

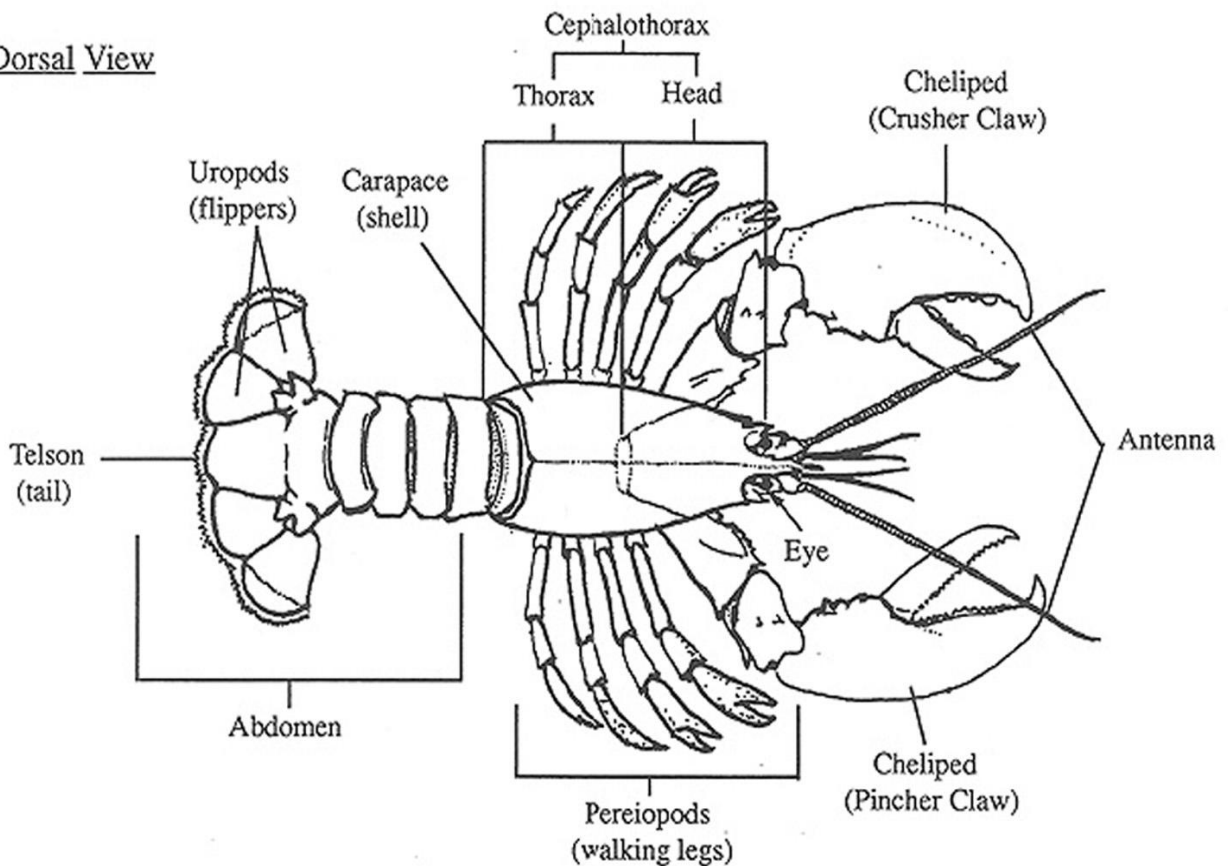
American Lobster

Homarus americanus



Lobster

Dorsal View



**SEACOAST
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Lobster Facts

- Lobsters are crustaceans.
This means lobster are related to shrimp, barnacles, crabs, hermit crabs, and even pillbugs. [Can you think of any other crustaceans?](#)



- Lobsters smell with their feet!
Well, with the short hairs that line the pinchers on their walking legs. Can you imagine walking around smelling with your feet?
- Lobsters can regenerate, or grow back, parts of their body - everything except their eyes!
- The biggest lobster on record was over 44 pounds and caught in 1977.



- Female lobsters carry 8,000 - 100,000 eggs under their tails for 9-12 months until they are ready to hatch into larvae. That's a lot of brothers and sisters!



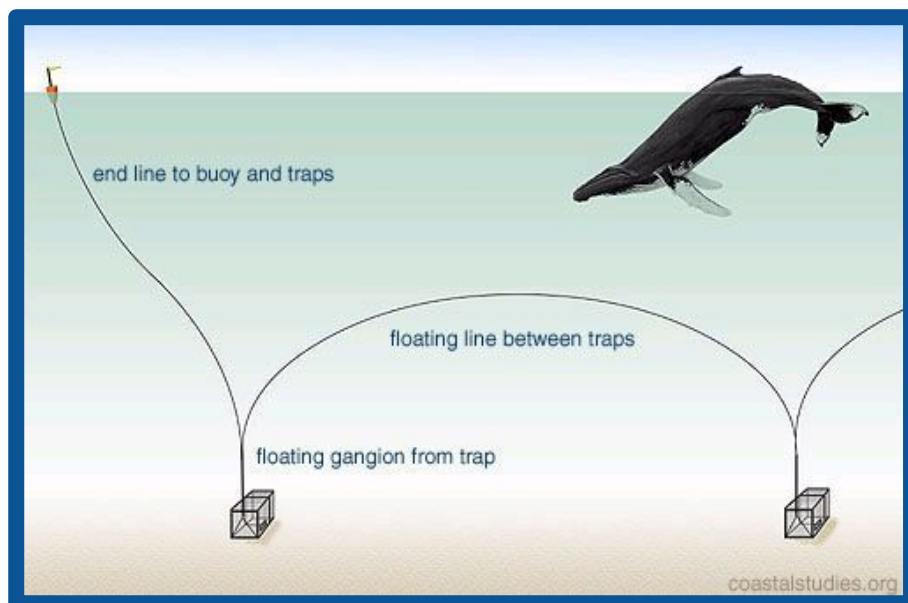
Build A Better Lobster Trap

Problem: The ropes that connect lobster traps to buoys and to each other can entangle whales and other marine life.

Mission: Design a lobster trap that also doesn't trap whales.

How do you think we can make a lobster trap that is safer for marine life, easy to use, affordable, and good at catching lobsters?

1. Take a look at the design of current lobster traps below.. These traps are connected using ropes that float in the water column where it is difficult for whales to see them.
2. Draw a model of a new way to catch lobsters that is safer for the whale.
3. After you have your own design, check out A Safer Lobster Trap (<https://conservationx.com/project/id/225/lobsterlift>) for one proposed idea from an organization that crowdsources scientific solutions to conservation challenges. How does yours compare?



Lobster traps are good at catching lobsters, but they also use ropes that hang in the water column, rope that can entangle or wrap around other ocean animals.

