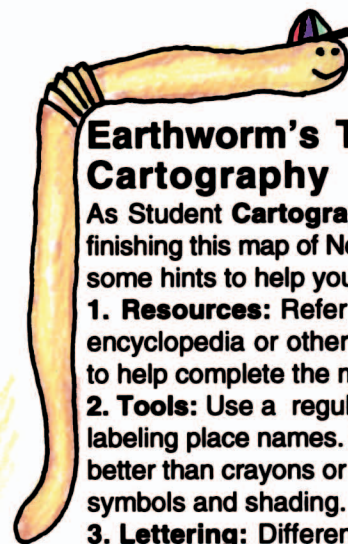


NEW YORK The Empire State

Welcome to **New York**! The state of New York is located in the northeastern region of the **United States of America**. New York is bordered to the north and west by the country of **Canada** and to the east by the states of **Vermont**, **Massachusetts** and **Connecticut**. New York shares its southern **boundary** with **New Jersey** and **Pennsylvania**. The southeast corner of the state meets the **Atlantic Ocean**. In terms of land area, New York is the thirtieth largest state in the USA. New York stretches for about 300 miles from north to south and about 314 miles wide at its widest point.

The **topography** of this state is characterized by mountains, rivers and lakes. New York state has several **mountain ranges**: the **Adirondacks**, the **Catskills** and the **Taconic Mountains**. It is bordered by three large lakes: **Lake Ontario**, **Lake Champlain** and **Lake Erie**. Within the **borders** of the state are over 8,000 other smaller lakes. The **Delaware River** forms a natural border between New York and neighboring **Pennsylvania**.

Some words on this page are highlighted. Can you define these terms?

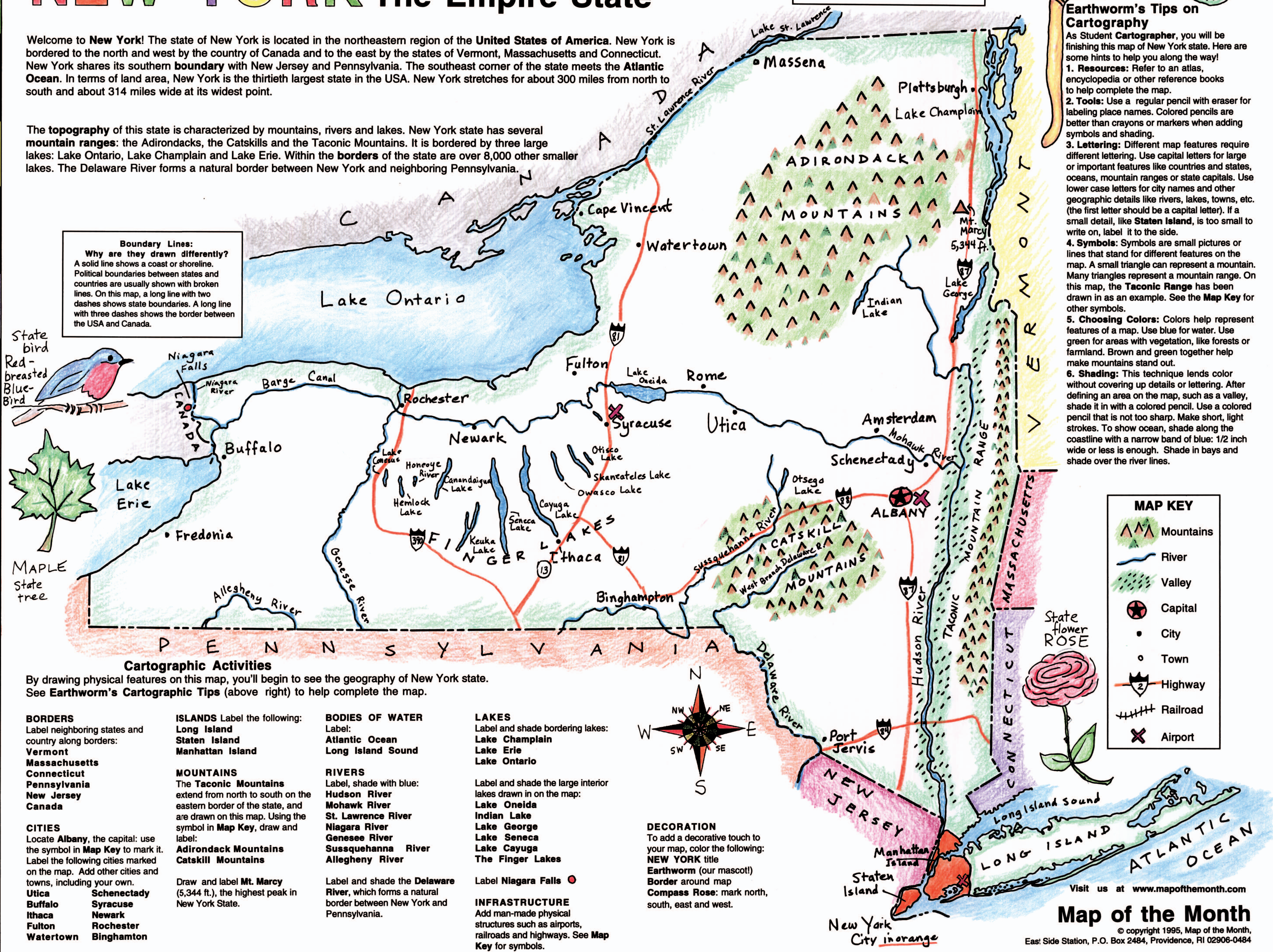
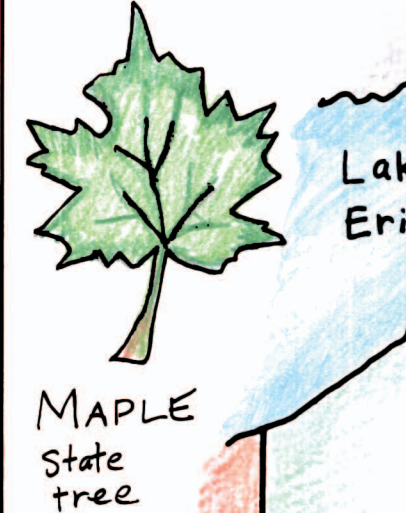
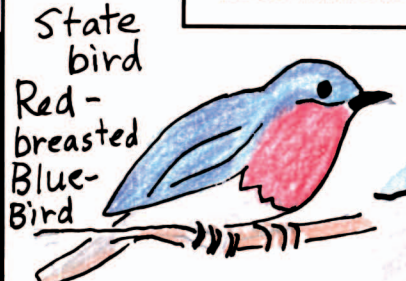


Earthworm's Tips on Cartography

As Student Cartographer, you will be finishing this map of New York state. Here are some hints to help you along the way!

- Resources:** Refer to an atlas, encyclopedia or other reference books to help complete the map.
- Tools:** Use a regular pencil with eraser for labeling place names. Colored pencils are better than crayons or markers when adding symbols and shading.
- Lettering:** Different map features require different lettering. Use capital letters for large or important features like countries and states, oceans, mountain ranges or state capitals. Use lower case letters for city names and other geographic details like rivers, lakes, towns, etc. (the first letter should be a capital letter). If a small detail, like **Staten Island**, is too small to write on, label it to the side.
- Symbols:** Symbols are small pictures or lines that stand for different features on the map. A small triangle can represent a mountain. Many triangles represent a mountain range. On this map, the **Taconic Range** has been drawn in as an example. See the **Map Key** for other symbols.
- Choosing Colors:** Colors help represent features of a map. Use blue for water. Use green for areas with vegetation, like forests or farmland. Brown and green together help make mountains stand out.
- Shading:** This technique lends color without covering up details or lettering. After defining an area on the map, such as a valley, shade it in with a colored pencil. Use a colored pencil that is not too sharp. Make short, light strokes. To show ocean, shade along the coastline with a narrow band of blue: 1/2 inch wide or less is enough. Shade in bays and shade over the river lines.

Boundary Lines:
Why are they drawn differently?
A solid line shows a coast or shoreline. Political boundaries between states and countries are usually shown with broken lines. On this map, a long line with two dashes shows state boundaries. A long line with three dashes shows the border between the USA and Canada.



Cartographic Activities

By drawing physical features on this map, you'll begin to see the geography of New York state. See **Earthworm's Cartographic Tips** (above right) to help complete the map.

- BORDERS**
Label neighboring states and country along borders:
Vermont
Massachusetts
Connecticut
Pennsylvania
New Jersey
Canada
- CITIES**
Locate **Albany**, the capital: use the symbol in **Map Key** to mark it. Label the following cities marked on the map. Add other cities and towns, including your own.
Utica **Schenectady**
Buffalo **Syracuse**
Ithaca **Newark**
Fulton **Rochester**
Watertown **Binghamton**

- ISLANDS** Label the following:
Long Island
Staten Island
Manhattan Island
- MOUNTAINS**
The **Taconic Mountains** extend from north to south on the eastern border of the state, and are drawn on this map. Using the symbol in **Map Key**, draw and label:
Adirondack Mountains
Catskill Mountains
- Draw and label **Mt. Marcy** (5,344 ft.), the highest peak in New York State.

- BODIES OF WATER**
Label:
Atlantic Ocean
Long Island Sound
- RIVERS**
Label, shade with blue:
Hudson River
Mohawk River
St. Lawrence River
Niagara River
Genesee River
Sussquehanna River
Allegheny River
- Label and shade the **Delaware River**, which forms a natural border between New York and Pennsylvania.

- LAKES**
Label and shade bordering lakes:
Lake Champlain
Lake Erie
Lake Ontario
- Label and shade the large interior lakes drawn in on the map:
Lake Oneida
Indian Lake
Lake George
Lake Seneca
Lake Cayuga
The Finger Lakes
- Label **Niagara Falls**
- INFRASTRUCTURE**
Add man-made physical structures such as airports, railroads and highways. See **Map Key** for symbols.



MAP KEY

- ▲▲▲ Mountains
- River
- ▨ Valley
- ★ Capital
- City
- Town
- ⚡ Highway
- ++++ Railroad
- ✕ Airport



DECORATION
To add a decorative touch to your map, color the following:
NEW YORK title
Earthworm (our mascot!)
Border around map
Compass Rose: mark north, south, east and west.

Visit us at www.mapofthemoth.com

Map of the Month

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