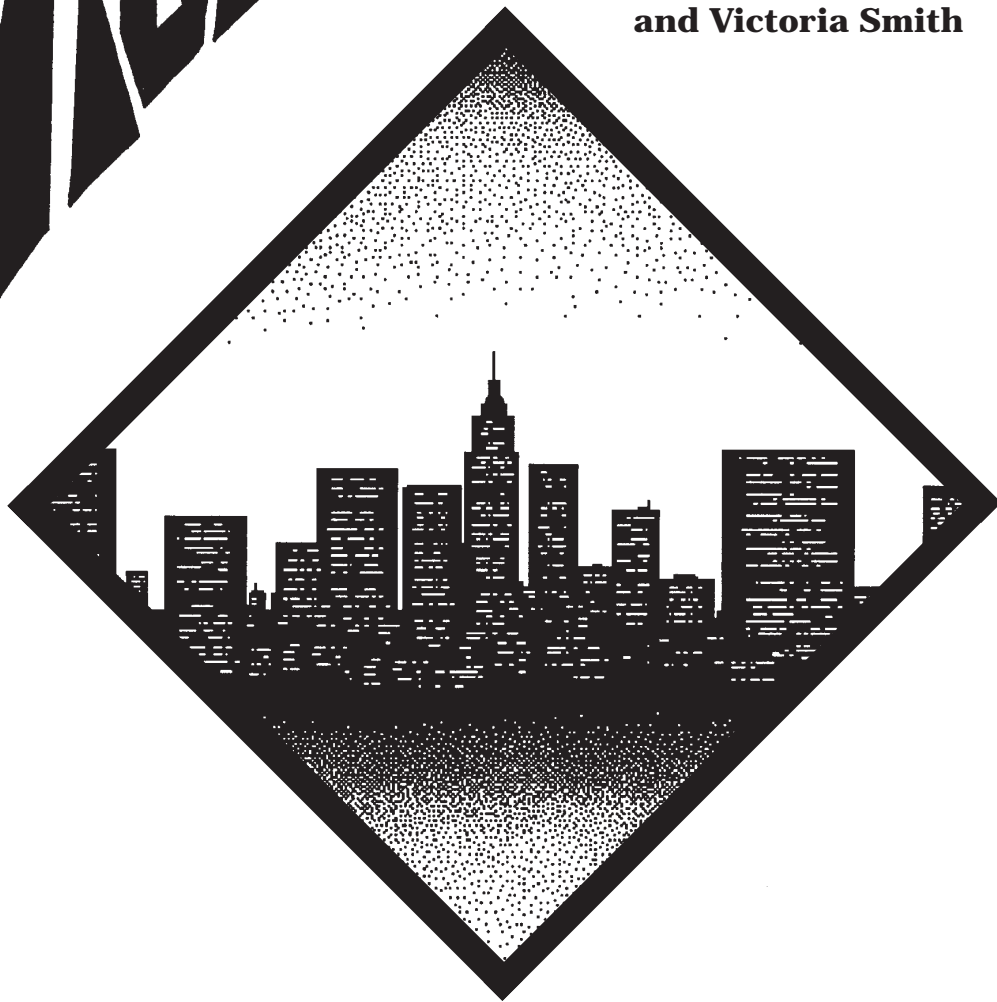


# DO Reading!

by Amy Headley  
and Victoria Smith



## The Cricket in Times Square Literature Study

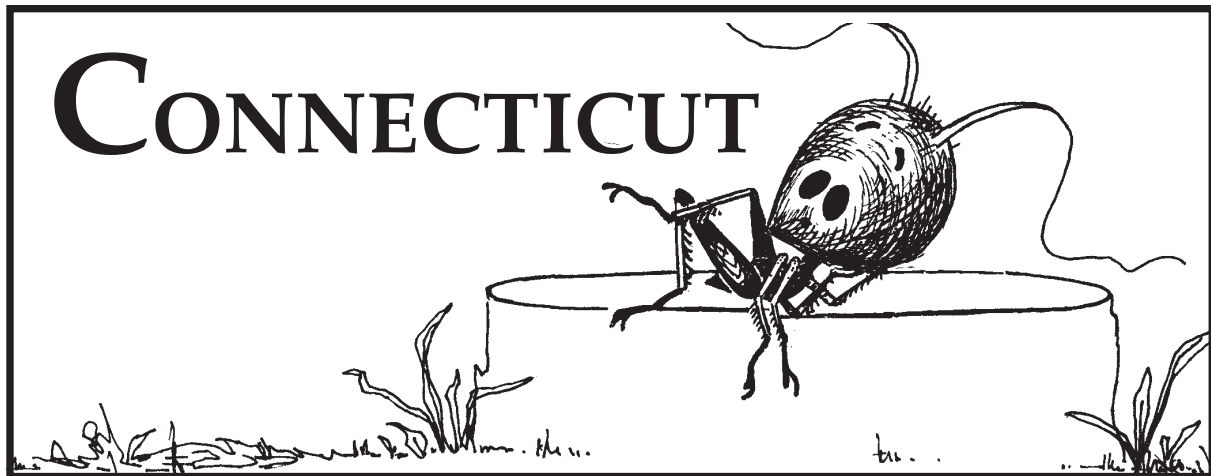
SPLASH! PUBLICATIONS



## DEAR TEACHER,

The enclosed Literature Study was designed by teachers with you and your students in mind. We believe it is the most comprehensive and practical Literature Study you will ever use. We feel it's important to review the special features of this Literature Study and help to familiarize you with it.

- 1.** The Literature Study has been divided into four parts. The **Introduction** will give students background information important to the story. **Part I** will focus on chapters 1-5, **Part II** will focus on chapters 6-9, and **Part III** will deal with chapter 10-15.
- 2.** Parts I, II, and III begin with "Let's Talk About It" discussion questions. These questions deal with issues raised in the chapters. A suggestion for the use of these questions is to have students first answer them independently, then get together with a partner or small group to share their thoughts and feelings. Finally, if time permits, selected students could share with the whole class.
- 3.** Students will complete Vocabulary Cards for each chapter and complete a context clues activity and a quiz at the end of each of the three parts over those vocabulary words. As teachers, we know the frustration of having students look up words in the dictionary, only to find multiple meanings. If a child doesn't know the meaning of the word, it's unfair to expect him or her to be able to pick out and write down the correct definition for the word as it is used in the context of the passage in the book. Therefore, we have created a **Glossary** of words with their definitions. This Glossary is located on pages 82-84. We suggest that you make copies of the Glossary for each student. The vocabulary quizzes and context clues activities will utilize these definitions. You might want to copy the Vocabulary Cards onto tag board and encourage students to bring in a box for storing the cards on their desks.
- 4.** Comprehension questions will be answered after students have read each chapter. We have designed two formats for you to use at your own discretion: short answer and multiple choice. As a suggestion, you might try having students complete the short answer questions after reading each chapter and then use the multiple choice questions as a quiz the next day. If students have been diligent to read the chapters and answer the short answer questions correctly, they will be successful on the multiple choice quizzes.
- 5.** Answers to all of the activities can be found on pages 85-90.
- 6.** Book marks and a certificate for successfully completing the Literature Study can be found on pages 80-81.



Connecticut, known as the Constitution State, was one of the original 13 **colonies** in America. It is the southernmost of a group of states known as the New England states. Connecticut is surrounded by Massachusetts on the north, Rhode Island on the east, New York on the west, and Long Island Sound on the south. The capital of Connecticut is Hartford. The state flower is the Mountain Laurel, the state tree is the White Oak, and the state bird is the American Robin.

The name Connecticut comes from a Native American phrase. The phrase means *upon the long river*. The river is the Connecticut River which runs through the middle of the state and divides it in half. Connecticut is divided into three regions: the Eastern Highlands, the Central Lowlands, and the Western Highlands. The highest point in Connecticut is Mount Frissell, located in the northwest corner of the state. The lowest point is at sea level along Long Island Sound.

## HISTORY

Native Americans lived in Connecticut long before any other people arrived. The Algonquian (al•GONG•kee•in) family of Native Americans included the Pequot (PEE•kwat), Niantic (nye•AN•tick), and Siwanog (SEE•wah•nog) tribes. The Algonquian peoples hunted, fished, and farmed corn, beans, and tobacco. They lived in wigwams which were dome-shaped houses made of poles, tree bark, and grass.

During the 1600s, other people started arriving in Connecticut. It is thought that the first white explorer in Connecticut was Adriaen Block. He was a Dutchman from the Netherlands. The Dutch were not interested in settling in Connecticut. They wanted to trade with the Native Americans. The Dutch gave the Native Americans household items, and in return, the Native Americans gave the Dutch beaver furs.

In 1630, English colonists from Great Britain started settling in Connecticut. The colonists were living in Massachusetts, but they felt the rules were too strict, so they wanted to start a new colony in Connecticut. The English colonists built the first three towns in Connecticut: Hartford, Wethersfield, and Windsor. These towns were called the "Three River Towns" because they were established along the Connecticut River.

## BATTLES IN CONNECTICUT

During the next 150 years, the people of Connecticut were involved in battles over land and freedom. The English settlers fought many bloody battles with the Native Americans over land. These battles were usually won by the English. The French and Indian War and the Revolutionary War were two other wars fought by colonists in Connecticut. During the Revolutionary War, the colonists living in Connecticut and the rest of America broke free from Great Britain and formed the United States of America. Soon after, on January 9, 1788, Connecticut became the fifth state to join the United States.

## ECONOMY

Although it is the third smallest state next to Delaware and Rhode Island, Connecticut has made many contributions to our nation's **economy**. The words of the song "Yankee Doodle" were written in Connecticut and the first modern sewing machines and clocks were invented here as well. Revolutionary War hero Nathan Hale was born in Connecticut, and the first nuclear-powered submarine was built in this great state. At one time, Connecticut even produced almost all of the hats that were made in this country.

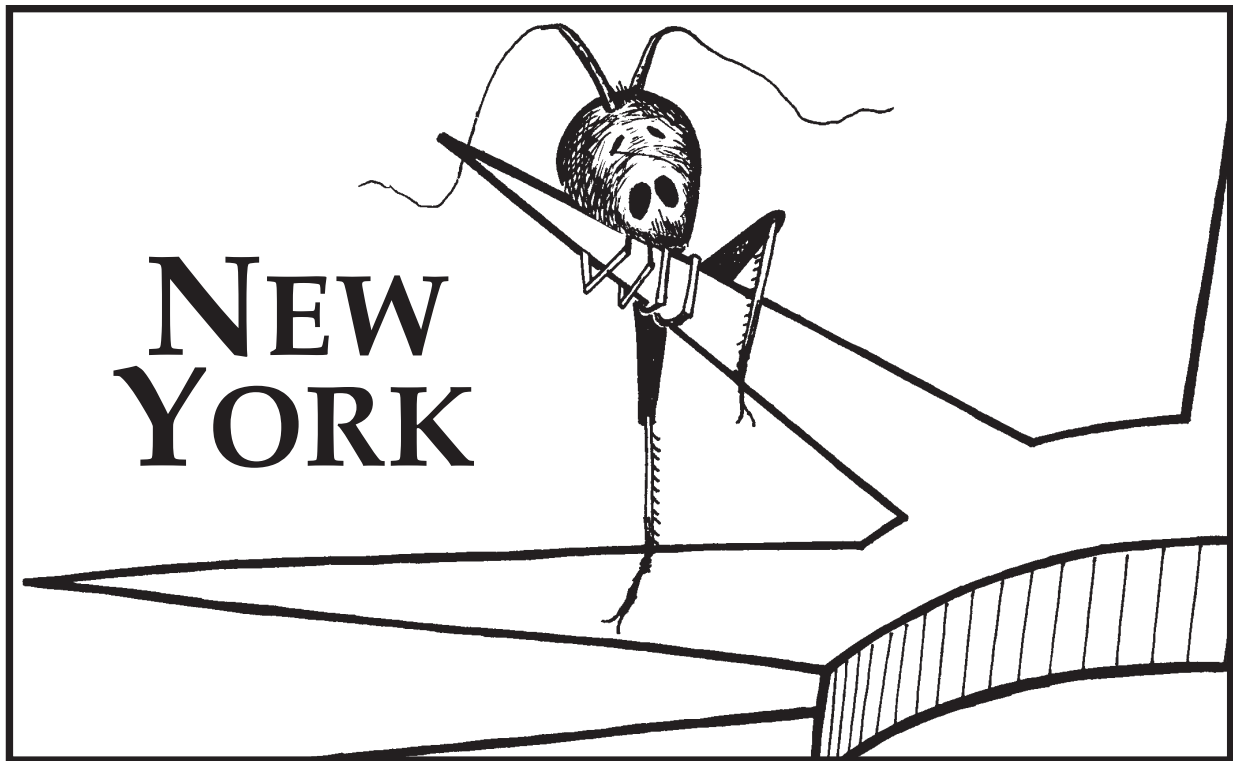
Today, Connecticut is mainly a **manufacturing** state. Companies in Connecticut are responsible for making electronic games, transportation equipment, helicopters, jet aircraft engines, submarines, small boats, clocks, silverware, and many other products. Hartford, the capital of Connecticut, is known as the insurance capital of the world. A lot of large insurance companies have their headquarters in Hartford, Connecticut. Farming is also a small part of Connecticut's economy. The state has about 4,000 farms with an average size of about 110 acres. The largest field crop is tobacco, but dairy farming and poultry are also important to the farming industry. Tourism is an industry that is becoming more important in Connecticut. Many tourists come from other states to enjoy Connecticut's weather, old country inns, and small towns.



**col•o•nies** *n.* territories or areas of land that are settled

**e•con•o•my** *n.* The way in which a city, state, or country makes money

**man•u•fac•tur•ing** *v.* creating, producing, or making products.



**N**ew York, the Empire State, is a state in the northeastern United States. It shares **boundaries** with the Atlantic Ocean and five other states: Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The capital of New York is Albany. The state flower is the Rose, the state tree is the Sugar Maple, and the state bird is the Bluebird. New York was named after the English Duke of York, and it is the home of the largest city in the country, New York City.

A visit to New York would not be complete without visiting Niagara Falls, Saratoga Springs, Lake Placid, the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, the Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, and of course, New York City, Times Square, the Statue of Liberty, and the Empire State Building.

## HISTORY

**N**ew York's history began thousands of years ago when Native Americans **inhabited** the area. In 1524, an Italian explorer visited New York Bay and the Hudson River. The explorers found thousands of Iroquois (EAR•ah•kwoi) and Algonquian (al•GONG•kee•in) peoples living in New York. The Mohawk, Oneida (oh•NI•dah), Cayuga (kay•OOH•gah), Onondaga (oh•un•DAH•gah,) and Seneca (SEN•eh•kah) were five tribes belonging to the Iroquois family of Native Americans. The Mohican (mo•HE•kan), Munsee, and Delaware were three of the Algonquian tribes. The Algonquian tribes lived in wigwams, which were huts made of poles and tree bark. The Iroquois built long houses made of bark and logs. Iroquois long houses could be up to 200 feet in length and were home to several Iroquois families at the same time. Some of the pottery and tools made by these two groups of Native Americans can be found in New York's museums today.

## EUROPEANS ARRIVE IN NEW YORK

The Dutch are also a big part of New York's history. The Hudson River was named after Henry Hudson, an Englishman who worked for the Dutch. He arrived in New York in 1609. For the rest of that **century**, the Dutch traded with the Native Americans and began building towns at Fort Orange, Manhattan Island, Brooklyn, and Schenectady (skuh•NEC•tuh•dee). English settlers living in Massachusetts and Connecticut were also interested in living in New York. They settled on Long Island.

From the late 1600s to the late 1700s, many wars and battles were fought in New York. The French and Indian wars were fought because of land and control of the beaver hunting territories in America. During the Revolutionary War, the English colonists living in America fought for and won independence from their **mother country**, Great Britain. About 92 battles were fought on New York's soil during the Revolutionary War. Soon after the Revolutionary War ended, New York joined the nation as the 11th state.

## ECONOMY

In the early days, as it is today, New York was a major manufacturing state. This means that it made and still makes products that people all over the world can use. In the early 1800s, New York's factories were making many products, but it was hard to take these products to other states by stagecoach. In 1825, the Erie Canal was completed. The Erie Canal made it possible to take products across the state of New York to other states by boat. Other states could bring their farm products into New York the same way. During the 1830s and 1840s, railroads were built in New York. The railroads made traveling across land much easier. By 1850, the Erie Canal and railroads helped make New York the top manufacturing state.

Today, the Erie Canal has been replaced by the State Barge Canal, and New York is second in manufacturing to the state of California. New York still ranks number one in printing and publishing, and the production of clothing, scientific instruments, paper products, furniture, and fixtures. New York is also a major manufacturer of chemicals, leather, electrical machinery, dolls, candies, fur goods, photographic equipment, and many other products used all over the world. Banking, trade, dairy and crop farming, and transportation are also important pieces of New York's economy.

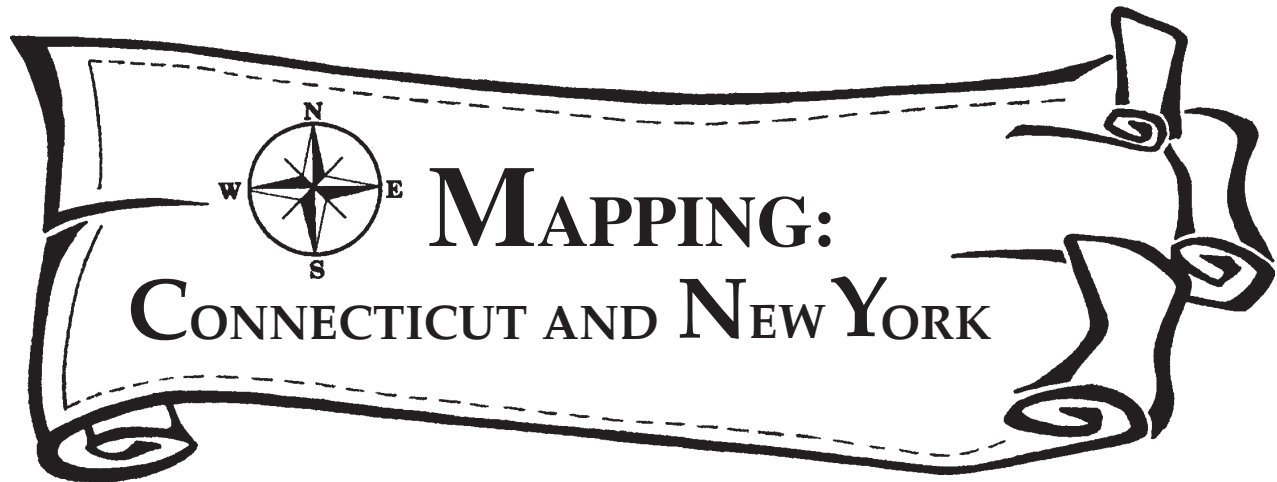


**bound•a•ries** *n.* lines that indicate a border or limit.

**cen•tu•ry** *n.* a period of 100 years.

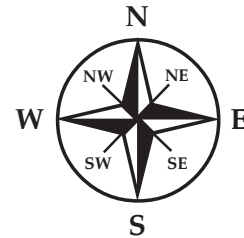
**in•hab•it•ed** *v.* lived or settled in a place.

**mother country** *n.* original homeland of the English colonists.



**Knowing** how to find your location is an important life skill. It is almost impossible to determine your location or find your way around if you do not know the four main, or **cardinal directions**. North, south, east, and west are the cardinal directions. On a map these directions are labeled N, S, E, and W.

Between the four main directions are the **intermediate directions**. Northeast, or NE, is the direction between north and east. Southeast, or SE, is the direction between south and east. Southwest, or SW, is the direction between south and west. Northwest, or NW, is the direction between north and west.



Compass Rose

A **reference point** is also important when determining your location. A **reference point** is simply a starting point. It's difficult to travel northwest if you don't have a starting point.

**Example:** The Mt. Tom State Park in Litchfield, Connecticut, offers hiking, swimming, picnicking, fishing, scuba diving and ice skating. This park is located west of Hartford.

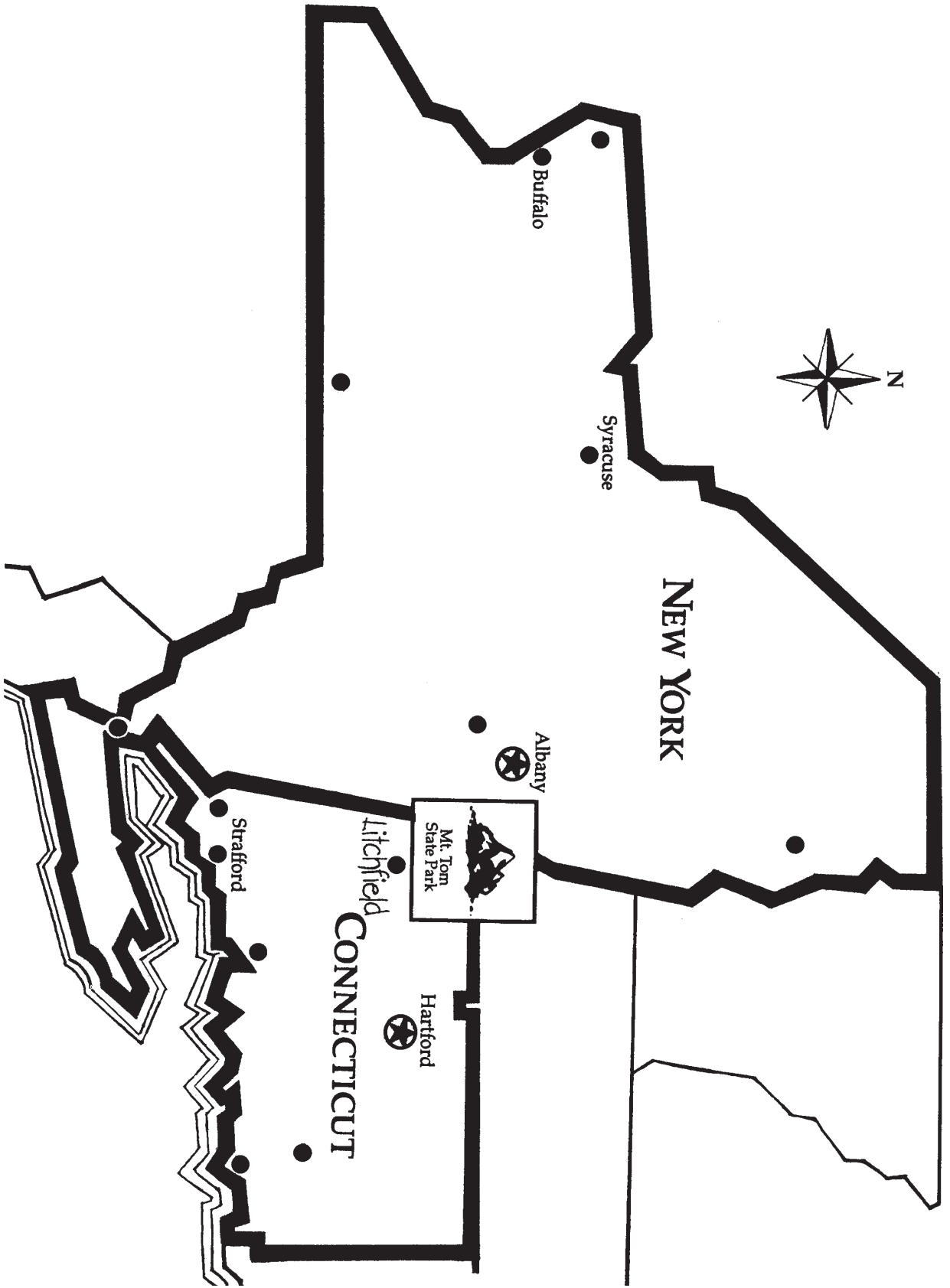
These directions give you some very important information. They tell you that your **reference point**, or starting point will be the city of Hartford. Locate Hartford on your Connecticut and New York map. Put your finger on Hartford and slide it west until you arrive at Mt. Tom State Park.

### Directions:

1. Use your scissors to carefully cut out the point of interest symbols at the bottom of the next page.
2. Use the Connecticut and New York map and the written directions to locate the points of interest in Connecticut and New York.
3. Glue the point of interest symbols onto the map where those places would be found. Write the names of the cities under the points of interest.
4. Use coloring pencils to add color to your map.
5. The first one has been done for you.

1. Nathan Hale, William Howard Taft, and Noah Webster studied at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. Yale is located northeast of Strafford.
2. Mystic Seaport in Mystic, Connecticut, is a world famous museum that tells the story of America and the sea. Mystic Seaport is located southeast of New Haven.
3. Beardsley Zoological Gardens in Bridgeport, Connecticut, is home to 36 acres of exhibits ranging from North American mammals to exotic rain forest animals. Beardsley Zoological Gardens is located west of Strafford.
4. The John Baldwin House in Norwich, Connecticut, was built by one of the founders of Norwich and is still a working household. The Baldwin House is located southeast of Hartford.
5. Niagara Falls State Park in Niagara, New York, is the oldest state park in the United States. Niagara Falls State Park is located northwest of Buffalo.
6. The Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, was built here because Abner Doubleday invented baseball in a nearby field in 1839. The Baseball Hall of Fame is located southwest of Albany.
7. Mark Twain's gravesite in Elmira, New York, is the resting place of the famous author whose works include *Tom Sawyer* and *Huckleberry Finn*. Mark Twain's gravesite is located southwest of Syracuse.
8. Times Square in New York City, New York, is a busy area surrounded by Broadway, Columbus Circle, and Union Square. Times Square is located south of Cooperstown.
9. Lake Placid in the Adirondack Mountains of New York, was home to the 1932 and 1980 Winter Olympics and continues to be a year-round training facility. Lake Placid is located northeast of Albany.





# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(Chapter 15)



**Directions:** Use the information from Chapter 15 of *The Cricket in Times Square* to answer the questions below. Remember to write your answers using complete sentences.

1. What did Mario feed Chester Cricket for his last meal in Times Square?

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2. What item did Chester Cricket take with him to remember Times Square?

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3. How would Chester Cricket know when he reached Connecticut?

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4. What are Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat planning on doing next summer?

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# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

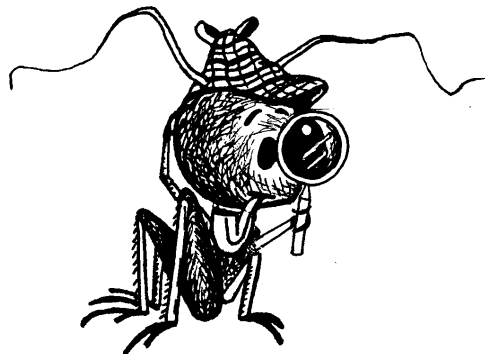
## (Chapter 15)

**Directions:** Use the information from Chapter 15 of *The Cricket in Times Square* to answer the questions below. Circle the correct answer from the choices given.

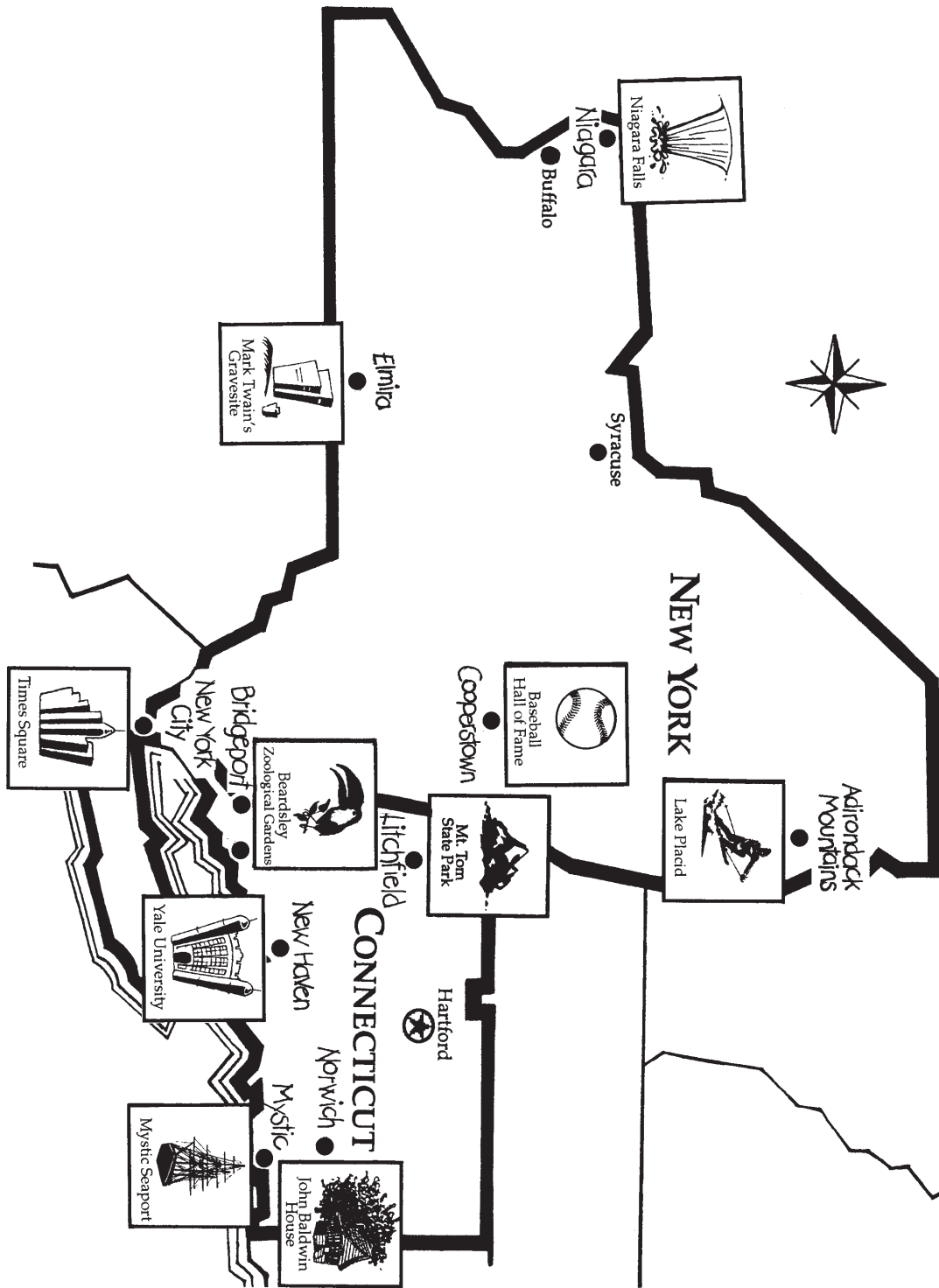
1. What did Mario feed Chester Cricket for his last meal in Times Square?
  - a) Mario fed Chester Cricket mulberry leaves and chocolate.
  - b) Mario fed Chester Cricket liverwurst.
  - c) Mario fed Chester Cricket an egg sandwich and a fortune cookie.
  
2. What item did Chester Cricket take with him to remember Times Square?
  - a) Chester took the half eaten two dollar bill.
  - b) Chester took his bell.
  - c) Chester took a piece from his cricket cage.
  
3. How would Chester Cricket know when he reached Connecticut?
  - a) The conductor would call out when they reached Connecticut.
  - b) Chester would know he was in Connecticut from the smell of the trees and the feel of the air.
  - c) Chester would know he was in Connecticut when he heard his old friends calling his name.
  
4. What are Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat planning on doing next summer?
  - a) Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat are planning to bring Chester back to New York next summer.
  - b) Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat are planning to write Chester letters.
  - c) Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat are planning to visit Chester in Connecticut next summer.



3. The building was shaped like a multi-storied Buddhist tower, and I knew right away it was a \_\_\_\_\_ because we had studied this type of structure in history class.
4. My mother could not make her famous \_\_\_\_\_ for dinner because she didn't have any eggs and her oven was broken.
5. She picked the yellow dress because it was beautifully \_\_\_\_\_ with red and green flowers, and the needlework along the sleeves was just as pretty.
6. The money in the cash register must be placed in special \_\_\_\_\_ with each bill and coin in its own separate space and section.
7. The discount store sold small trinkets and toys and the children would come in after school to buy the \_\_\_\_\_ .
8. The father was \_\_\_\_\_ , but tried to keep his courage when the doctors told him his son would have to face another dangerous operation.
9. It wasn't fair to \_\_\_\_\_ the child of cheating since his friend was really the one to blame.
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ that the Japanese women wore were different from American dresses because they had long wide-sleeves, and they looked more like robes than dresses.
11. The lost child was so pitiful and \_\_\_\_\_ that I felt sympathy for him as he stood alone in the department store.



# ANSWERS TO MAPPING



## ANSWERS TO COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(FILL-IN)

### Chapter 15

1. He fed Chester mulberry leaves and chocolate.
2. Chester took his bell.
3. He would know he was in Connecticut from the smell of the trees and the feel of the air.
4. Tucker and Harry are planning to visit Chester in Connecticut next summer.

## ANSWERS TO COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(Multiple Choice)

### Chapter 15

1. a
2. b
3. b
4. c

## ANSWERS TO CONTEXT CLUES

### PART II

1. kumquats
2. gilded
3. pagoda
4. souffle
5. embroidered
6. compartments
7. novelties
8. dismayed
9. accuse
10. kimonos
11. pathetic