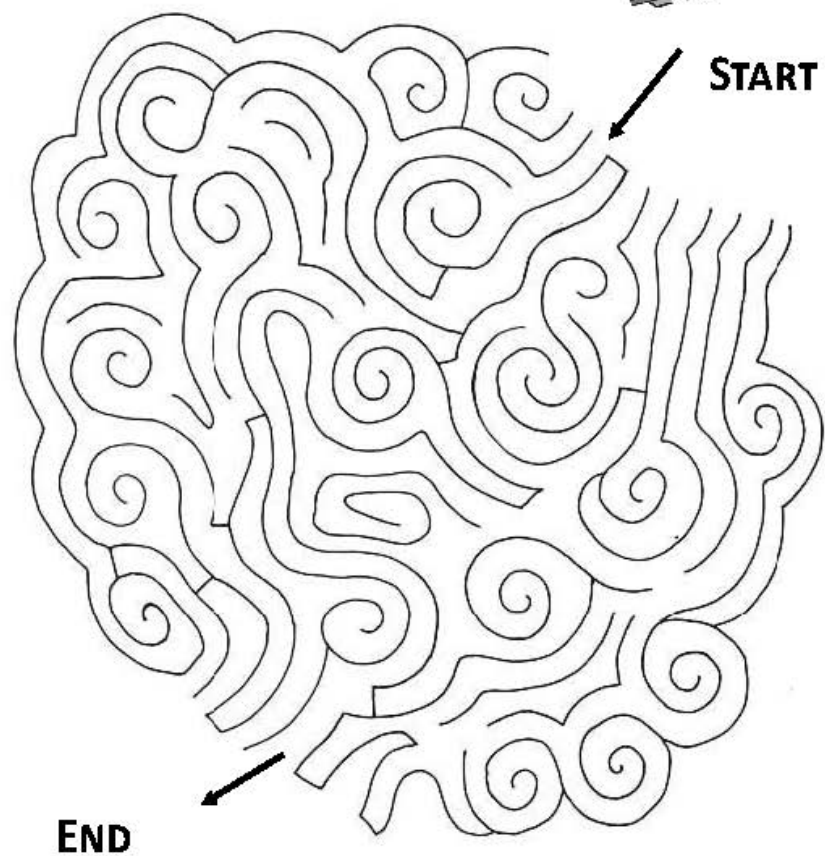


**Midge**



# Help Get the Iron Ore to the Canal

Iron ore from the mines was transported across Lake Hopatcong. Can you steer this shipment across the lake to the Morris Canal?



# Beat the Clock

Set a timer and see how many new words you can create in 5 minutes using the letters found in LAKE HOPATCONG. There are two "O"s and two "A"s in LAKE HOPATCONG so your new words can contain doubles of these letters. Challenge a friend and see who can find the most words in the time limit!



Example: CAP _____	9. _____	20. _____
Example: POKE _____	10. _____	21. _____
Example: LATCH _____	11. _____	22. _____
1. _____	12. _____	23. _____
2. _____	13. _____	24. _____
3. _____	14. _____	25. _____
4. _____	15. _____	26. _____
5. _____	16. _____	27. _____
6. _____	17. _____	28. _____
7. _____	18. _____	29. _____
8. _____	19. _____	30. _____



# Answer Key:

## Learning About the Health of the River (page 2)

CLASS 1 BUGS ARE THE BEST- indication of a healthy river!

## Museum Mix-Up (page 4)

Lenape

Morris Canal

Iron ore

Hotels

Hudson Maxim

Carousel

## How Long Will it Take? (page 5)

Glass bottle - Undetermined

Fishing line - MANY years/Undetermined

Plastic beverage bottle - MANY years/Undetermined

Aluminum can - MANY years

Styrofoam cup - MANY years/Undetermined

Cigarette filter - MANY years

Milk carton - A few months

Banana peel - A few weeks

## Nature Criss-Cross (page 8)

Across

Down

1. Mushrooms

1. Nest

2. Flower

2. Rainbow

3. Spider

3. Cloud

4. Acorn

4. Squirrel

5. Fish

5. Lake

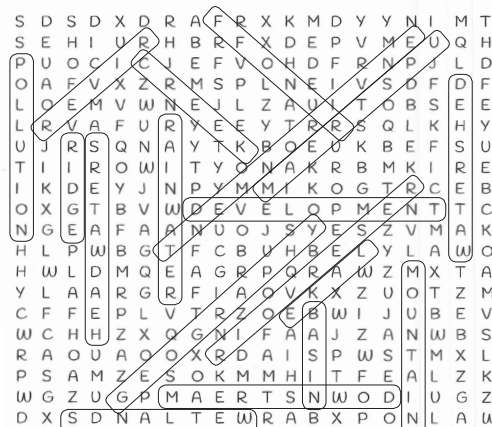
6. Tree

6. Forest

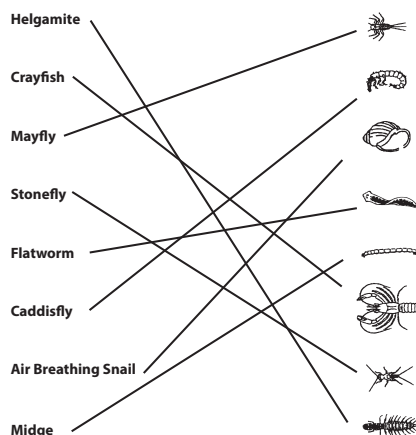
## The Three Rs of Good Stewardship (page 9)

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

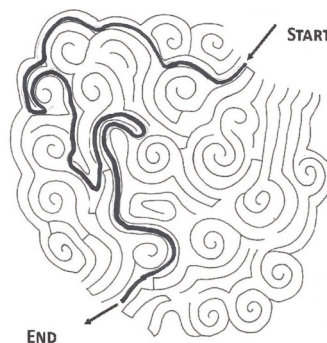
## Watershed Word Sleuth (Page 12)



## Macroinvertebrate Match-Up (page 13)



## Help Get the Iron Ore to the Canal (page 14)





The Lake Hopatcong Foundation is dedicated to fostering and encouraging a vibrant and healthy Lake Hopatcong and its surrounding community.

Our mission is reflected in our projects and initiatives—in the areas of Environment, Education, Community Building, Historical Preservation, Public Safety, Recreation, Arts and Culture – all of which focus on improving the lake environment and experience.

As a nonprofit, membership donations are crucial in helping us to continue and expand our programming and initiatives from aquatic invasive species prevention to improved safety to educational field trips and more.

Please become a member today at **[LakeHopatcongFoundation.org](https://LakeHopatcongFoundation.org)**.



The Lake Hopatcong Foundation ♦ 125 Landing Raod, Landing, NJ 07850 ♦ 973-663-2500