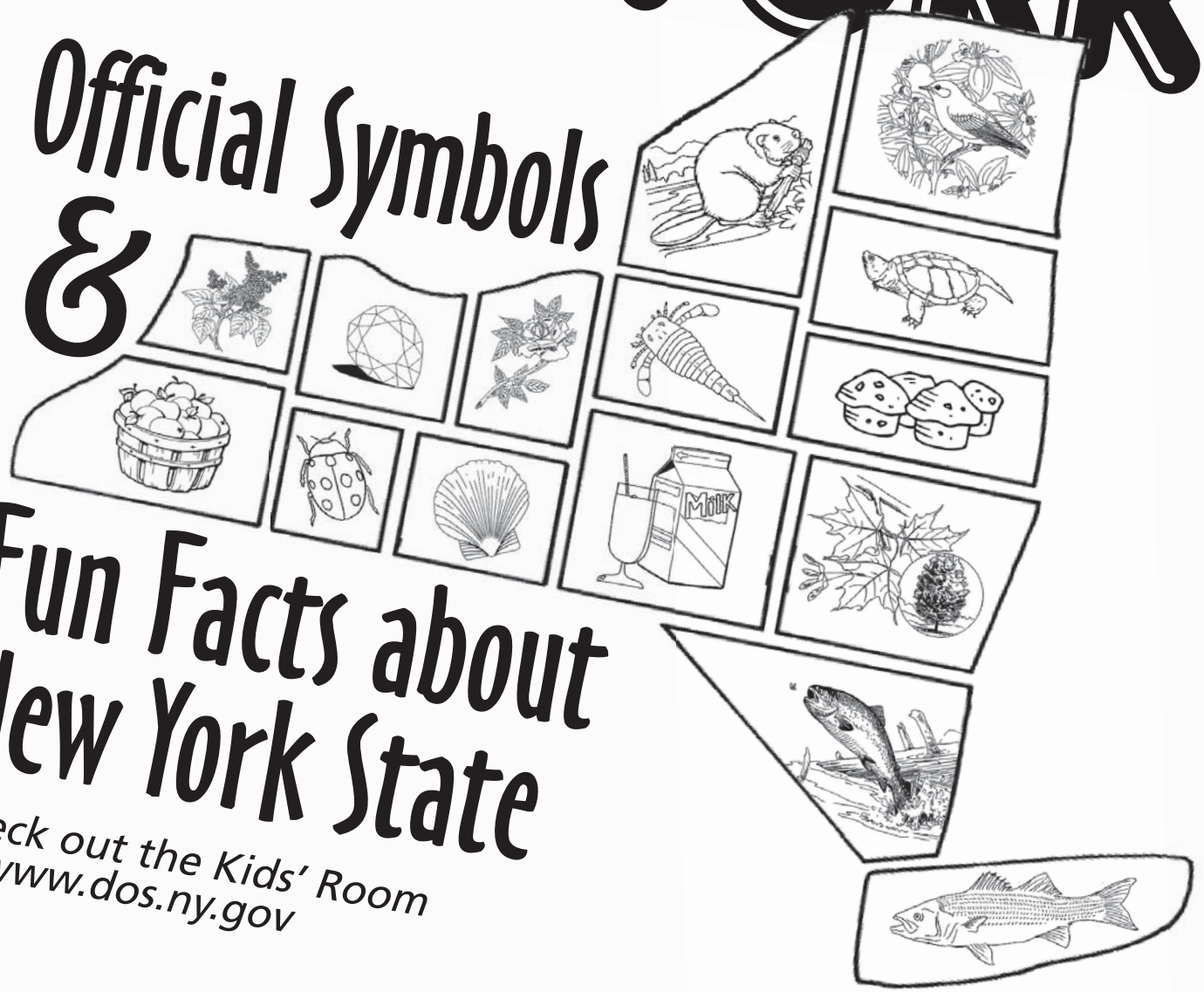
COLOR NEW YORK!

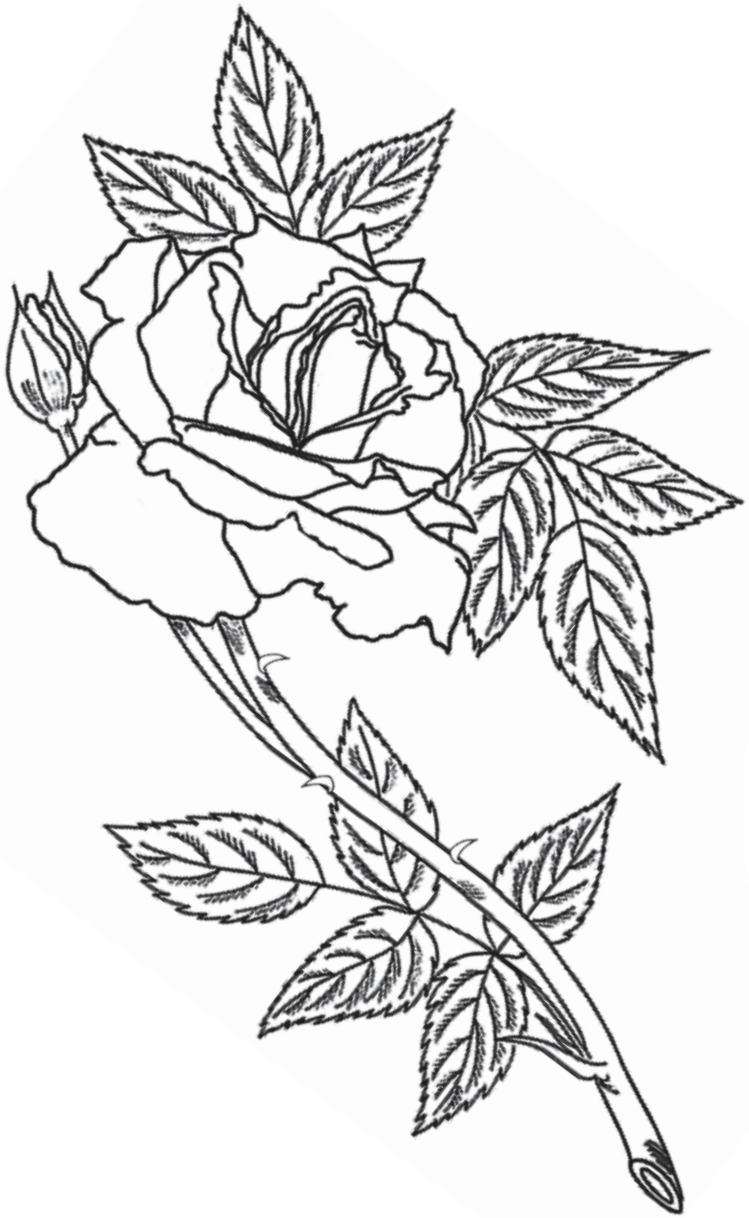
Official Symbols &

Fun Facts about New York State

Check out the Kids' Room at www.dos.ny.gov



Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor **Rossana Rosado**, Acting Secretary of State



State Flower

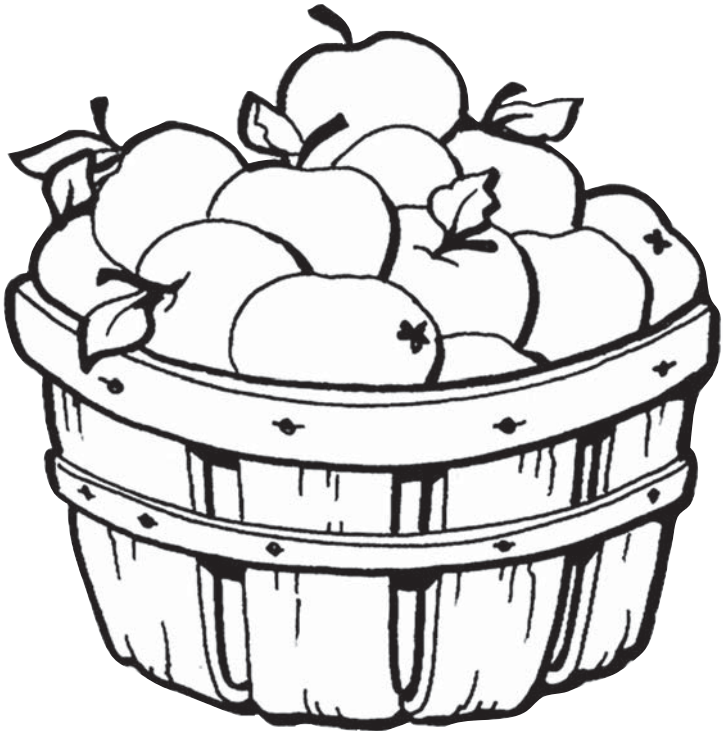
The **rose** was adopted as the state flower in 1955. Roses are soft, fragrant flowers with thorny stems. They grow in bushes and are seen in many gardens.

State Bird

The **bluebird** was adopted as the state bird in 1970. The bluebird is one of the first birds to return north each spring.

State Fruit

The **apple** was adopted as the state fruit in 1976. Apples are sweet and crisp. They come in many varieties, such as Golden Delicious, McIntosh and Winesap.



State Snack

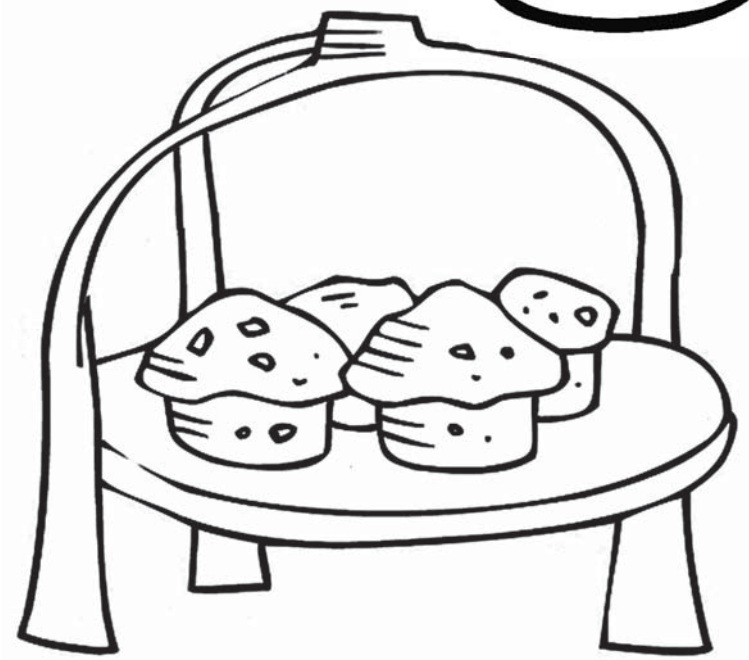
Yogurt is a custard-like food with a tart flavor, made from milk and often sweetened or flavored with fruit. It was declared the official New York State snack in June of 2014, an idea that came from a fourth grade class from western New York.

State Beverage

Milk comes from the dairy cow. Butter, cheese and ice cream are made from milk. Milk was adopted as the state beverage in 1981.

State Muffin

The **apple muffin** was adopted as the state muffin in 1987 as a result of the efforts of students throughout New York State. Apple muffins are made by adding small pieces of apple to muffin batter before it is baked.

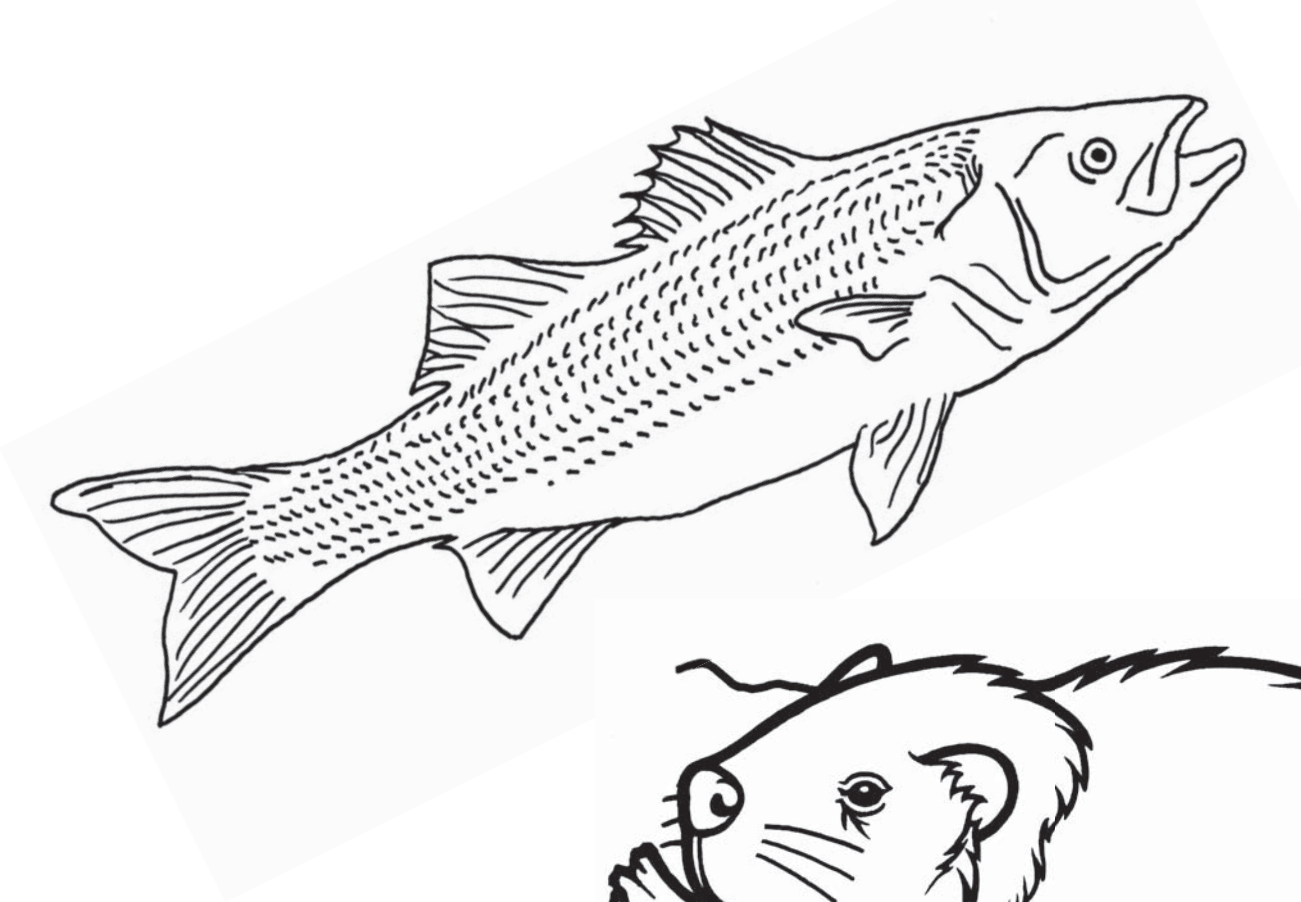


State Tree

The **sugar maple** is our main source of maple syrup made from sap stored in its trunk. Its leaves are pointed and turn bright colors in the fall. The sugar maple was adopted as the state tree in 1956.

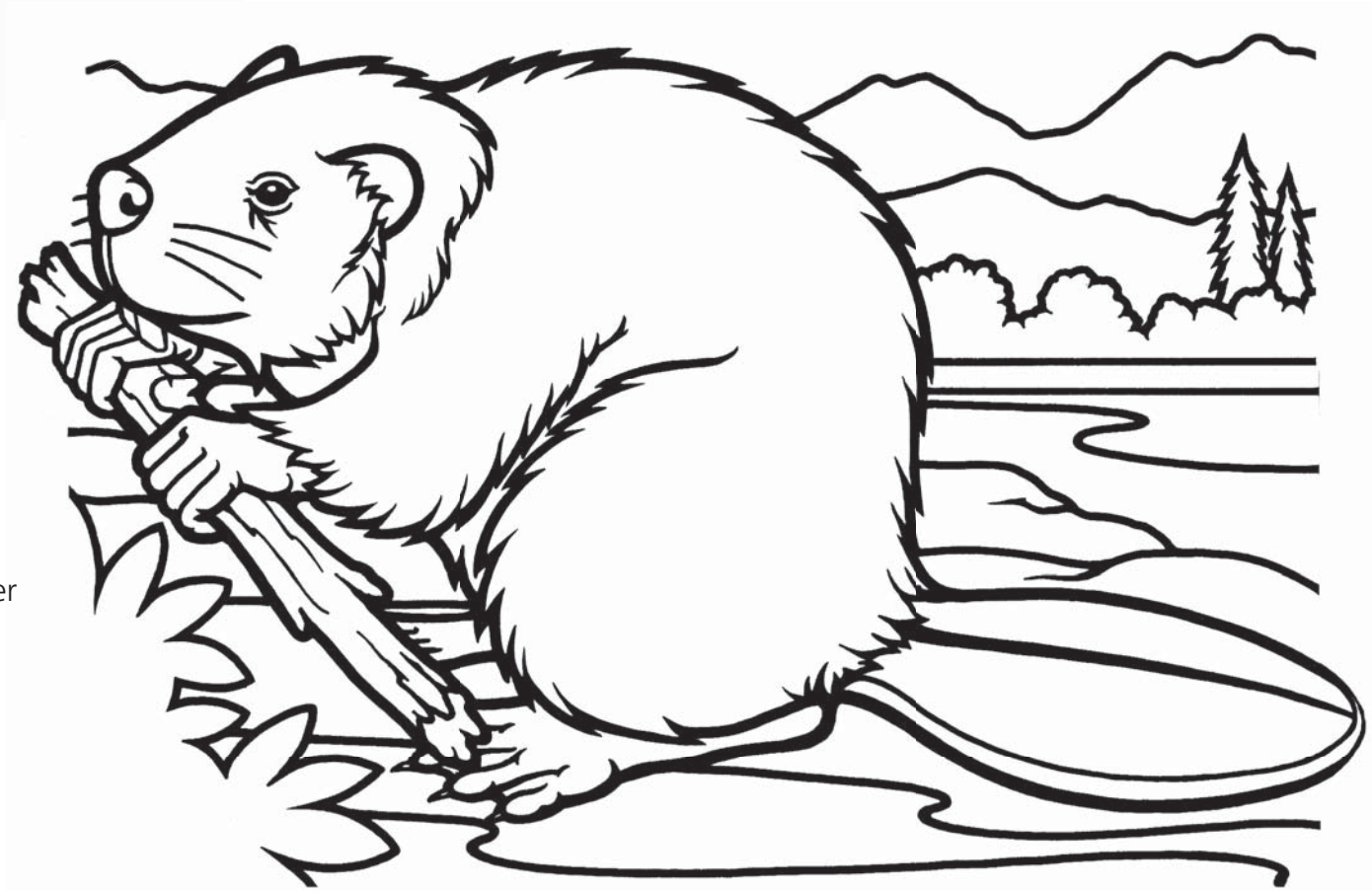
State Bush

The **lilac** was adopted as the state bush in 2006. The lilac is an ornamental shrub with showy, fragrant blooms in spring and early summer.



State Marine or Saltwater Fish

Striped bass or "stripers" are silvery with 7-8 black stripes. In New York, they are found seasonally in the tidal portion of the Hudson River and coastal waters around Long Island. The striped bass was adopted as the state marine or saltwater fish in 2006.

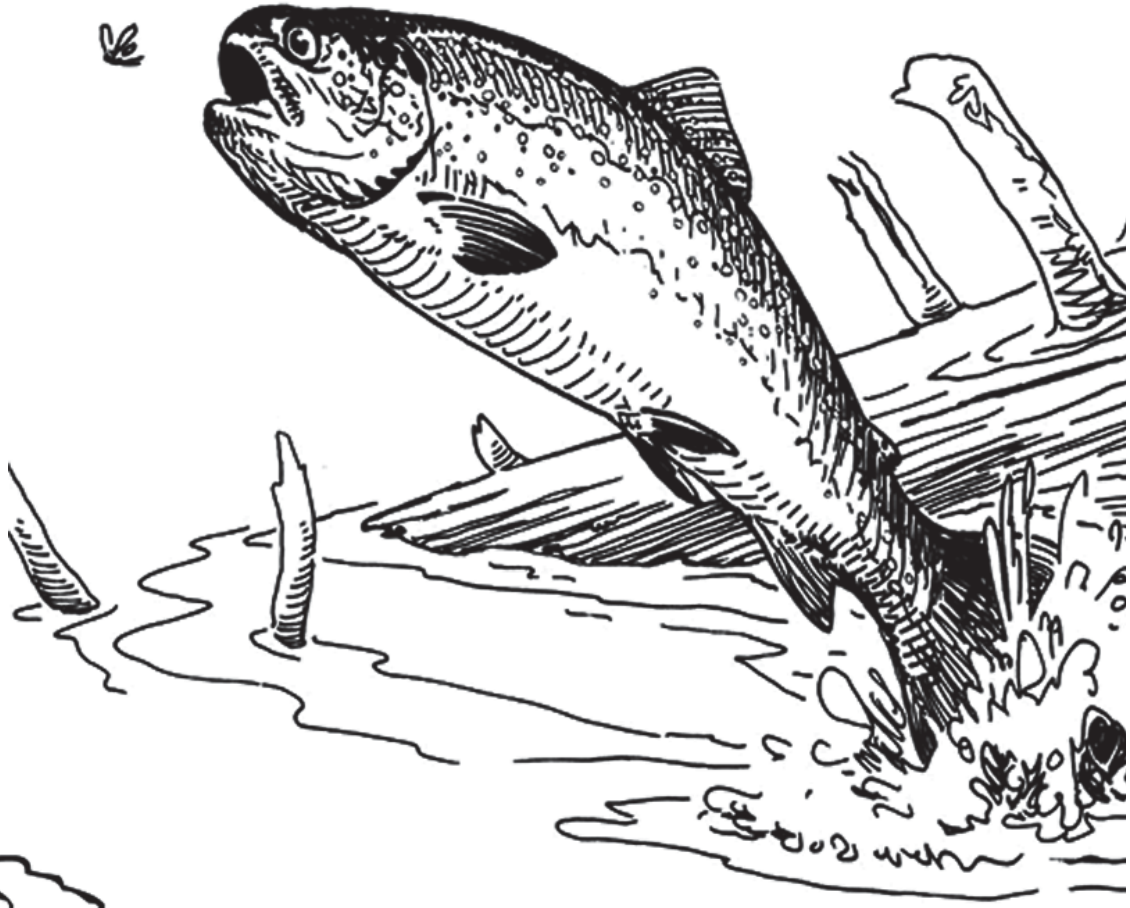


State Animal

Beavers build dams across streams by packing mud with their long, flat tails. The beaver was adopted as the state animal in 1975.

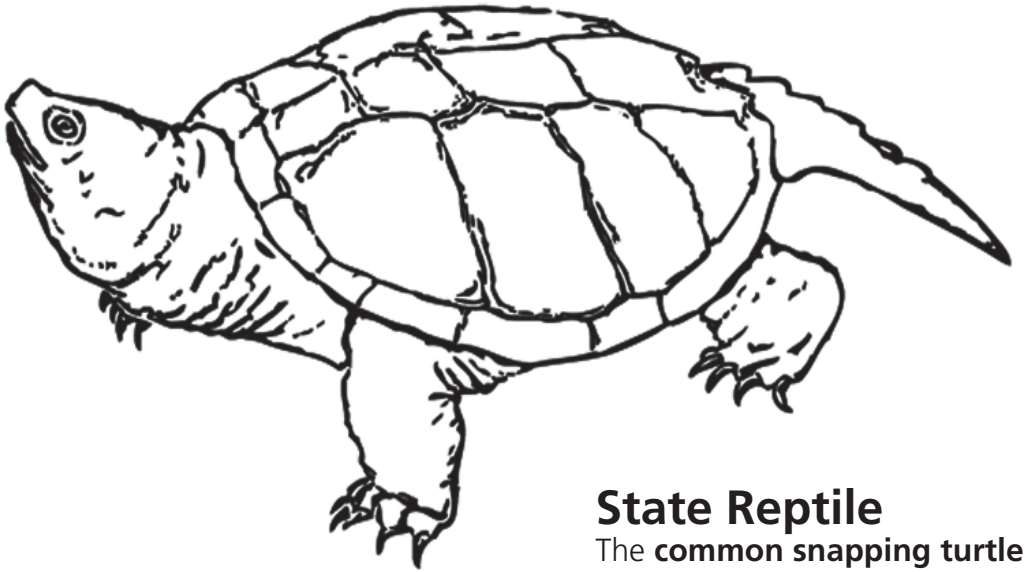
State Insect

The **ladybug** is an orange beetle with black spots. It helps gardeners by eating tiny pests that ruin plants. The ladybug was adopted as the state insect in 1989.



State Freshwater Fish

The **brook trout** or speckled trout was adopted as the state freshwater fish in 1975. Brook trout are dark olive green with light markings on the back and tan or red spots on the sides. They live in streams, lakes, freshwater ponds and brooks.

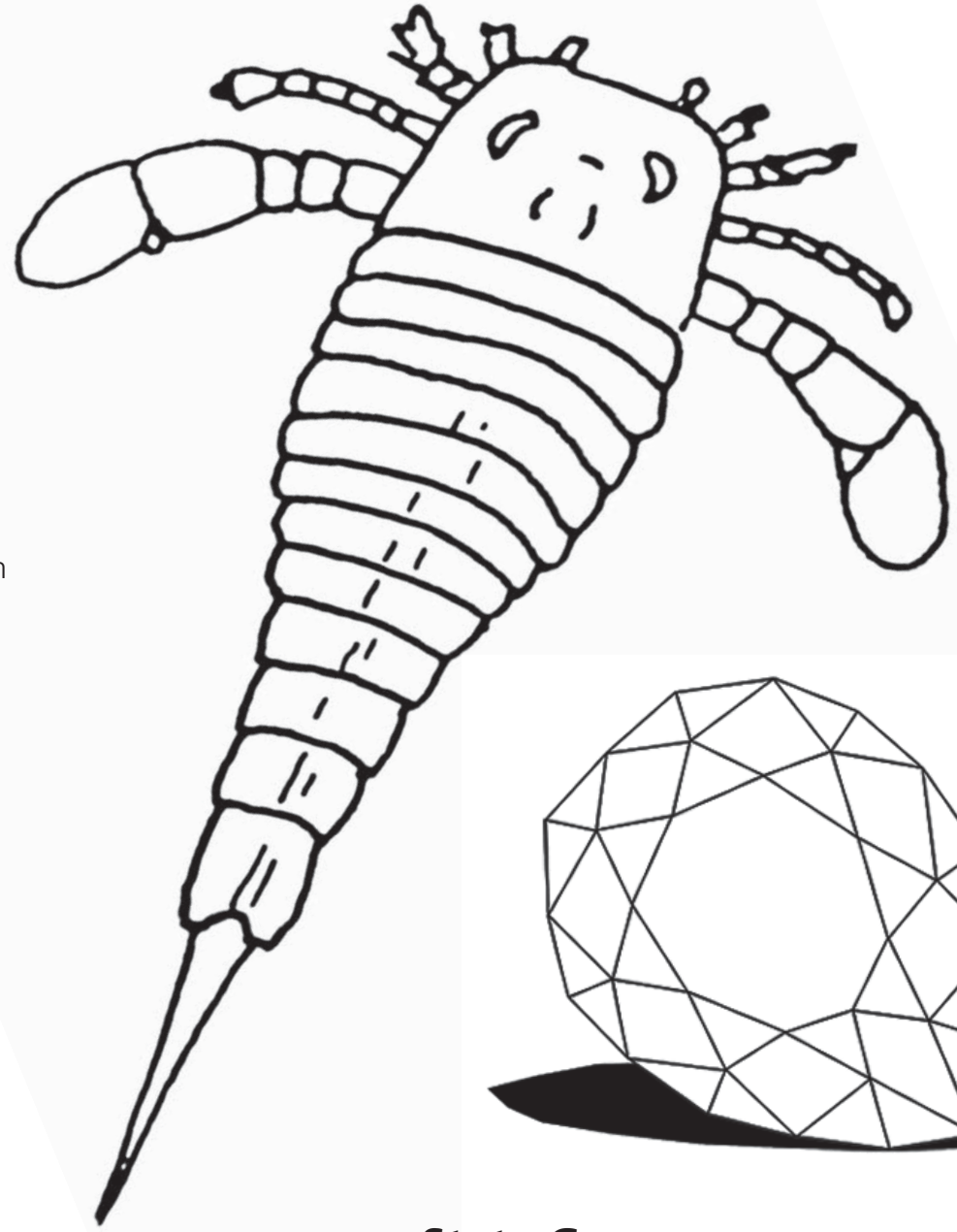


State Reptile

The **common snapping turtle** has a large head, long saw-toothed tail, and stocky legs with large claws. The common snapping turtle was adopted as the state reptile in 2006.

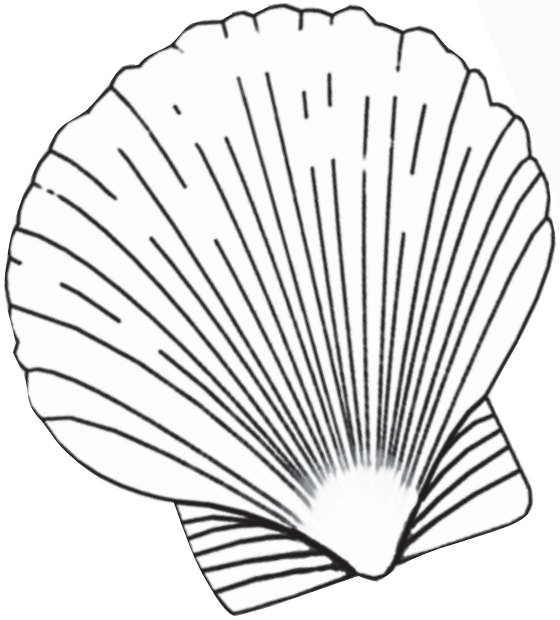
State Fossil

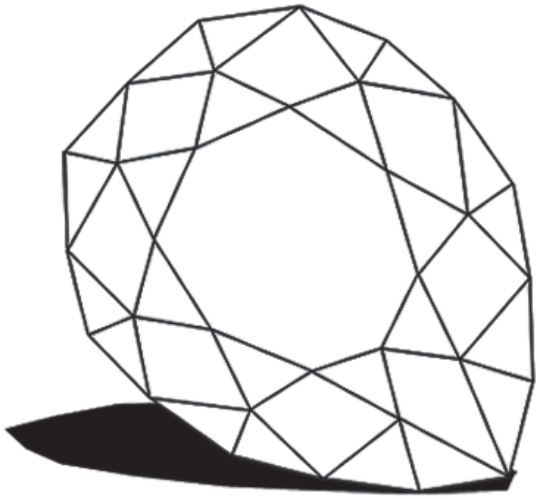
Eurypterus remipes, now extinct, was adopted as the state fossil in 1984. This distant relative of the horseshoe crab thrived in the warm shallow sea that covered New York State over 400 million years ago.



State Shell

The **bay scallop** was adopted as the state shell in 1988. They live at the bottom of the sea and can swim by flapping their shells together.



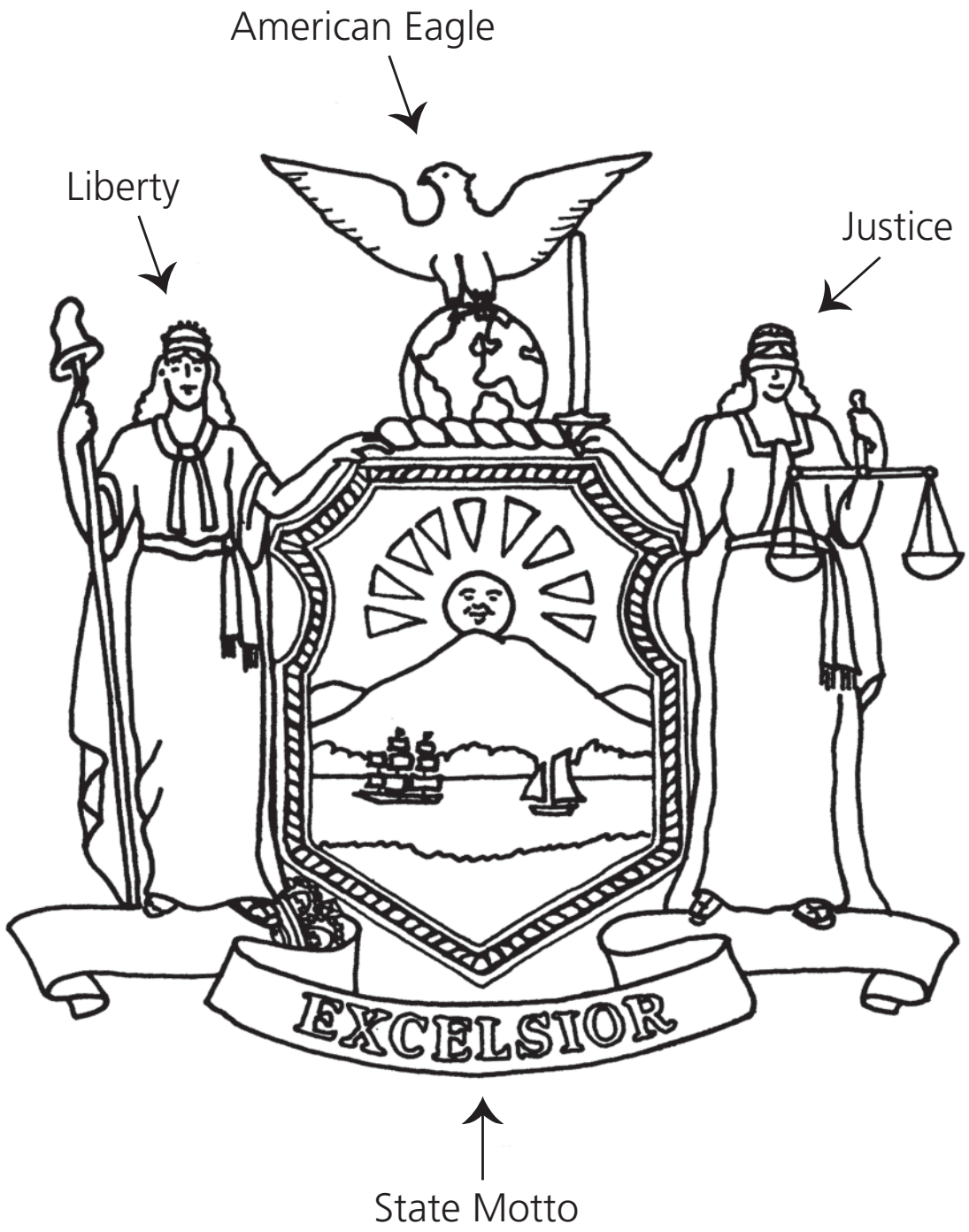


State Gem

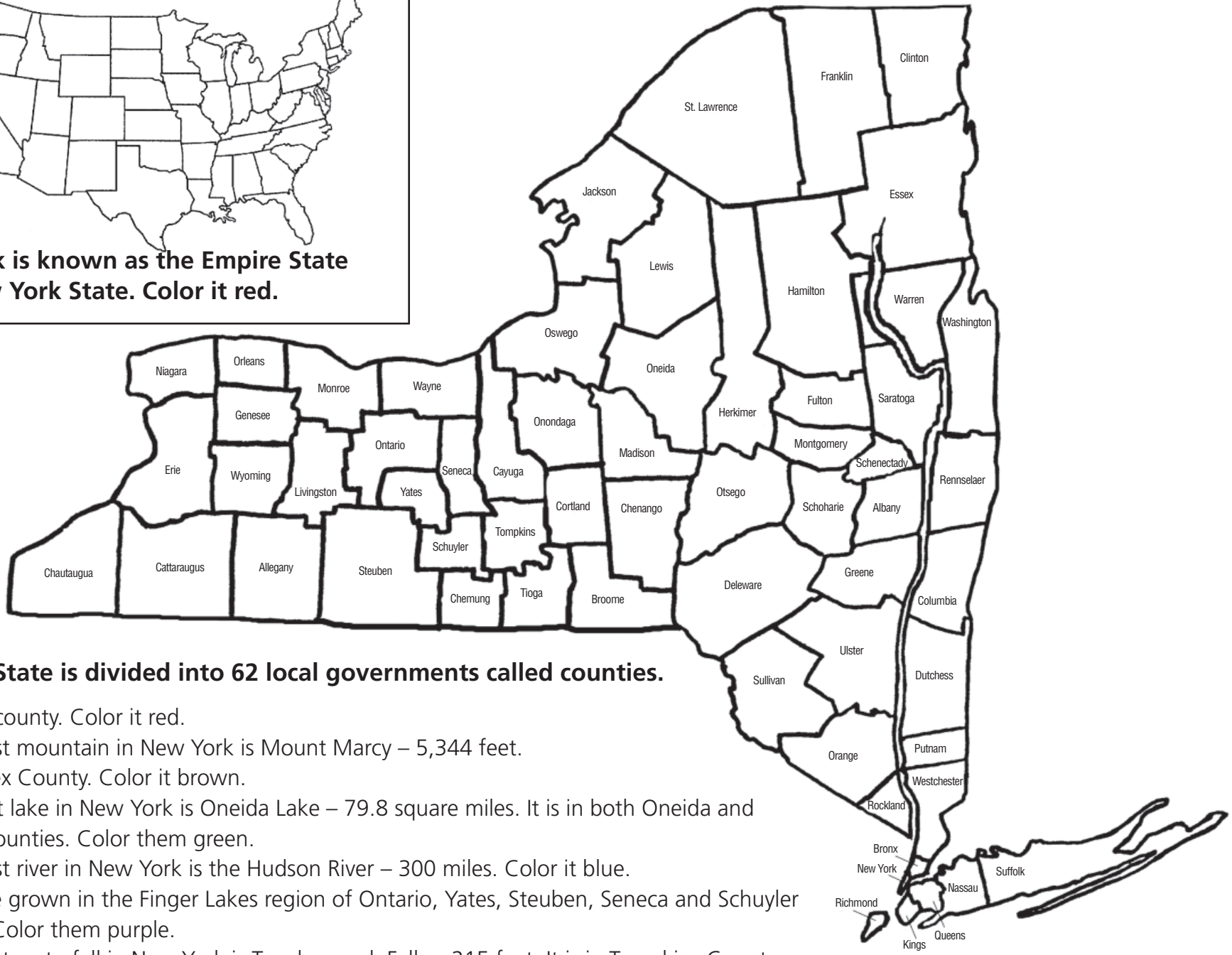
The **garnet** was adopted as the state gem in 1969. Garnets are used in jewelry and are a dark red color.

State Coat of Arms

The **New York State coat of arms** was officially adopted in 1778. The center shows a ship and sloop on a river bordered by a grassy shore and a mountain range with the sun rising behind it. Liberty and Justice stand on either side, under an American eagle. The banner shows the state motto – Excelsior – which means "Ever Upward."

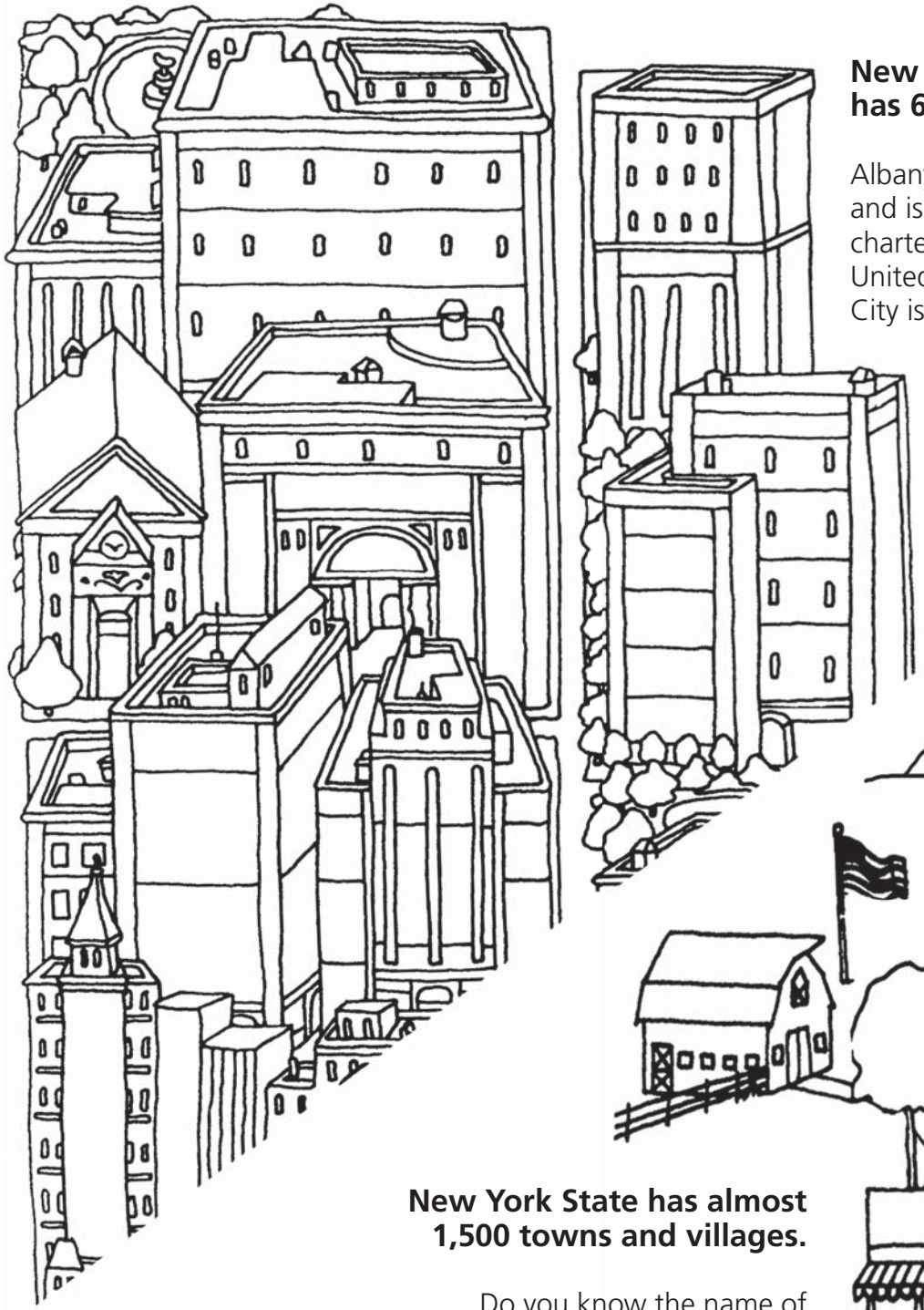


New York is known as the Empire State
Find New York State. Color it red.



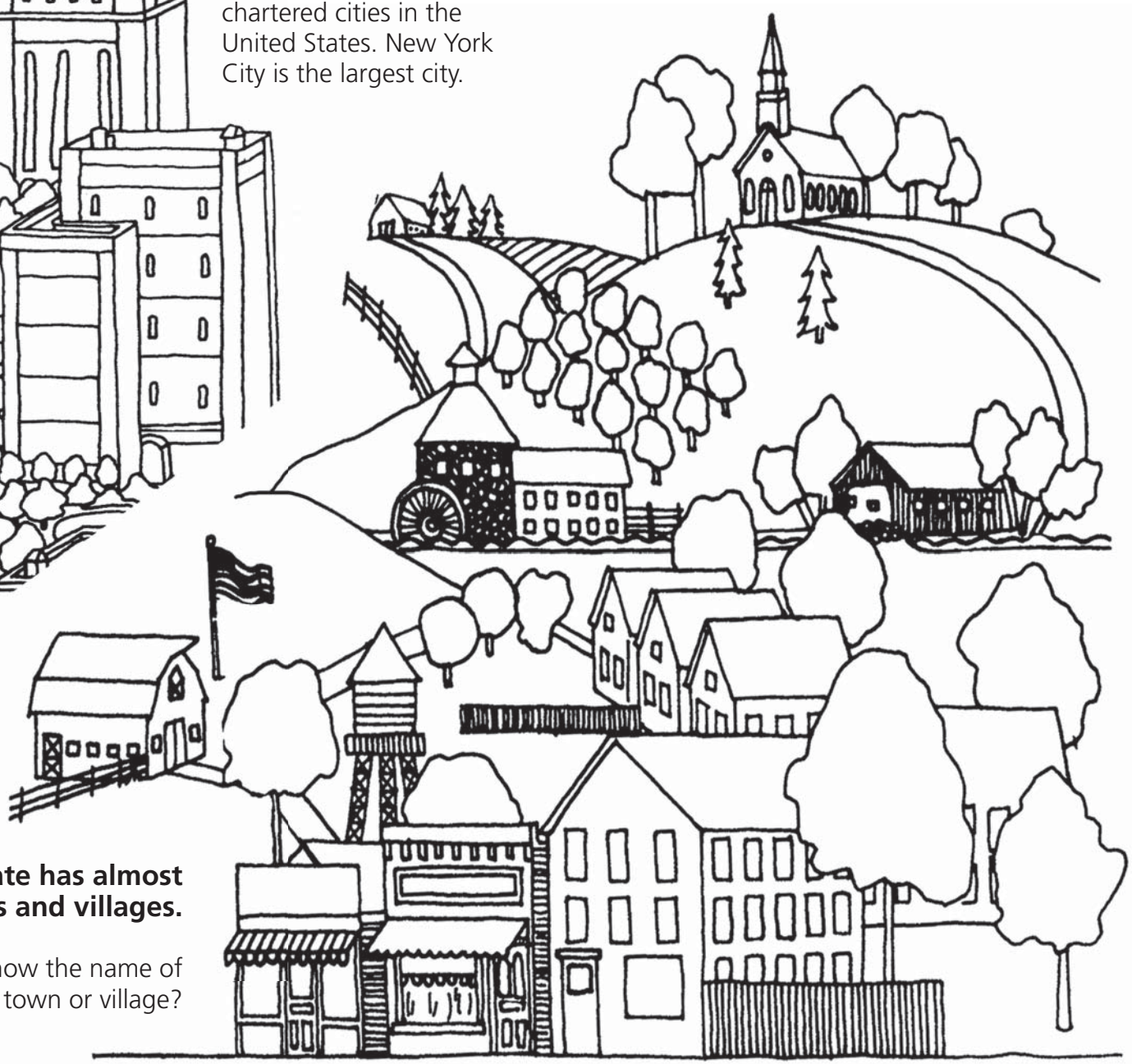
New York State is divided into 62 local governments called counties.

1. Find your county. Color it red.
2. The highest mountain in New York is Mount Marcy – 5,344 feet. It is in Essex County. Color it brown.
3. The largest lake in New York is Oneida Lake – 79.8 square miles. It is in both Oneida and Oswego counties. Color them green.
4. The longest river in New York is the Hudson River – 300 miles. Color it blue.
5. Grapes are grown in the Finger Lakes region of Ontario, Yates, Steuben, Seneca and Schuyler counties. Color them purple.
6. The highest waterfall in New York is Taughannock Falls – 215 feet. It is in Tompkins County. Color it yellow.



New York State has 62 cities.

Albany is the state capital and is one of the oldest chartered cities in the United States. New York City is the largest city.



New York State has almost 1,500 towns and villages.

Do you know the name of your town or village?

New York State Word Search Puzzle

X O D G U R Y P S S B G P N V U S L A P
R F A L H F X N Z I T E Z A K E U A P O
D B W P F J U V V T A R E X P K R D P L
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ALBANY
APPLE
APPLE MUFFIN
BAY SCALLOP
BEAVER
BLUEBIRD
BROOK TROUT
COAT OF ARMS
EAGLE
EMPIRE STATE
EURYPTERUS REMIPES
EXCELSIOR
GARNET
HUDSON
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