Table of Contents

Introduction

How to Use This Curriculum iii

New England

Unit 1..... 1
- Lessons 1 and 2 - Maine
- Lessons 3 and 4 - New Hampshire

Unit 2..... 19
- Lessons 5 and 6 - Vermont
- Lessons 7 and 8 - Massachusetts

Unit 3..... 37
- Lessons 9 and 10 - Rhode Island
- Lessons 11 and 12 - Connecticut

Mid-Atlantic

Unit 4..... 55
- Lessons 13 and 14 - New York
- Lessons 15 and 16 - Pennsylvania

Unit 5..... 73
- Lessons 17 and 18 - New Jersey
- Lessons 19 and 20 - Delaware

Unit 6..... 91
- Lessons 21 and 22 - Maryland
- Lessons 23 and 24 - Washington, D.C.

South

Unit 7..... 109
- Lessons 25 and 26 - Virginia
- Lessons 27 and 28 - West Virginia

Unit 8..... 127
- Lessons 29 and 30 - Kentucky
- Lessons 31 and 32 - Tennessee

Unit 9..... 145
- Lessons 33 and 34 - North Carolina
- Lessons 35 and 36 - South Carolina

Unit 10..... 163
- Lessons 37 and 38 - Georgia
- Lessons 39 and 40 - Alabama

Unit 11..... 181
- Lessons 41 and 42 - Mississippi
- Lessons 43 and 44 - Arkansas

Unit 12..... 199
- Lessons 45 and 46 - Louisiana
- Lessons 47 and 48 - Florida

Midwest

Unit 13..... 217
Lessons 49 and 50 - Michigan
Lessons 51 and 52 - Ohio

Unit 14..... 235
Lessons 53 and 54 - Indiana
Lessons 55 and 56 - Illinois

Unit 15..... 271
Lessons 57 and 58 - Wisconsin
Lessons 58 and 60 - Minnesota

Unit 16..... 289
Lessons 61 and 62 - Iowa
Lessons 63 and 64 - Missouri

Unit 17..... 307
Lessons 65 and 66 - Kansas
Lessons 67 and 68 - Nebraska

Unit 18..... 325
Lessons 69 and 70 - South Dakota
Lessons 71 and 72 - North Dakota

Rocky Mountains

Unit 19..... 343
Lessons 73 and 74 - Montana
Lessons 75 and 76 - Idaho

Unit 20..... 361
Lessons 77 and 78 - Wyoming
Lessons 79 and 80 - Colorado

Unit 21..... 379
Lessons 81 and 82 - Utah
Lessons 83 and 84 - Nevada

Southwest

Unit 22..... 397
Lessons 85 and 86 - Oklahoma
Lessons 87 and 88 - Texas

Unit 23..... 415
Lessons 89 and 90 - New Mexico
Lessons 91 and 92 - Arizona

Pacific

Unit 24..... 433
Lessons 93 and 94 - California
Lessons 95 and 96 - Oregon

Unit 25..... 451
Lessons 97 and 98 - Washington
Lessons 99 and 100 - Alaska

Hawaii and U.S. Territories

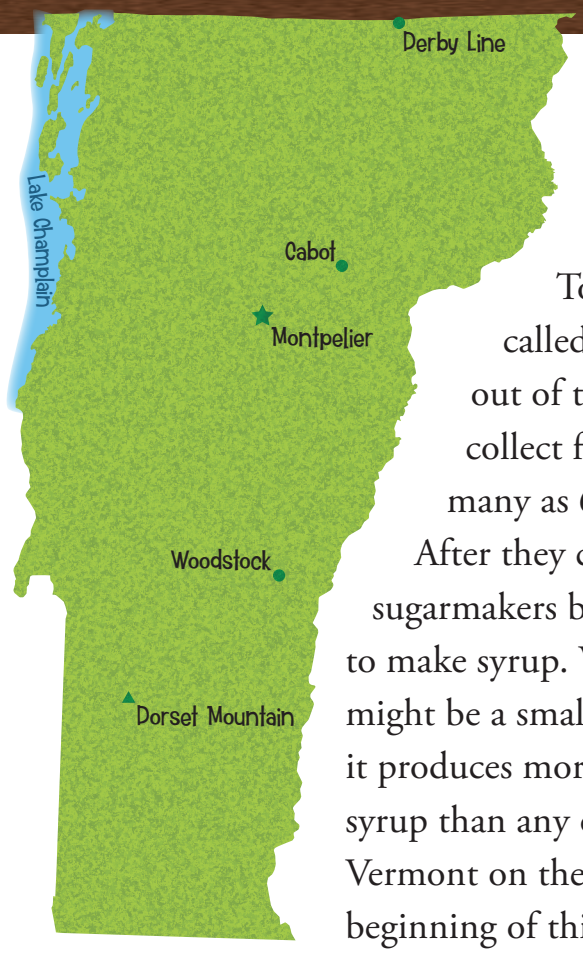
Unit 26..... 469
Lessons 101 and 102 - Hawaii
Lessons 103 and 104 - U.S. Territories



Stowe, Vermont

Unit 2
New England:
Vermont and Massachusetts

Lesson 5: Vermont



Imagine a pile of pancakes with maple syrup running down the sides. Yum! Maple syrup comes from maple trees. Vermont is full of maple trees. To make the syrup, sugarmakers drill little holes called taps into the trunks of maple trees. The sap drips out of the taps and collects in buckets. Some sugarmakers collect from as many as 60,000 taps! After they collect it, sugarmakers boil the sap to make syrup. Vermont might be a small state, but it produces more maple syrup than any other. Find Vermont on the map at the beginning of this book.



Tapping a maple in Vermont

Cabot Creamery

In 1919 dairy farmers in **Cabot**, Vermont, needed a way to use their extra milk. Ninety-four farmers joined together and started a business. They used the extra milk from their cows to make butter. They sold the butter throughout New England. In 1930 the company began making cheese as well.



Cabot cheese

Today around eight hundred dairy farm families from all over the northeast work together to supply the milk for Cabot Creamery. In addition to cheese, the creamery in Cabot makes Greek-style yogurt, cottage cheese, and sour cream. Cabot won the World's Best Cheddar award at the 2006 World Champion Cheese Contest.



Near Cabot, Vermont

Capital: Montpelier

Montpelier is our country's smallest state capital. Less than 8,000 people live in the city. (Compare that to Indiana's capital city with over 800,000 people and Arizona's capital with over 1,600,000!)

In 1805 the government of Vermont decided that Montpelier would be the state capital if the citizens of Montpelier could build the state house. The people wanted to help, but not everyone had money to donate. Some donated building materials instead. Some donated vegetables, grain, butter, and cheese. These items could be sold to buy wood, glass, and nails. People donated their time and carpentry skills. Residents agreed for the town to raise taxes to cover the rest of the cost of the building.

Montpelier finished the first state house in 1808. In 1836 the government moved into a new, larger state house. A fire broke out in that state house on a January night in 1857. The people of Montpelier rushed to throw chunks of frozen snow into the burning building. Sadly, they could not put out the fire and it destroyed the building.

While they waited for a new state house, Vermont's government met in a county courthouse and a local church building. Workers completed a third state house two years later. The government of Vermont has used their third state house ever since. Today's senators sit in the same chairs at the same desks the senators used in 1857.



Vermont State House



Inside the Danby Quarry

Danby Quarry

Vermont is home to the largest underground marble quarry in the world. Workers have been cutting marble out of the Danby Quarry under **Dorset Mountain** since 1903. Workers also operate an underground factory at the quarry. There they prepare slabs of marble for people to use in building projects around the world.

Vermont Fossils

Lake Champlain lies between Vermont and New York. The lake has abundant fish, attracting fishermen from far and wide. The area around the lake fascinates geologists (scientists who study the earth). They come to the lake to study the fossilized coral reef there. Coral reefs form in the ocean, so apparently Vermont was once under the ocean.

In 1848 railroad workers were laying a track south of Lake Champlain. As they worked along, they dug up part of a fossilized mammoth. The next year, while working on the same railroad, workers discovered the fossilized bones of a beluga whale. It is obvious that long ago, Vermont was a very different place from what it is now!



Lake Champlain

Haskell Free Library and Opera House

Martha Stewart Haskell was Canadian. She married a man from Vermont. In 1901, after her husband's death, Mrs. Haskell decided to build a center for learning and culture in his honor. She and her son built the Haskell Free Public Library and Opera House. They had the building constructed on the border between Vermont and Quebec, Canada. The front door of the building is in **Derby Line**, Vermont, and the library books are in Rock Island, Quebec! The opera stage is in Canada, but most of the audience sits in the U.S.

Usually when someone in Canada wants to enter the United States, they have to go through an official port of entry. If a Canadian wants to visit the Haskell building, however, they are allowed to simply cross over the border on the sidewalk to get to the front door. The building continues to be a center for learning and culture, just as its founder hoped.

The mind of the prudent
acquires knowledge,
And the ear of the wise
seeks knowledge.
Proverbs 18:15



Haskell Free Library and Opera House

Activities

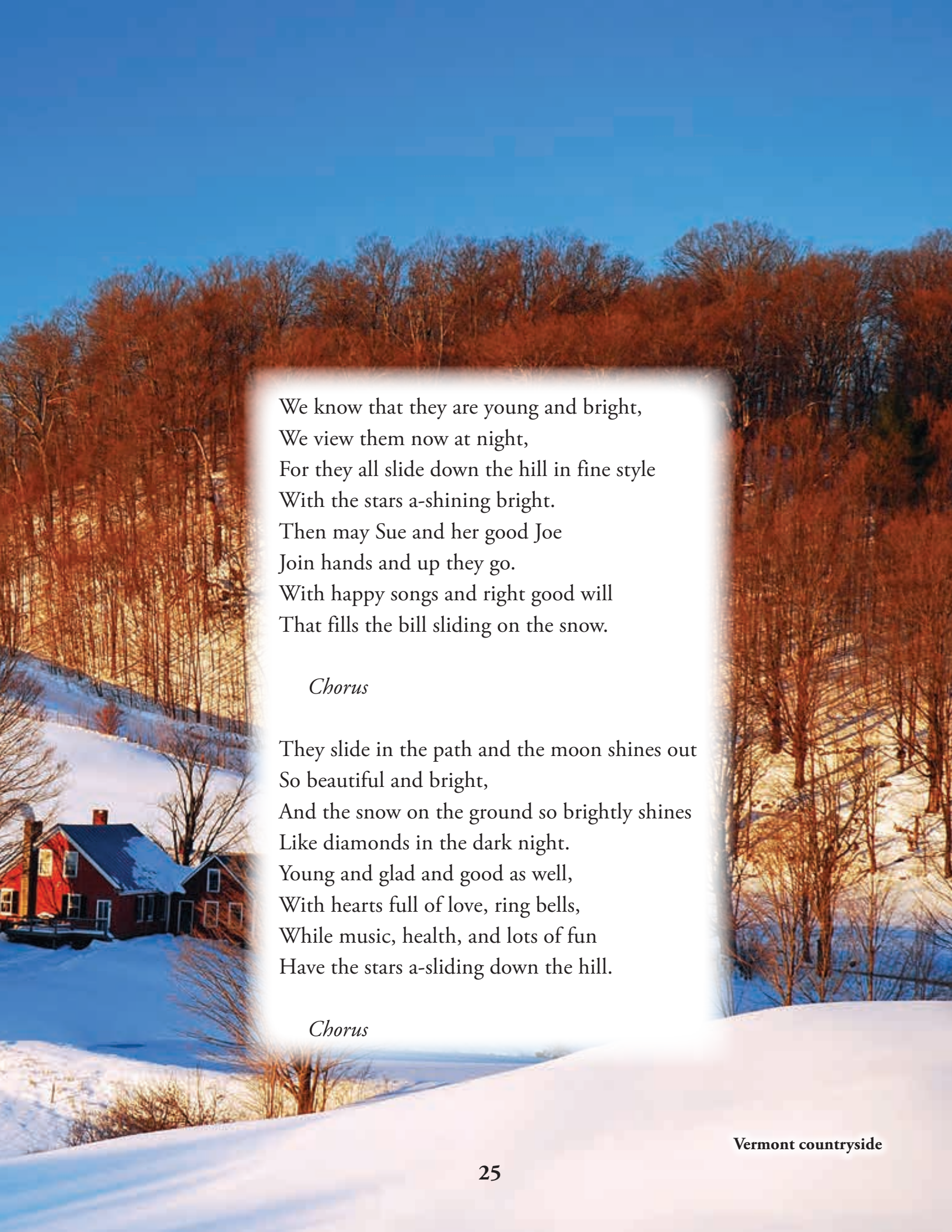
- Illustrate the geographic term for Vermont in the Atlas Workbook (page 8).
- If you are using the Lesson Review, answer the questions for Vermont (page 2).
- Read chapter 5 in *Rabbit Hill*.
- Hands-On Idea: Use building bricks or blocks to design a building for the good of your community. Decide what will be the purpose of your building.
- Family Activity: Paint Autumn in New England pictures (instructions on page 36).

Sliding Down the Hill

This sledding song by M. A. Everest was published in Vermont in 1896. (Track 1)

The stars are coming out tonight
And you ought all to know
How the young ones all play on the hill
A-sliding o'er the snow.
Come and go with me tonight
Let the stars shine as they will,
For pleasure now we must not fail
To join our friends on the sliding hill.

Chorus:
Then they go over the snow sitting on a sled,
Down the hill, bumpety-bump, leader on ahead.
Many voices shout, pull up the sled, and turn about.
Ring the bells, blow the horn, sliding down the hill.
Ring the bells, blow the horn, sliding down the hill.



We know that they are young and bright,
We view them now at night,
For they all slide down the hill in fine style
With the stars a-shining bright.
Then may Sue and her good Joe
Join hands and up they go.
With happy songs and right good will
That fills the bill sliding on the snow.

Chorus

They slide in the path and the moon shines out
So beautiful and bright,
And the snow on the ground so brightly shines
Like diamonds in the dark night.
Young and glad and good as well,
With hearts full of love, ring bells,
While music, health, and lots of fun
Have the stars a-sliding down the hill.

Chorus

Vermont countryside

Hitting the Slopes



Skier on a tow rope around 1940

It's time to bundle up in your warmest clothes. Put on your gloves, and make sure you grab a hat. Step into a pair of skis. Grab two poles and you're off! Feel the fresh mountain air as you glide down over the hard-packed snow. Bend your knees, shift your weight, and watch the trees whizz by!

By the 1930s, Americans were discovering the thrill of flying down mountainsides and across hills on skis. Skiing was becoming a pleasure sport, instead of just a useful way to travel in the snow. It was fun, but skiers had a problem. They needed an easy way to get back up to the top once they got down.

Robert and Elizabeth Royce owned an inn near **Woodstock**, Vermont. In 1934 they decided to work on a solution to this skiing problem. They rented a former sheep pasture. They purchased pulleys, a Model T Ford engine, and a rope that was 1,800 feet long. They set up a tow rope with one pulley at the top of the hill and another at the bottom.

The Royces' first ski season with their new tow rope was a success. The engine kept the rope moving between the pulleys—except when it broke down, which happened often. Still, skiers loved it. They paid $1 each for a day of skiing on the slope. Once they reached the bottom, they grabbed onto the tow rope and held on tight as it pulled them back to the top. Now they could ski down again . . . and again!



Chair lift in Vermont

The tow rope idea caught on across New England. Farmers installed them and set up places where visitors could stay on their farms. It was a new way to earn money during the long Vermont winters.

As skiing became more popular, people continued to think of new ways to get skiers back up the hill. One person tried attaching shovel handles to an overhead cable that ran up the mountainside. Someone else rigged up a harness attached to a rope that a horse pulled up the hill.

Over time people developed the chair lift style that skiers use today. One early lift designer got his ideas from a machine he had created to move bales of bananas in Honduras. The machine lifted the bananas off loading docks and loaded them onto boats. With chairs instead of banana hooks, the machine worked great for skiers.

Today millions of people from around the world hit the slopes of Vermont each year to ski—and then catch an easy ride back to the top in a chair lift.

God thunders with His voice wondrously,
Doing great things which we cannot comprehend.
For to the snow He says, "Fall on the earth,"
And to the downpour and the rain, "Be strong."
He seals the hand of every man,
That all men may know His work.
Job 37:5-7

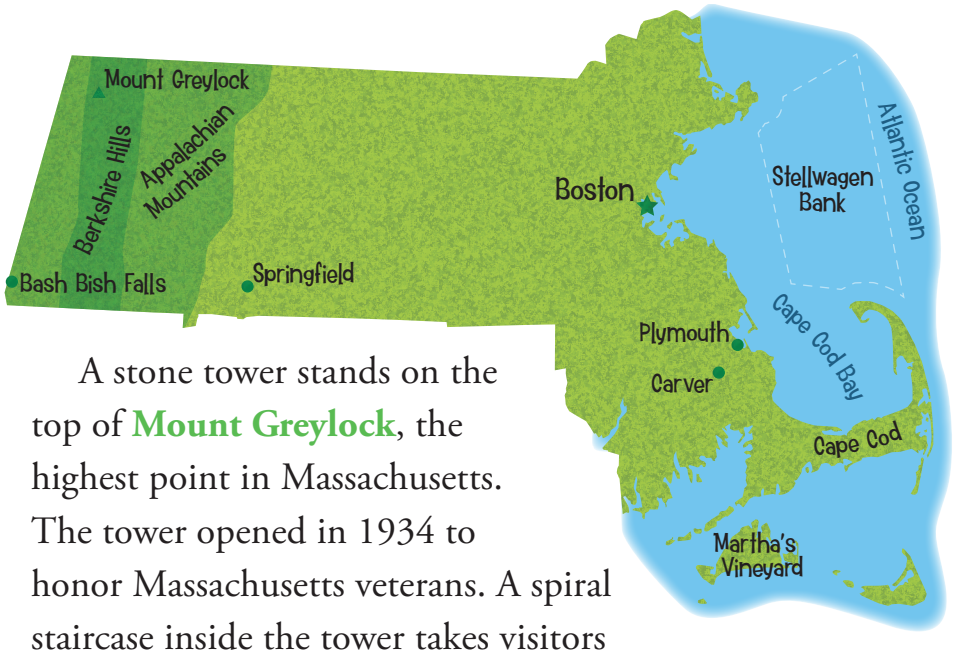


Vintage skis

Activities

- Complete the map activities for Vermont in the Atlas Workbook (page 9).
- Read chapter 6 in *Rabbit Hill*.
- Skiers have been using chair lifts for many years. It's time for a new invention. Come up with a new idea for how skiers can get back to the top of the mountain. Use your imagination (your invention doesn't have to be practical or realistic). If you are keeping a creative writing notebook, write a detailed description of your invention.

Lesson 7: Massachusetts





Mount Greylock

A stone tower stands on the top of **Mount Greylock**, the highest point in Massachusetts. The tower opened in 1934 to honor Massachusetts veterans. A spiral staircase inside the tower takes visitors to the observation level, where they can look out and see five states. Mount Greylock is in the Berkshire Hills, which are part of the Appalachian Mountains. Find Massachusetts on the map at the beginning of this book.

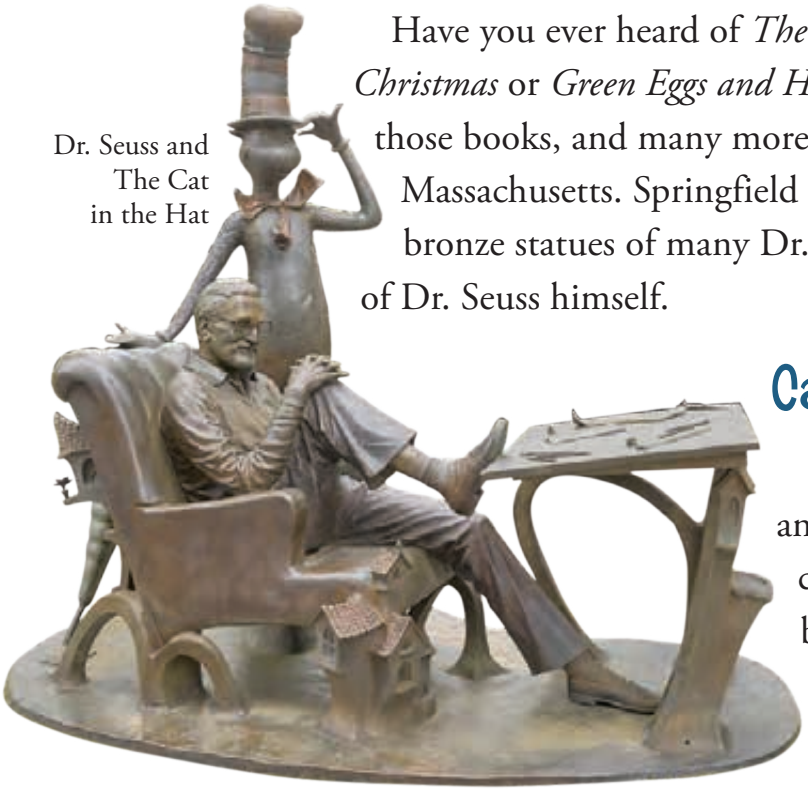
Bash Bish Falls

Bash Bish Falls tumbles down the Berkshire Hills into Bash Bish Brook. (Can you say that ten times fast?) As the water flows down, it hits a large triangular rock. Here the water divides and crashes down both sides of the rock into the brook below. The story goes that the falls and brook got their name from a Mohican woman named Bash Bish.



Bash Bish Falls

Dr. Seuss National Memorial Sculpture Garden



Dr. Seuss and The Cat in the Hat

Have you ever heard of *The Cat in the Hat* or *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* or *Green Eggs and Ham*? Dr. Seuss wrote and illustrated those books, and many more. Dr. Seuss was born in **Springfield**, Massachusetts. Springfield has a delightful sculpture garden with bronze statues of many Dr. Seuss characters. There is also a statue of Dr. Seuss himself.

Capital: Boston

Boston is the capital of Massachusetts and the largest city in New England. This city has been around since 1630, long before the United States even became a country.

Boston Common is the oldest public park in the United States. The Freedom Trail winds through Boston and leads visitors to sites that were important in the early days of our country. The state government has met in the Massachusetts State House in Boston since 1798.

Robert Paget began offering swan boat rides in Boston's Public Garden in 1877. His descendants still offer swan boat rides today. The boat drivers use their feet to pedal the boats along. Large swan figures hide the boats' pedals. The swan boats have become a beloved symbol of Boston.



Swan boats in Boston

Plimoth Plantation

Plimoth Plantation in **Plymouth** shows what life was like for the Pilgrims who landed here in 1620. Men, women, and children wearing Pilgrim costumes work in the gardens, tend the livestock, and cook meals over fires. Near the recreated village stands a Wampanoag homesite where visitors learn about the lives of the Pilgrims' neighbors.



Plimouth Plantation

Martha's Vineyard

When English settlers first came to Plymouth, the Wampanoag helped them learn how to survive here. Today some of the descendants of those Wampanoag live on **Martha's Vineyard**, an island off the coast of Massachusetts. Their town of Aquinnah is near the towering clay cliffs on the southern coast of Martha's Vineyard. The Wampanoag work together to preserve their tribe's history and culture through singing, dancing, storytelling, and traditional crafts.



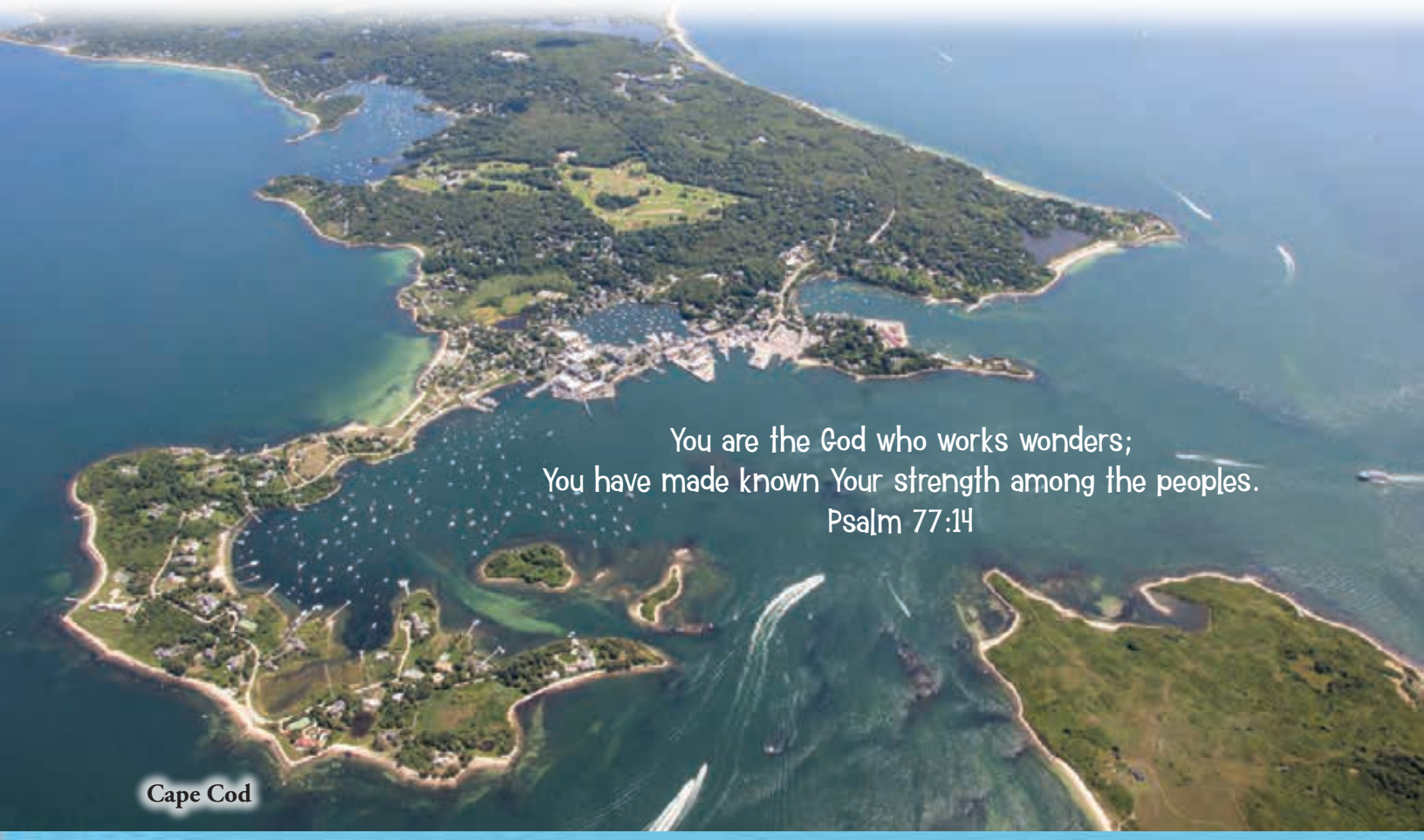
Martha's Vineyard

Visitors to Oak Bluffs on Martha's Vineyard love to stroll down the street and see the rows of brightly-colored cottages from the 1800s. Many cottages are decorated with fancy woodwork called gingerbread. The Oak Bluffs community began as a site for summertime camp meetings for Christians.

Cape Cod and Stellwagen Bank

Cape Cod extends east from the mainland of Massachusetts into the Atlantic Ocean around **Cape Cod Bay**. A cape is a narrow strip of land that juts into a body of water.

Cape Cod is near **Stellwagen Bank**, one of the best places in the world to go whale watching. An ocean bank is an area of water that is more shallow than the waters around it. Stellwagen Bank is teeming with life. Porpoises, seals, and dolphins love to play in these waters. Whales come here to feast on creatures such as sand eels. Fishermen come to catch cod, flounder, and tuna. The spectacular beauty and the abundant sea life here remind us of the mighty God who made it all.



Cape Cod

Activities

- Illustrate the geographic term for Massachusetts in the Atlas Workbook (page 10).
- If you are using the Lesson Review, answer the questions for Massachusetts (page 2).
- Read chapter 7 in *Rabbit Hill*.
- Hands-On Idea: If you have any Dr. Seuss books at your house, look closely at the illustrations. Draw your own whimsical picture in the style of Dr. Seuss.

Lesson 8: A Song and Story of Massachusetts

The Popcorn Man

Edward King was a Massachusetts poet. While living in Springfield in the late 1800s he wrote a poem about George S. Page, the town's well-known Popcorn Man. (Track 3)

Hobble, hobble, up and down
Thro' the streets of Springfield Town;
Round the corner, up the street,
Caring naught for cold or heat,
Caring naught for passing jeer
Goes the jolly popcorn man,
Crying loudly as he can
"Sugared, fresh, and salt popcorn!
POPcorn!"

Careful goes he on his way
All the long and weary day;
In his basket huge supply
Of his shapely bundles lie.
Parchen corn in paper bags;
And his courage never flags
While, with voice like dinner horn,
Cries he lustily, "Popcorn!
Sugared, fresh, and salt popcorn!
POPcorn!"

When to lecture or to ball
Crowds approach the City Hall,
By the stairs the old man stands,
With a parcel in his hands
And his basket at his feet,
While these words he doth repeat—
"Here's your corn—your nice popcorn!
Sugared, fresh, and salt popcorn!
POPcorn!"

Morn and eve and eve and morn
Loud the old man cries "Popcorn!"
Long and joyful be his life
Free from care and weary strife.
Courage! old friend! Never fret!
You may be the mayor yet;
Stranger things have chanced before;
Courage! Hobble, work and roar
"Sugared, fresh and salt popcorn!
POPcorn!"

Cranberries



Cranberry Family



James, Jarrod, and Patrick Rhodes grew up surrounded by cranberries. Their parents, Matthew and Cindy, have owned cranberry bogs for as long as the boys can remember. The ground in a bog is wet and muddy. Bogs are a great place for growing cranberries. They are also a great place for kids to catch turtles, tadpoles, and frogs. A cranberry farm was a great place for the boys to grow up. Their cousins liked to join in the fun, too. James, Jarrod, and Patrick loved to ride with their dad as he drove the tractor around the bogs. Some days, when they were very young, their mom planted cranberries while carrying one of the boys in a carrier on her back.

As James, Jarrod, and Patrick grew up, they learned how to care for cranberries. They learned that sometimes their parents had to stay up all night to protect the berries from frost. If it got too cold, their parents had to turn on sprinklers to protect the plants. They learned that one frost can ruin a whole crop.



Patrick harvesting cranberries in 2007

The Rhodes boys learned how to harvest cranberries with the dry method, using a machine that looks like a lawn mower. They watched their dad walk behind the machine as it combed the berries into bags. They learned to manage the machine themselves. They also learned how to harvest cranberries using the wet picking method. As their parents flooded the bogs with water, the boys watched a machine knock the cranberries off the vines. They watched as one by one all the little red berries floated to the top of the water. They saw the floating berries get pumped from the bogs into a waiting truck.



Cranberries floating on top of a bog



Edgewood Bogs after a frosty night

Now James, Jarrod, and Patrick Rhodes are grown up. They are the fourth generation in their family to work as cranberry farmers. They work with their parents at Edgewood Bogs, their family's cranberry operation in **Carver**, Massachusetts.

During harvest time, the Rhodes hires around fifty people to help bring in the crop. They even hire a helicopter to lift huge bins full of cranberries off the bogs. Sometimes members of the family get to go for a ride in the helicopter. Employees and customers enjoy taking a turn in the helicopter, too. Everyone loves to see the spectacular view of the cranberry bogs from the air. Edgewood Bogs produces between four and five million pounds of cranberries every year!

Some people think cranberries are just to eat at Thanksgiving, but the Rhodes family doesn't agree. Over 4,000 grocery stores across the country carry their Cape Cod Select frozen cranberries. The Rhodes want people to be able to enjoy cranberries all year long.

Cindy Rhodes loves to cook with cranberries. She puts cranberries in bread and oatmeal. Her cranberry turkey chili won a first place award in a contest on the nearby island of Martha's Vineyard. In the Rhodes family, cranberries go with pasta, shrimp, and even Brussels sprouts. Their cranberry squares are a delicious dessert. In the Rhodes family, cranberries make their way into a breakfast smoothie almost every morning.



Edgewood Bogs full of cranberries



Harvesting cranberries

Edgewood Bogs is all about cranberries. It is also all about family. Cindy Rhodes says that, "Family is about love and respect for one another. It is also about supporting each other when times call for it. Farming can be a lot of fun, but it can also be very stressful when something goes wrong in the field or in the processing plant. Watching my boys work together and also with non-family employees to solve problems brings me special joy. I also love to see their excitement during harvest season as they work twelve-hour days, seven days per week, to get the crop in!"

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!
Psalm 133:1

Activities

- Complete the map activities for Massachusetts in the Atlas Workbook (page 11).
- Read chapter 8 in *Rabbit Hill*.
- Imagine that you are riding in a helicopter over a cranberry bog. Look closely at the pictures in this lesson. Notice little details. If you are keeping a creative writing notebook, write a description of what you might see from a helicopter window. How do you feel being in the helicopter? Do you see any animals? What are the people below doing? If you are not keeping a notebook, pretend a couch or a couple chairs is your helicopter. Climb in with a family member and describe the view of the cranberry bog below.

Family Activity: Autumn in New England

Autumn in New England is especially beautiful. Every autumn, leaf peepers come to New England to drive through the countryside and enjoy the spectacular colors. ("Leaf peepers" is just a fun term for people who like to peep at leaves.) Follow these instructions to create a beautiful painting of autumn in New England.

Supplies:

- cardstock or other heavy paper
- pencil
- acrylic paints (blue, white, red, yellow, orange, green)
- paper plate
- artist sponge and/or wide circular paintbrush with coarse bristles
- water for cleaning the sponge or paintbrush
- paper towels for drying the sponge or paintbrush

Directions:

- Use a pencil to draw a faint line across your paper about 1/3 of the way up from the bottom. Now draw faint hills above the line.
- Squirt some blue paint on the paper plate. Paint the sky blue and let it dry.
- If you would like to add clouds after the blue is dry, squirt some white paint on the paper plate. Use a clean and dry sponge or paintbrush to dab wispy clouds in the sky.
- Squirt some red, yellow, and orange paint on the paper plate. Do not mix the colors. Use a clean and dry sponge or paintbrush to lightly dab small amounts of autumn colors on the hills. You do not need to clean your brush or sponge between colors. Dab the colors here and there on the hills to cover them with autumn trees.
- Squirt some green paint on the paper plate. Use a clean paintbrush to apply the green to your painting using short, upward strokes to look like grass.

