

# The National Hard Crab Derby Activity Packet for Grades K-5

Hello Educators!

The Crisfield Area Chamber of Commerce is happy to provide you with some fun and engaging educational materials for your students so that they can learn all about one of our signature events, the National Hard Crab Derby held every Labor Day weekend in Crisfield, Maryland. This event began in 1947 to showcase the proud crabbing heritage in Crisfield and has been entertaining families ever since! We hope to continue the excitement of the event and draw students and their families to attend and enjoy for years to come.

These materials were designed to fit curriculum learning goals and objectives and are easily differentiated to meet the needs of your students.

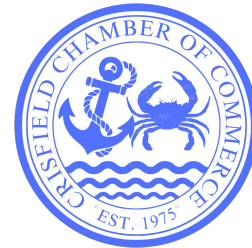
Feel free to use these activities by copying from this paper version and/or use the digital resources and information found at:

[NationalHardCrabDerby.com](http://NationalHardCrabDerby.com)

More crab-centered activities, lessons, and assessments will be added so please check back from time to time.

The Crisfield Area Chamber of Commerce and the National Hard Crab Derby committee would like to thank you for using these educational materials in your classroom to the promote the legacy of the event! If you have any questions or comments please email [office@crisfieldchamberofcommerce.com](mailto:office@crisfieldchamberofcommerce.com), call 410-968-2500 or stop by the Chamber Office and Visitor Center at 906 W. Main St., Crisfield, MD.

Sincerely,  
Crisfield Area Chamber of Commerce  
National Hard Crab Derby Committee



We would like to thank the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority for providing funding for this project.



This project has been financed in part with State funds from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority but does not necessarily reflect its views or policies.



# Grades K-5 Activity Packet Includes:

1. **5 Senses Booklet**—students will describe the National Hard Crab Derby in writing and pictures by identifying parts of the event using their five senses
  - Have students share their experiences at large festivals and see the derby events held at [NationalHardCrabDerby.com](http://NationalHardCrabDerby.com)
  - Identify the 5 senses
  - Have students complete the booklet using words and pictures

K-2 Booklet: use words and/or complete sentences

3-5 Booklet: use complete sentences and/or paragraphs with adjectives to describe 4 things at the derby for each sense.

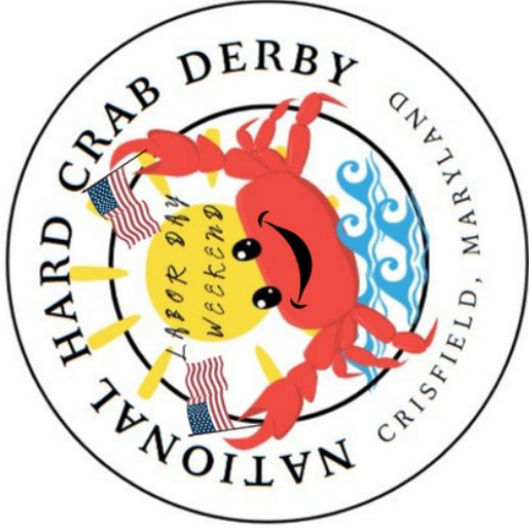
- Differentiate by number of senses, number of things they identify for each sense, number of pictures
2. **Flat Hard Crab Derby Adventure!**—students will read the book, Flat Stanley, create their own "flat crab, Lee" and have tasks to do and write about.  
  
See [NationalHardCrabDerby.com](http://NationalHardCrabDerby.com) for google slides version for Classroom
  3. **Digital Game**—students will play, or create and play, a cooperative crab-related game using Slides in Google Drive

K-2: Have students use a copy of the games "Tic-Tac-Crab" in Slides in Google Drive to play with a partner

3-5: Students will create their own version of "Tic-Tac-Crab" using Slides in Google Drive to play with a partner

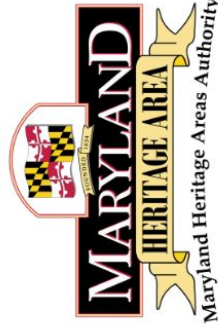
Get a digital copy of the "Tic-Tac-Crab" game at [NationalHardCrabDerby.com](http://NationalHardCrabDerby.com) under More>Educational Resources

4. **Art Pages**—for FREE student admission to the National Hard Crab Derby!

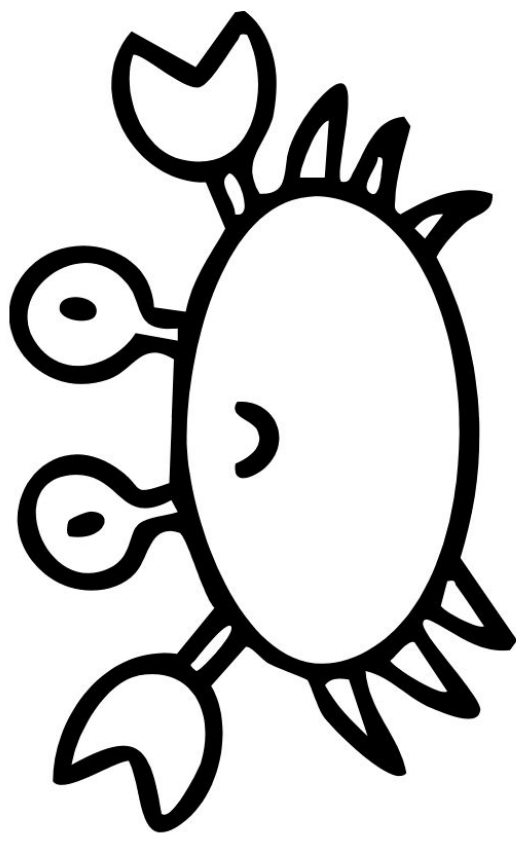


**Come see us at the  
National Hard Crab Derby  
on Labor Day weekend in  
Crisfield, Maryland!**

**NationalHardCrabDerby.com**



# **National Hard Crab Derby 5 Senses Booklet**

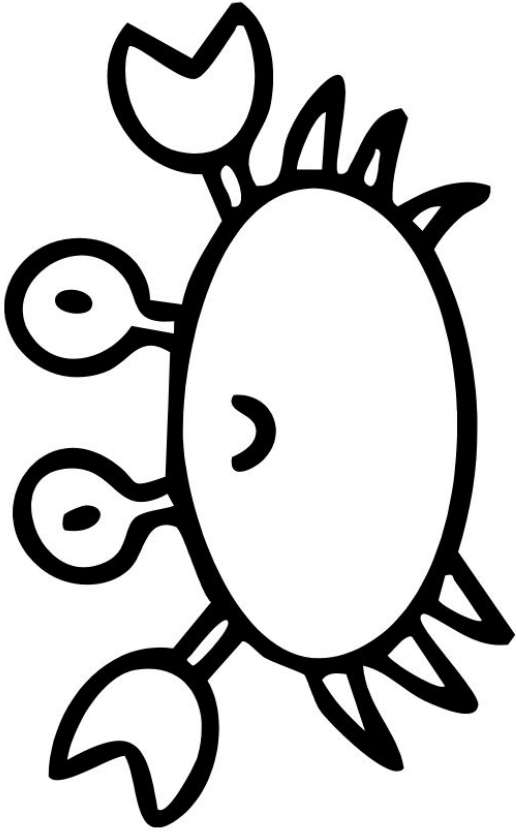


**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

What are the 5 Senses?

Touch

Sight



Hearing

Taste

Smell

What do you think you will see, hear, smell, taste, touch at the National Hard

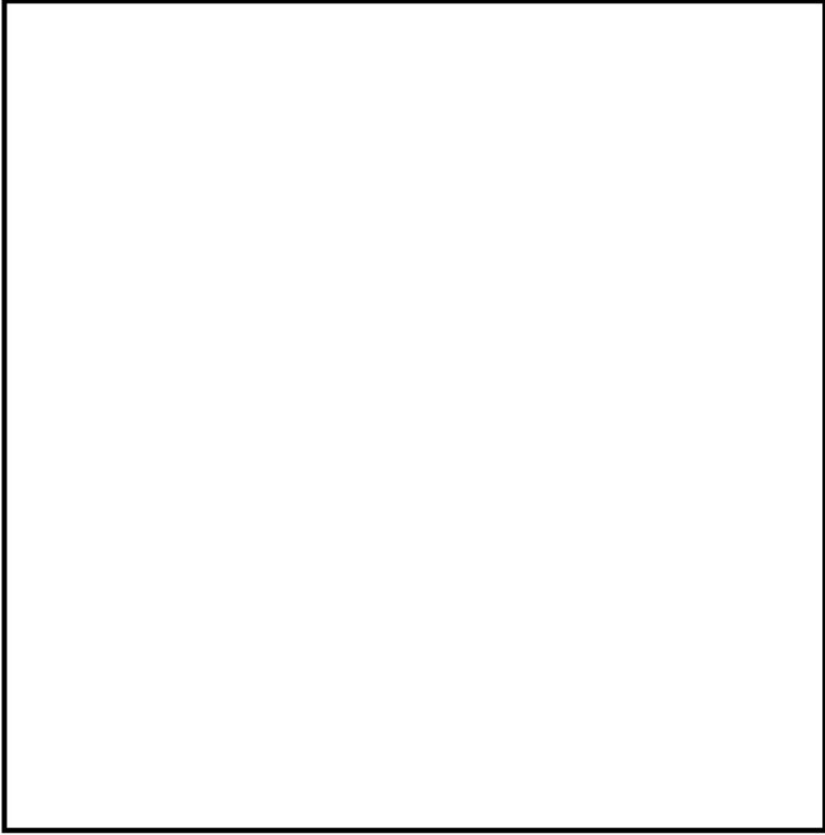
Crab Derby?

I will see

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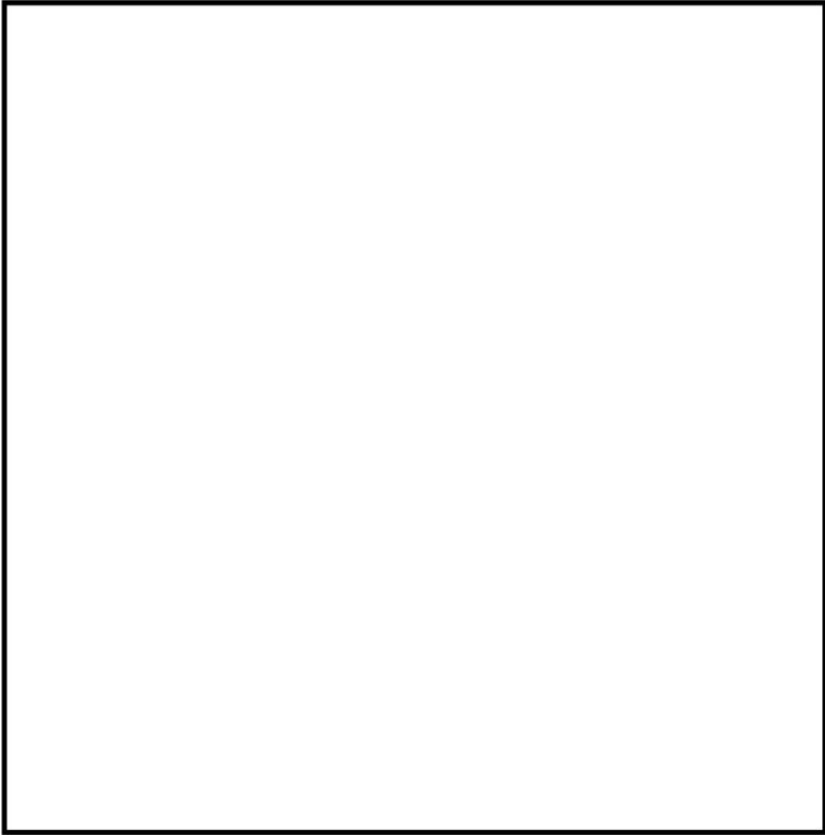
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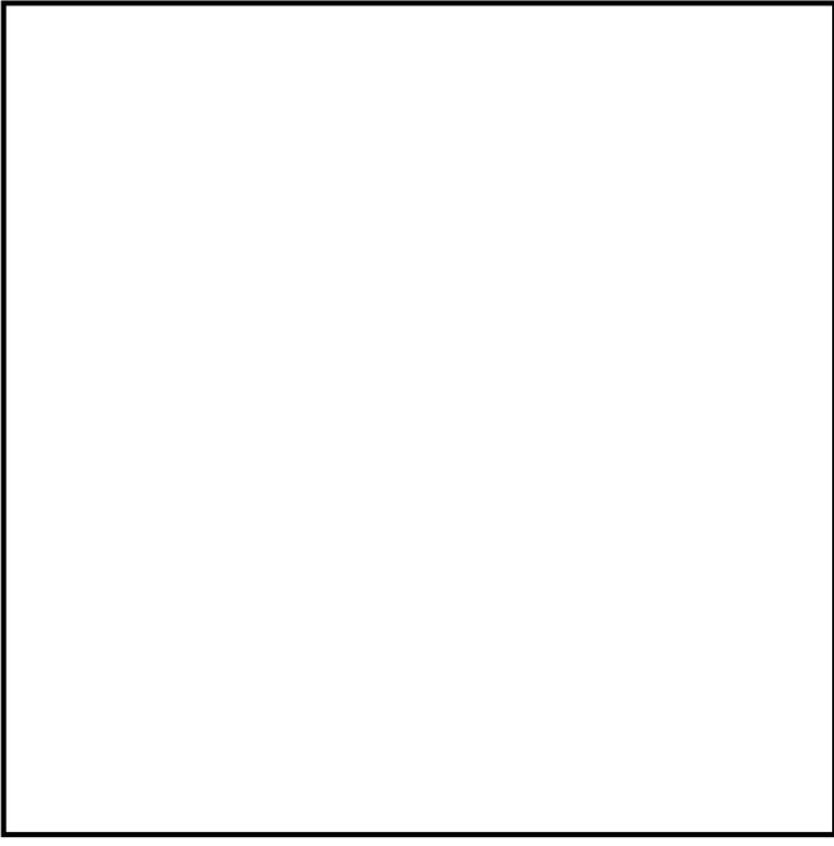
**I will smell**

Two vertical lines for writing.



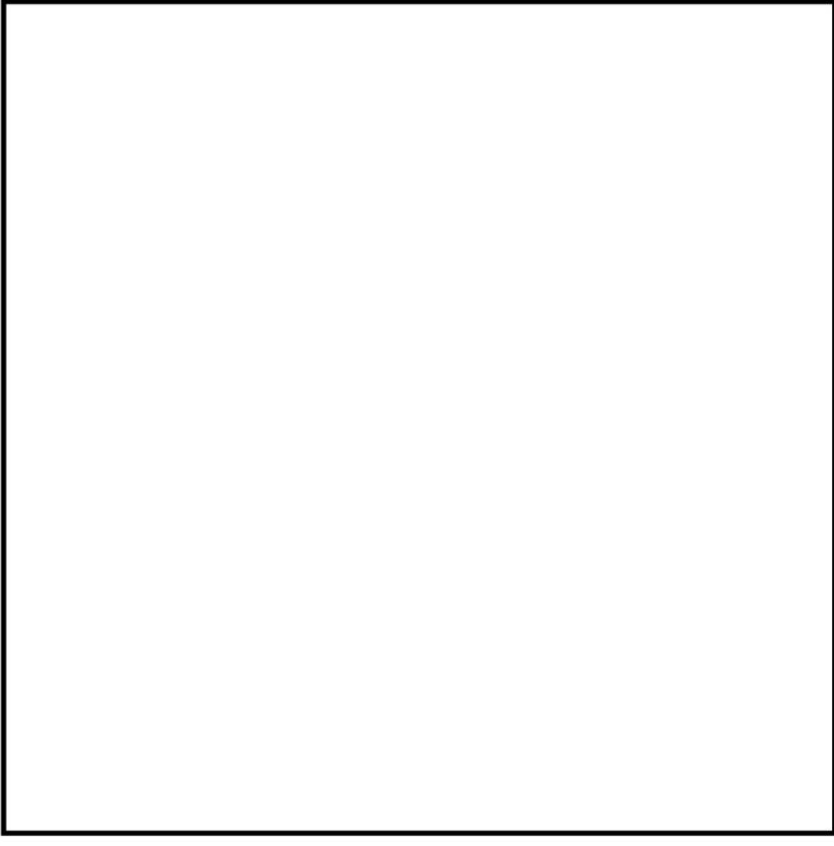
**I will hear**

Two vertical lines for writing.



**I will touch**

Two vertical lines for writing.



**I will taste**

Two vertical lines for writing.

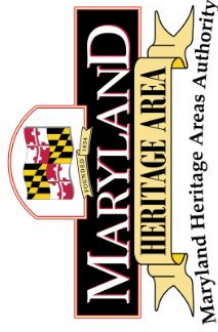
K-2 Booklet Assessment Name:

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
I can identify a few senses from the National Hard Crab Derby.	I can identify some senses from the National Hard Crab Derby.	I can identify most senses from the National Hard Crab Derby.	I can identify all 5 senses from the National Hard Crab Derby.
I can describe the senses in writing using a few words.	I can describe the senses in writing using some words.	I can describe the senses in writing using appropriate words and/or sentences.	I can describe the senses in writing using descriptive words and/or sentences.
I can show the senses using a few drawings.	I can show the senses using some drawings.	I can show the senses using drawings.	I can show the senses using amazing drawings.

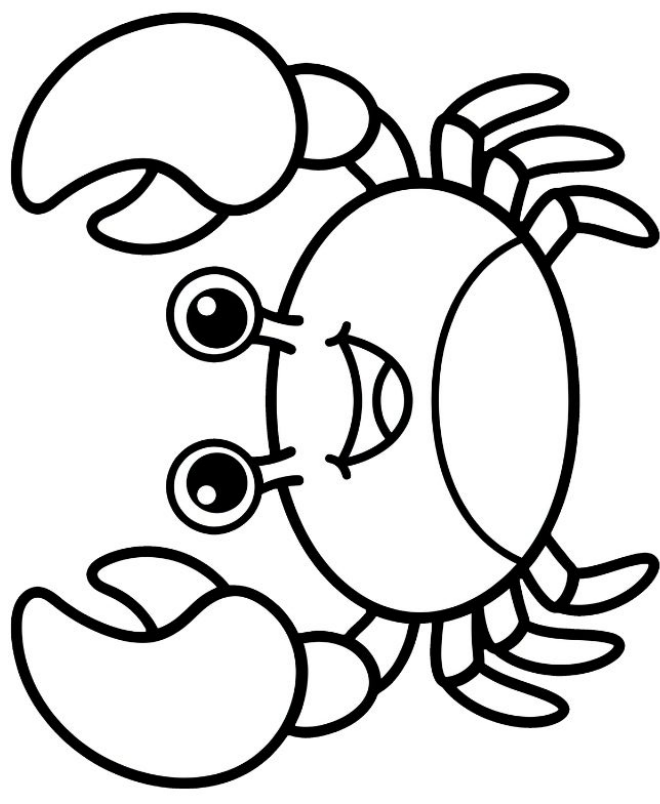


Come see us at the  
National Hard Crab Derby  
on Labor Day weekend in  
Crisfield, Maryland!

[NationalHardCrabDerby.com](http://NationalHardCrabDerby.com)



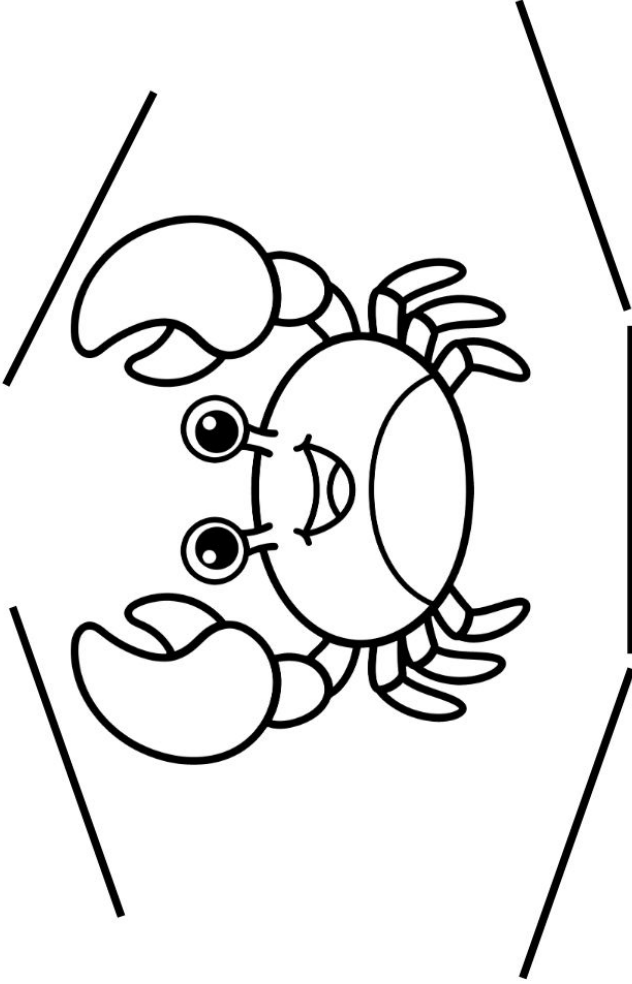
Describe a Trip to  
the National Hard  
Crab Derby!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# What are the 5 Senses?

List them here:



You will describe a visit to the National Hard Crab Derby using your five senses. Describe some things you will experience at the National Hard Crab Derby. Don't forget to use adjectives! Draw a mini picture for each of the examples.

Visit [NationalHardCrabDerby.com](http://NationalHardCrabDerby.com) for some ideas!


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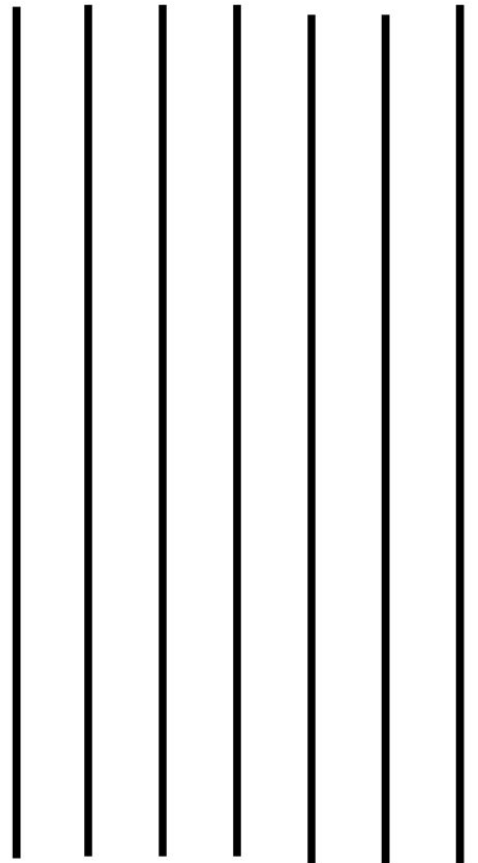
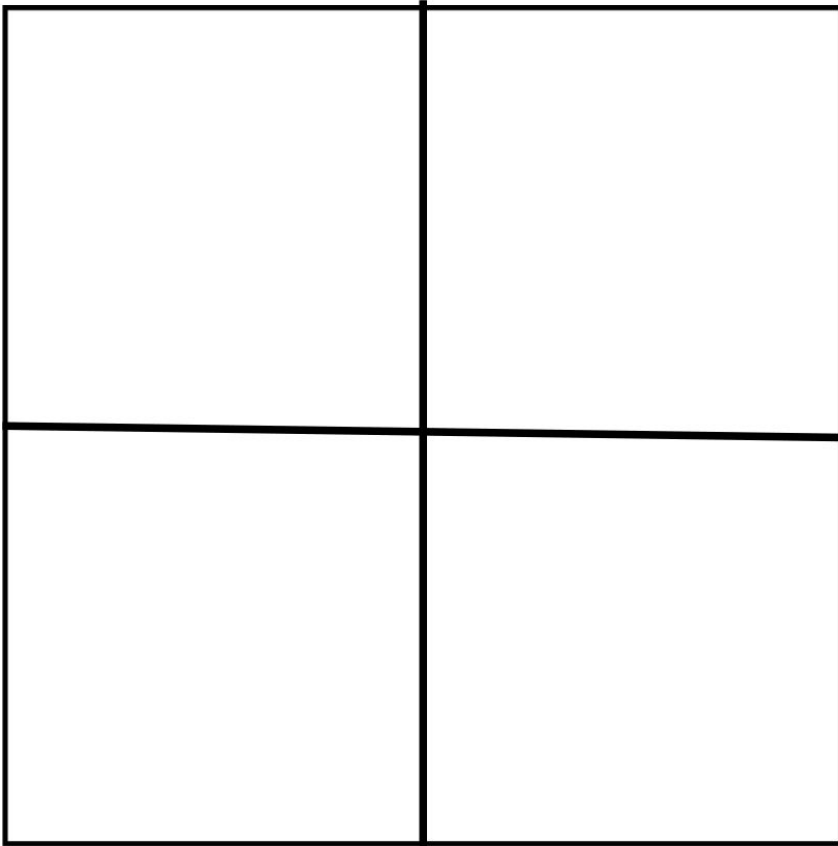
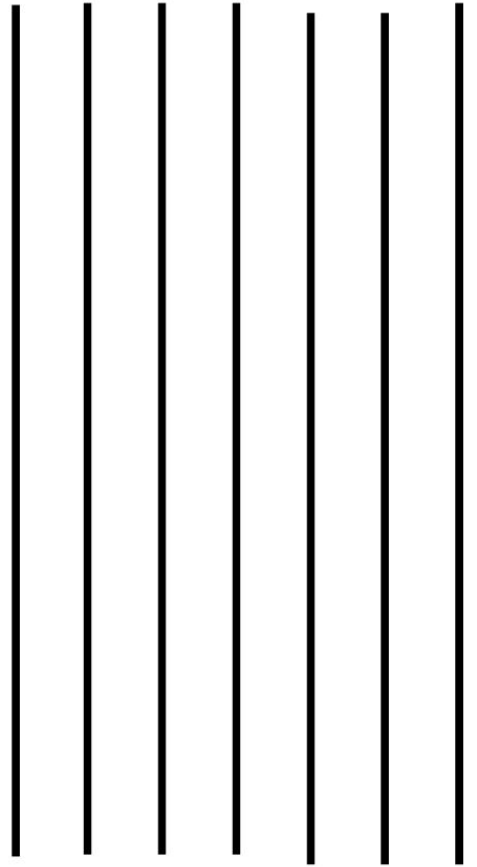
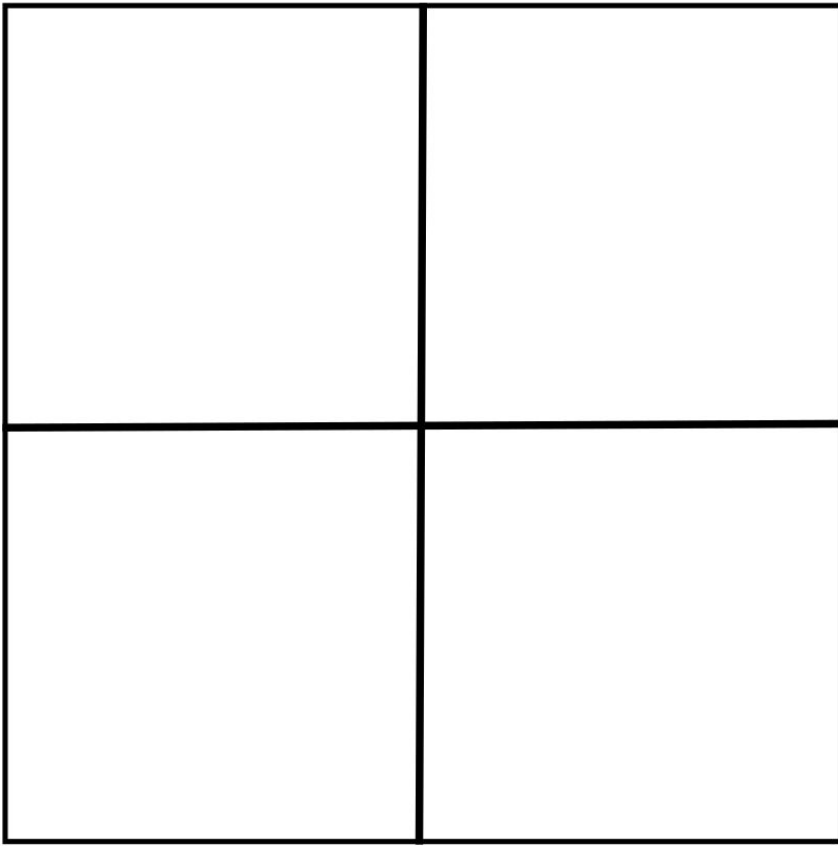
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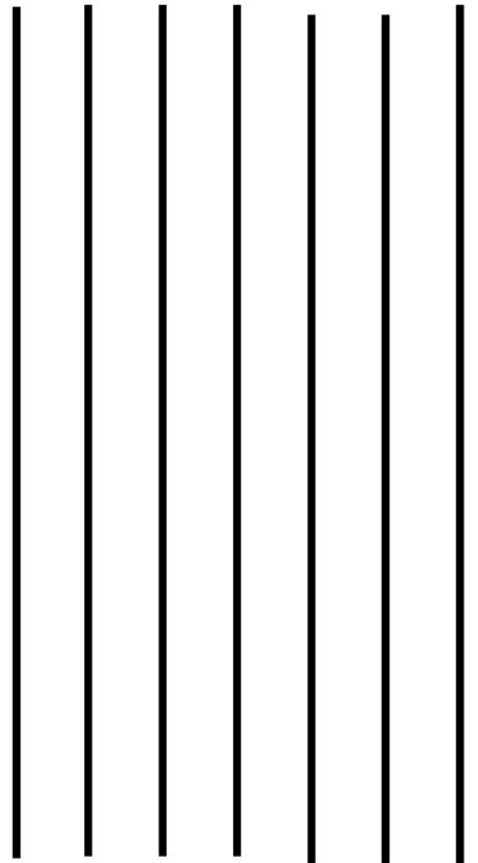
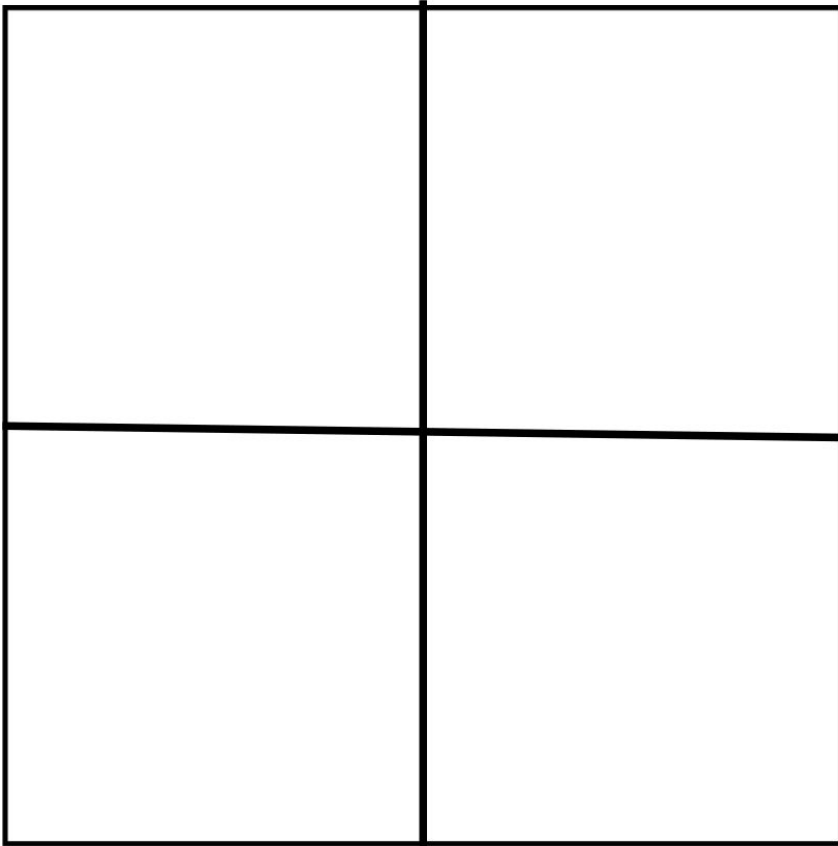
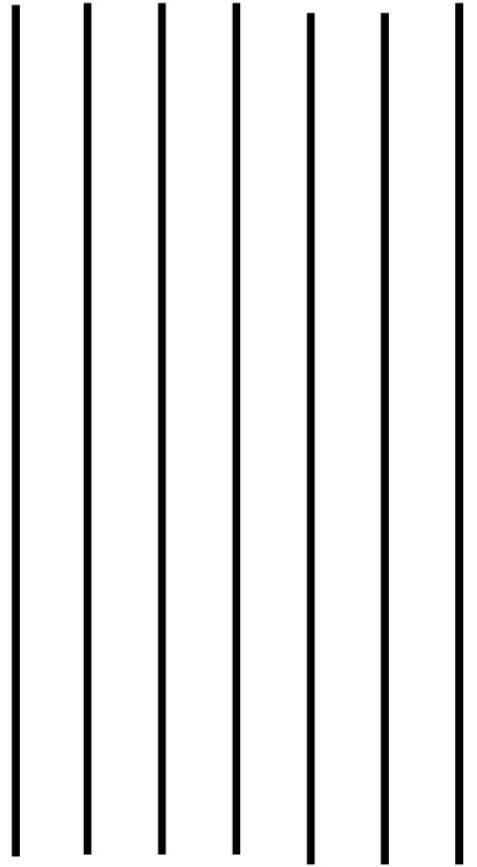
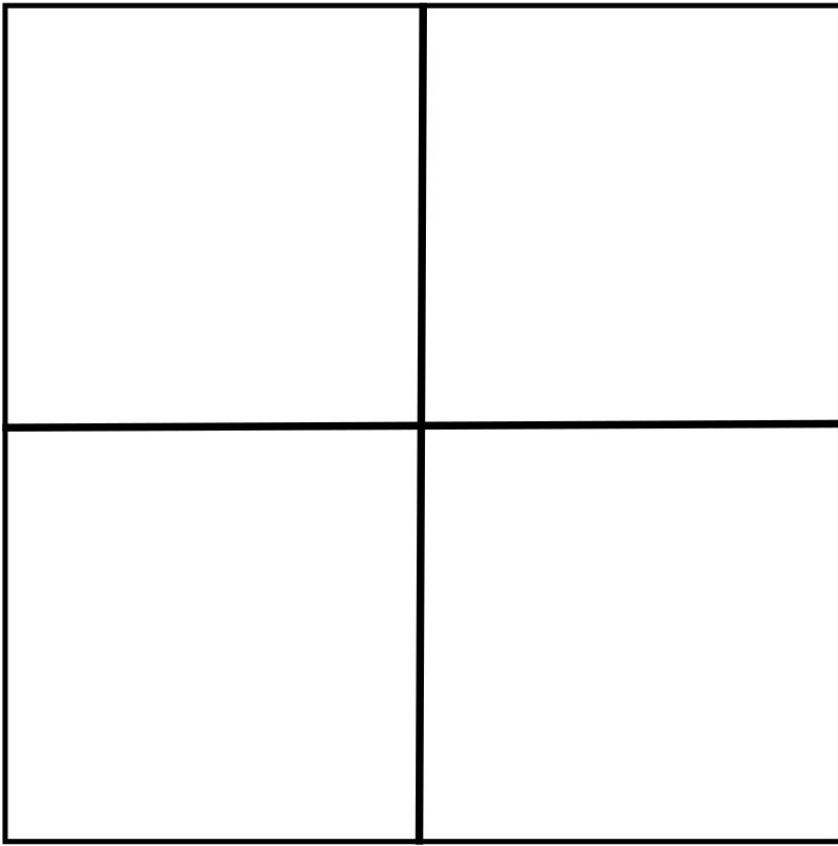
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3-5 Booklet Assessment Name:

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
I can identify a few senses from the National Hard Crab Derby.	I can identify some senses from the National Hard Crab Derby.	I can identify most senses from the National Hard Crab Derby.	I can identify all 5 senses from the National Hard Crab Derby.
I can describe the senses in writing using a few words.	I can describe the senses in writing using some words.	I can describe the senses in writing using appropriate sentences.	I can describe the senses in writing using sentences in paragraphs.
I can describe using a few adjectives.	I can describe using some adjectives.	I can describe using appropriate adjectives.	I can describe using many appropriate adjectives.
I can show the senses using a few drawings.	I can show the senses using some drawings.	I can show the senses using drawings.	I can show the senses using amazing drawings.

# Flat Hard Crab

Grades:  
K-3

Welcome to  
Crisfield's National  
Hard Crab Derby  
"Flat Hard Crab  
Adventure!"

I can't wait to see  
how much fun  
you're going to have  
taking Lee, the  
Maryland Blue hard  
crab and me with  
you on your  
interesting  
experiences!



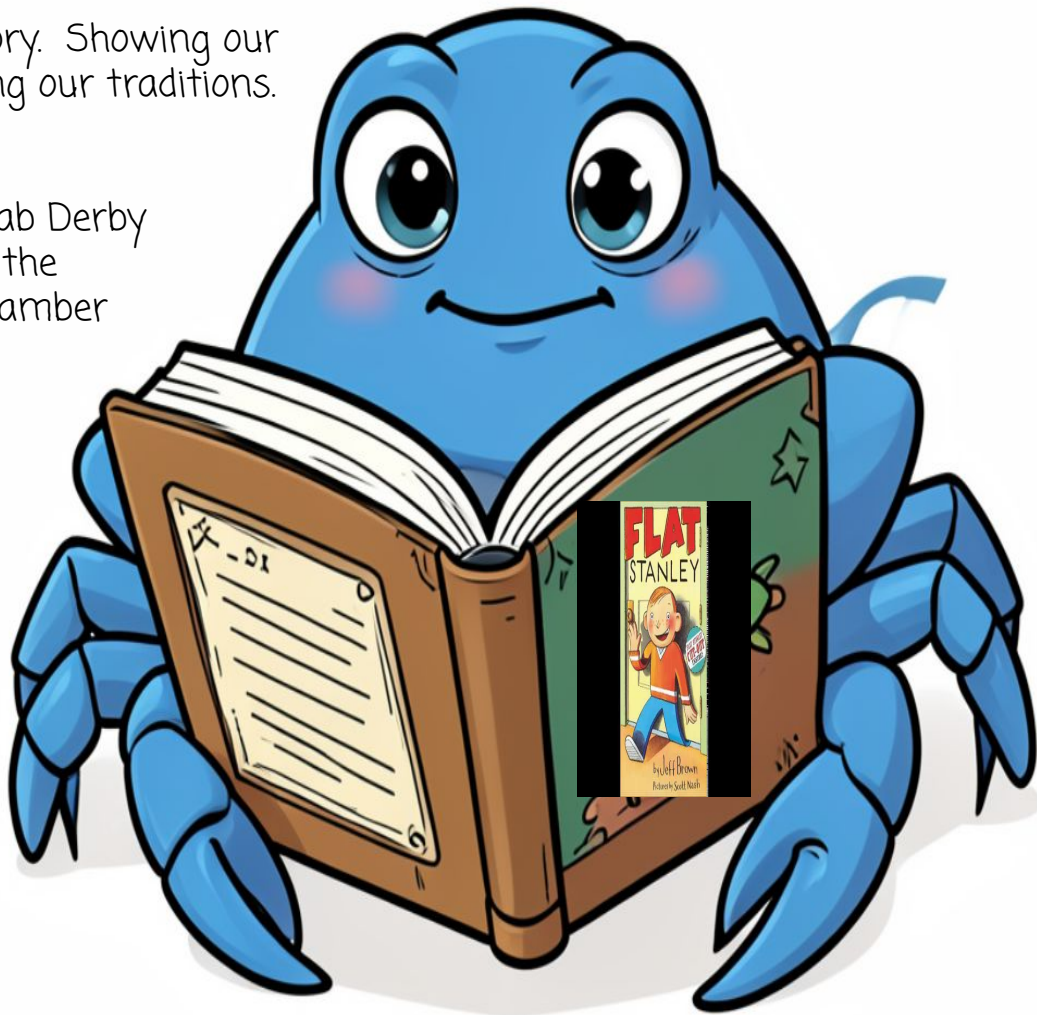
Hello friend!

You know Flat Stanley right?! Well read that chapter book first (see link on the book cover) and then meet Lee, the Maryland blue hard crab, from Crisfield who is FLAT too, and ready to have some real fun while learning with you! Take Lee with you on your adventures and be sure to describe your time together by taking pictures and writing about what you have been up to!

We've made some special google slides so that you can post all of your pictures and notes of you exploring together! Use the ideas on the slides, or plan other exciting activities for you and Lee--like visiting the National Hard Crab Derby this Labor Day Weekend in Crisfield, Maryland! Just copy the slides you want, delete the ones you don't want to use and/or create your own (your teacher or parent can help you decide).

Making our history. Showing our heritage. Enjoying our traditions.

Yours truly,  
National Hard Crab Derby  
Committee and the  
Crisfield Area Chamber  
of Commerce



Read the chapter book, [Flat Stanley](#) by Jeff Brown. It's about a boy who can travel in mailed envelopes to places like the National Hard Crab Derby in Crisfield, Maryland held every Labor Day Weekend since he suddenly finds himself FLAT! Imagine all the fun you would have-crab races, carnival rides, boat docking and so much more! See [NationalHardCrabDerby.com](http://NationalHardCrabDerby.com) for all the things to see and do that shows See you there!

You can either read along or you can mute the sound and read it by yourself at your own pace with the link on Lee's book.



Either print Lee, the hard crab, on your printer, trace me onto a piece of paper from the screen or hand draw me and then take me on some adventures!

# Flat Hard Crab Adventure!

<p>Let's read a book together! You know how much I LOVE to listen to you read!</p> 	<p>Going on a walk would be amazing! Make it a race and you've got a "derby"!</p> 	<p>Build me a fort! Let's hang out in a fort! It can be made with anything! Get creative!</p> 	<p>Umm.. I get it, you like video games. Can I try to play a learning online game, too?</p> 
<p>Can we just have some chill time? Let's just hang out!</p> 	<p>I'm hungry! Are you going to feed me or what? Want to enter the cooking contest?</p> 	<p>Can we have a dance party? What's your favorite crab dance move?</p> 	<p>I need to workout and keep up my fitness! Let's get strong together!</p> 
<p>Can you find some crabs around your house or neighbourhood.--not that I'm bragging, but I'm everywhere! (Not Real or ALIVE!)</p> 	<p>Let's just go play outside! I mean, there is soooo much we can do in the sunshine!</p> 	<p>You know, I'm not that great at drawing. Can you teach me to draw or color some pictures?</p> 	<p>It's been a while since I've played a board game or a card game! Let's play!</p> 
<p>Hmmm... when's the last time you've helped around here? Let's do some clean-up together!</p> 	<p>You know how much I love Random Acts of Kindness! Let's see yours!</p> <p>THANK YOU!</p> 	<p>Let's do your schoolwork together!</p> 	<p>Choose your own adventure! Surprise me in a good way!</p> 

Thank you for all the great adventures this week--Lee and I had a fantastic time hanging out with you!!!



Please write about all the things we did together this week and share with a friend!

See real-life events you can see and do at  
[NationalHardCrabDerby.com](http://NationalHardCrabDerby.com)

# How to Play Tic-Tac-Crab:

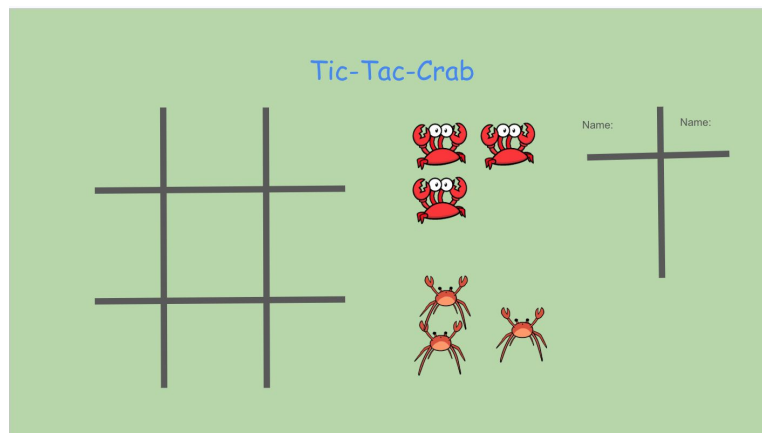
Two players take turns marking a crab (drag and drop) in a 3x3 grid, aiming to get three of their crabs in a row (horizontally, vertically, or diagonally) before their friend does; if all nine squares are filled and no one has three in a row, it's a tie.

In Google Slides, Copy the Tic-Tac-Crab game link and share with a partner. Drag and drop your crabs into the grid. Link: [nationalhardcrabderby.com](https://nationalhardcrabderby.com)

OR

Create your own in Google Slides:

1. Create a new slide show and label it Tic-Tac-Crab Game
2. Create 3x3 grid by inserting lines from menu bar
3. Make 3 of each crab you want to use ("insert" crabs using "images" search to find the crabs you want or create your own then copy and paste two times)
4. Make a tally chart with your name and "friend" to keep track of games won (write a capital i for tallies)
5. Keep this as your master copy and use to make copies for your games with friends
6. Share your game slide with your opponent or friend
7. Both can move their own crabs into the spaces to win, keep track on tally chart, and play as many games as you want



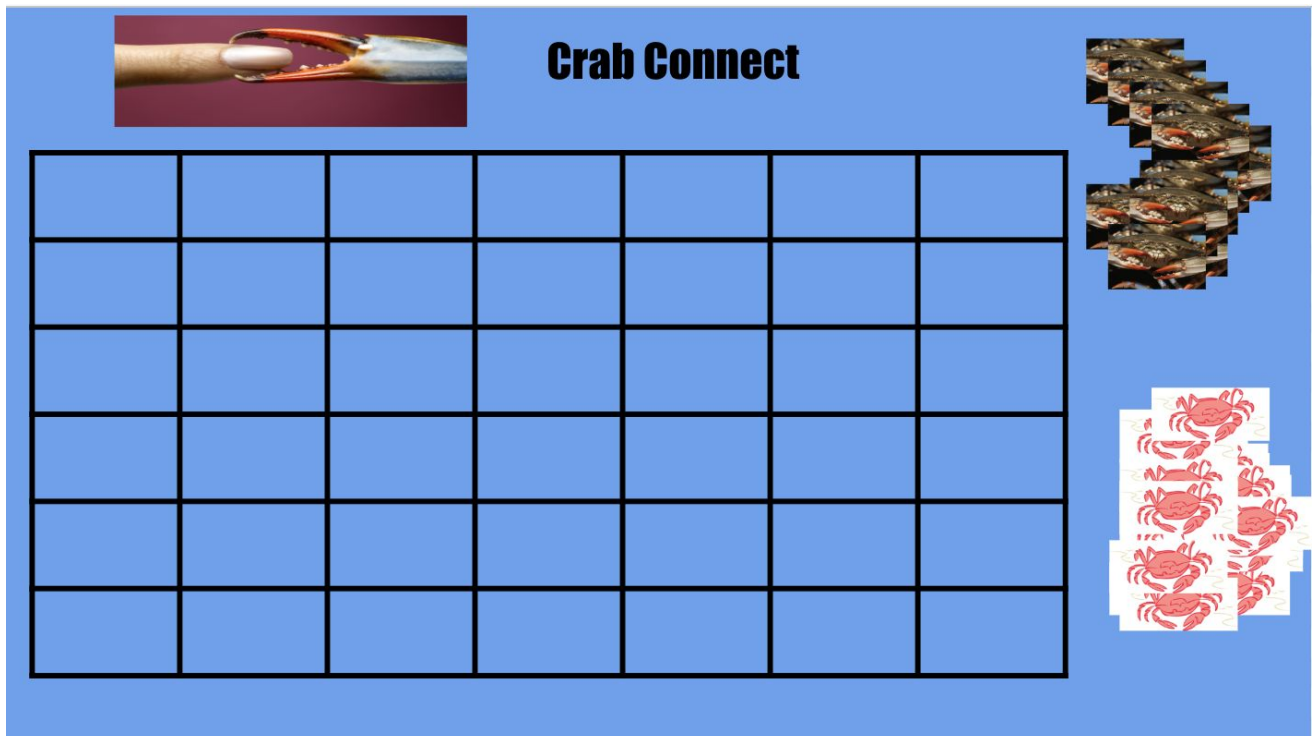
# How to Play Crab Connect:

Two players take turns marking a "crab" down columns in a 6x7 grid, aiming to get four of their crabs in a row (horizontally, vertically, or diagonally) before their friend does. You may only drop crabs vertically at the lowest spot across the grid while trying to connecting 4 crabs or blocking your friend. For instance, crabs must be at the very bottom row or square where another crab is already placed, you cannot put the crab in just any spot.

in Google Slides, Copy the Crab Connect game link and share with a partner. Drag and drop your crabs into the grid. Link: [nationalhardcrabderby.com](http://nationalhardcrabderby.com) or create your own:

To Create in Google Slides:

1. Create a new slide show and label it Crab Connect Game
2. Create 6x7 grid by inserting a table
3. Make 21 of each crab you want to use ("insert" crabs using "images" search to find the crabs you want or create your own then copy and paste)
4. Keep this as your master copy and use to make copies for your games with friends
5. Share your game slide with your opponent or friend
6. Decide who gets what crab and now Both can move their own crabs into the spaces to win, keep track on tally chart, and play as many games as you want



The slide is titled "Crab Connect" and features a 6x7 grid in the center. To the left of the grid is a close-up image of a crab's claw. To the right of the grid is a stack of several crab images, and below that is a stack of red crab icons on white backgrounds. The entire slide has a blue background.

Race your  
own crab!

79TH

Boat  
Docking!

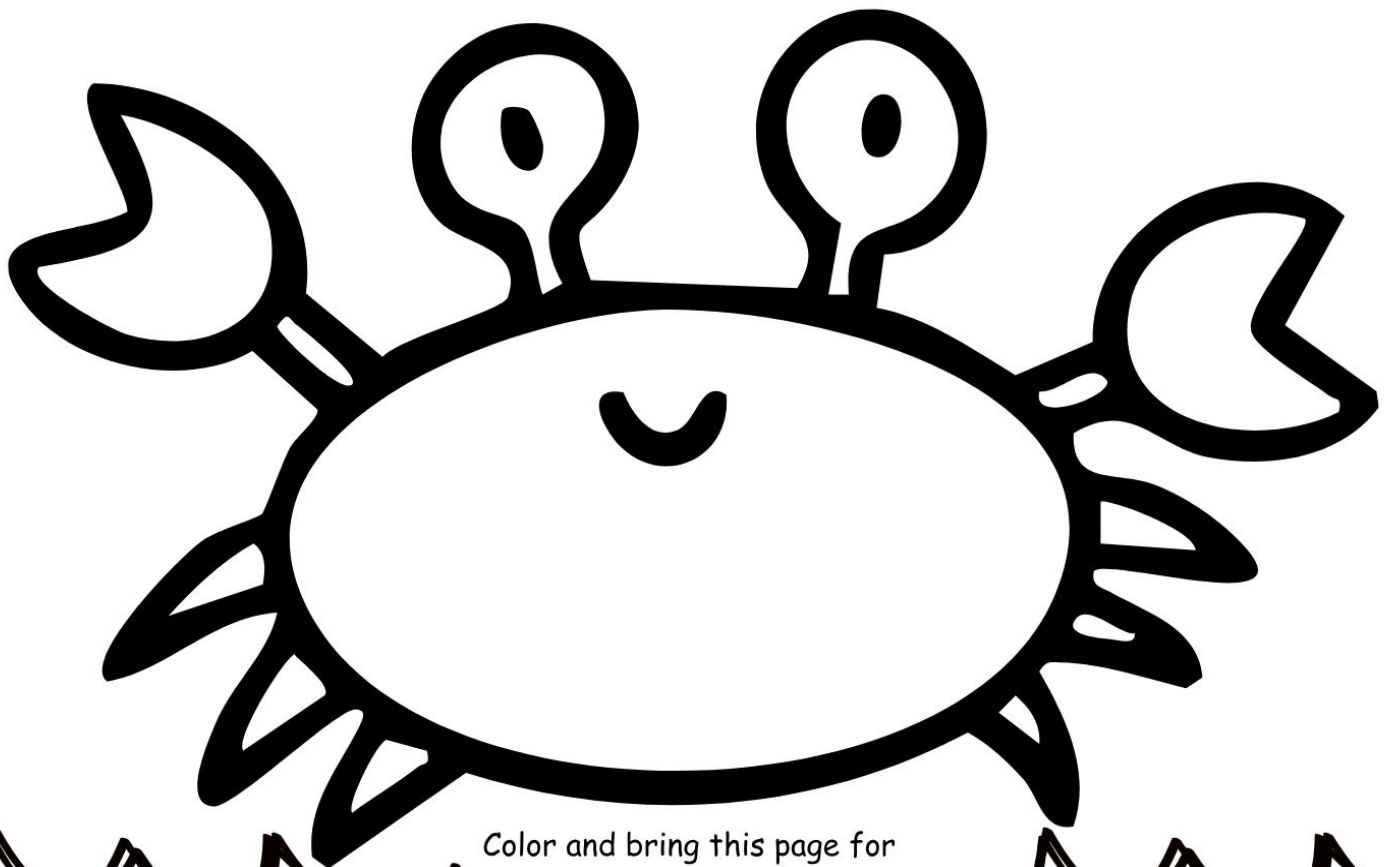
NATIONAL

HARD CRAB

Parade!

DERBY!

Contests!



Color and bring this page for  
ONE FREE Kids Gate Entry!  
79th National Hard Crab Derby

Labor Day Weekend  
September 4-6<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Crisfield, MD

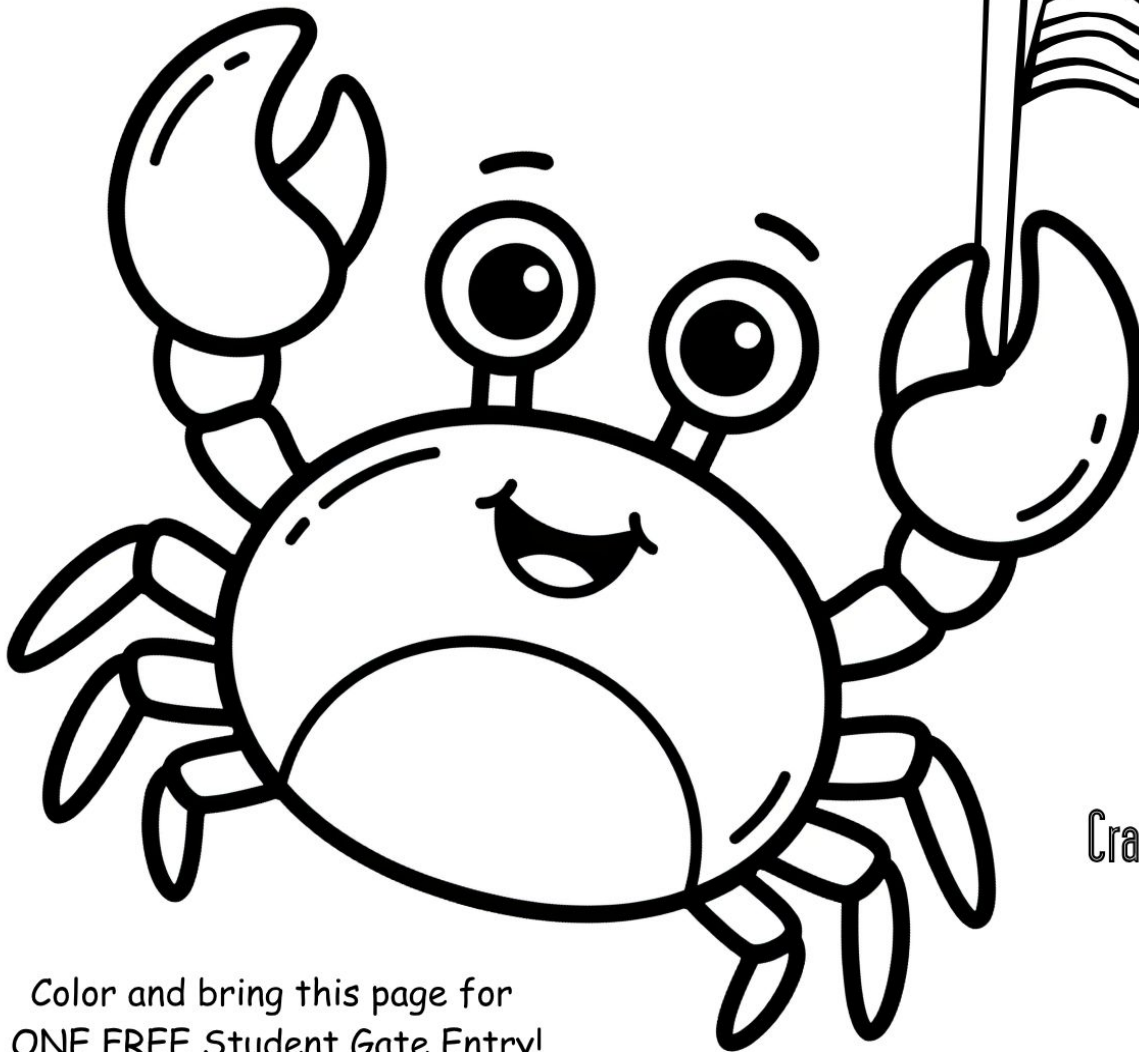
Visit:  
[NationalHardCrabDerby.com](http://NationalHardCrabDerby.com)



# 79th National Hard Crab Derby!

Race your own crab!

Carnival rides!



Boat Docking!

Parade!

Crab Picking Contest!

Color and bring this page for  
ONE FREE Student Gate Entry!  
79th National Hard Crab Derby  
Labor Day Weekend  
September 4-6<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Crisfield, MD

Visit:  
[NationalHardCrabDerby.com](http://NationalHardCrabDerby.com)

