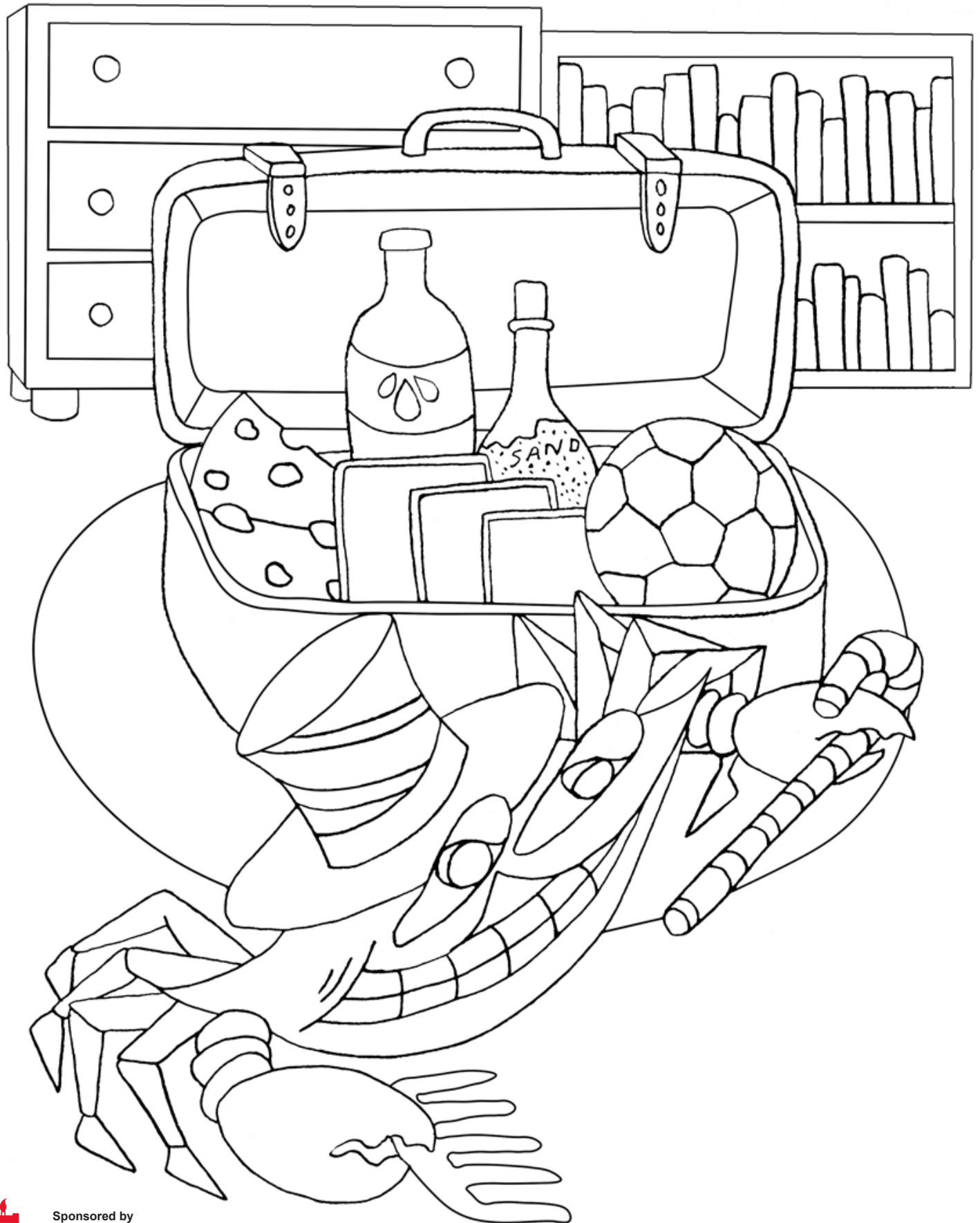


A Blue Crab's Trip to New York



One sunny day in Tobago Mr Blue woke up in a very positive mood. He decided that he wanted to explore the world.

"Times are hard and I want better opportunities and to make new friends. I will go to New York."

He quickly planned his trip. "Perhaps I could swim, jet ski, maybe ride on a whale," the adventurous blue crab thought. "Or I might sneak into the bag of a tourist travelling by boat or plane and pretend to be a pet." He laughed at the thought of someone having a crab as a pet. He decided to stowaway on a boat.

He found a suitcase and packed food, water and sand from Pigeon Point and Bucco Reef, and photos of the Tobago Museum and the new library in Scarborough. He added a football.

"Maybe I could get a job as a coach," he smiled, and he kicked the ball into the suitcase.

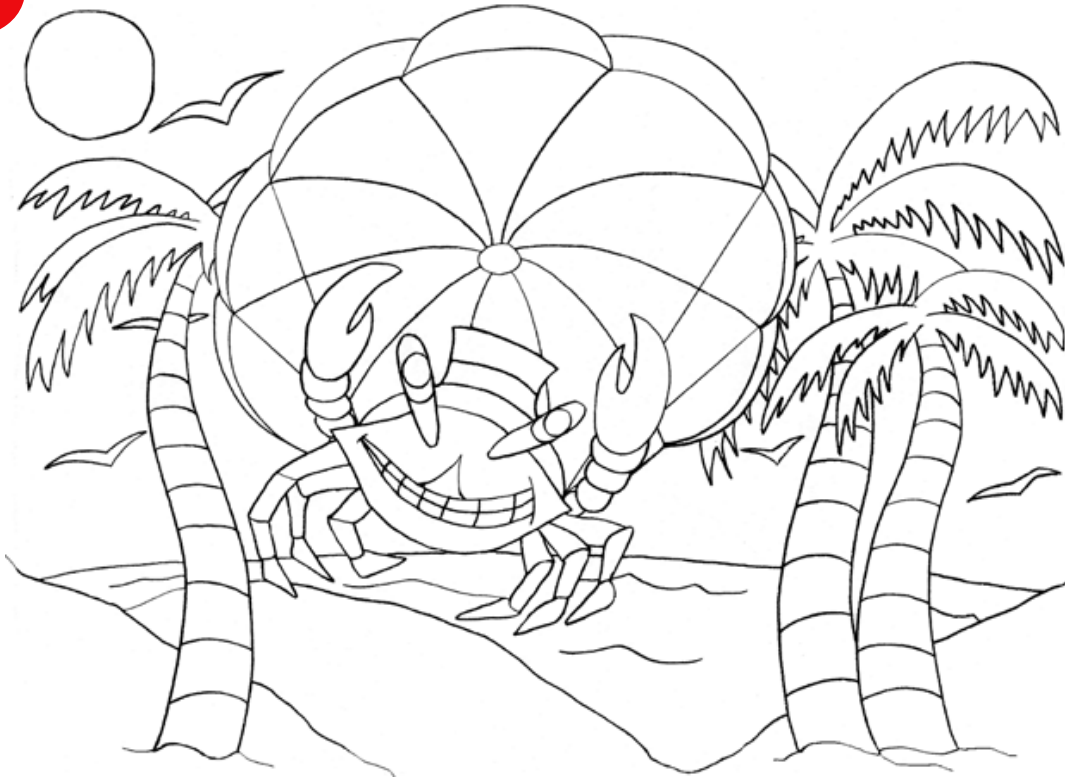
Mr Blue grinned as he checked his shiny new shell in the mirror, and said, "I need to look smart so I'll also take my hat, walking stick and comb."

One week later he crept onto a boat and hid under the cabin. To pass time he played with the sand but he got seasick and had to rest. When he felt better he was hungry, so he dressed in his best outfit and went to the buffet table.

He was nervous when the boat docked in New York but managed to sneak off safely and went into the city. He noticed that in the seafood market there were crabs hanging on strings. "Help us," they cried, and he became afraid that someone would eat him.

A BLUE CRAB'S TRIP TO NEW YORK





He met a red crab running under the stalls; the crab said to him, "You must be related to the Crabs that live in Brooklyn, they are all blue too." He followed the red crab down a manhole that led to an underground tunnel. "This goes all the way to Brooklyn," his new friend said.

Mr Blue met his family in Brooklyn and forgot his fears. He took photos and played football and made many more friends. One day when strong winds were blowing, he lost his hat. It spun away fast and ended up in front of the Crab Incorporated Company. Mr Blue thought that was meant to be good luck, so he went in and easily got a job as a driver.

And, he had more good luck: He won a lotto prize and was able to buy a house and a park to play football. Mr Blue lived happily in New York, but after a while he started to become homesick for his friends in Tobago, so he booked a private plane, packed his stuff and flew back home to Tobago. He remembered that Crab and Dumpling was served on Store Bay, so he jumped out in a parachute over Moriah and ran into the forest before the plane got to Crown Point Airport.

THE END
