

# Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area

A stylized illustration of a white lighthouse with a black top section and a yellow light. A wide, yellow beam of light extends from the lighthouse across the sky. The background features a blue sky, a dark blue sea, and green hills. Two text boxes are overlaid on the right side of the image.

Junior Ranger Program Booklet

**Boston Harbor Islands**

# A Map of Boston Harbor





## What is a Boston Harbor Islands Junior Ranger?

Park Rangers protect the natural and historic treasures of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area. As a Junior Ranger, you can help Park Rangers by exploring the islands, learning about their history, and helping to take care of this beautiful natural resource.

### How To Become a Junior Ranger

- If you are . . .
  - 7 or under:* complete 3 or more activities
  - 8 - 12:* complete 5 or more activities
  - 12 or above:* complete 6 or more activities
- If possible, attend a park program such as a tour, hike, performance or activity
- Show your completed booklet to a park staff member, recite the Junior Ranger pledge together and receive a signature

**Practice "Leave No Trace."** You can protect the park by guiding visitors to stay on the trails and off historic walls, by respecting wildlife and by carrying your trash off the island. Remember to always leave what you find, so the next visitor can enjoy the same!



# THE BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS

Welcome to Boston Harbor! This is a place unlike anywhere else in the Western Hemisphere, as it is the only place where drumlins meet the ocean. What is a drumlin? Find out! While you're here, learn about how the islands were formed, how they have changed, and who has used them in the many thousands of years that they have been here in Boston Harbor.

The islands of Boston Harbor have seen it all: the last Ice Age, early native tribes, European settlers, American wars, hospitals, and hotels, and much, much more! They have been crucial to the city of Boston, protecting it from storms and even from enemy attack. Without this harbor and its many islands, Boston would never have been built where it is today.

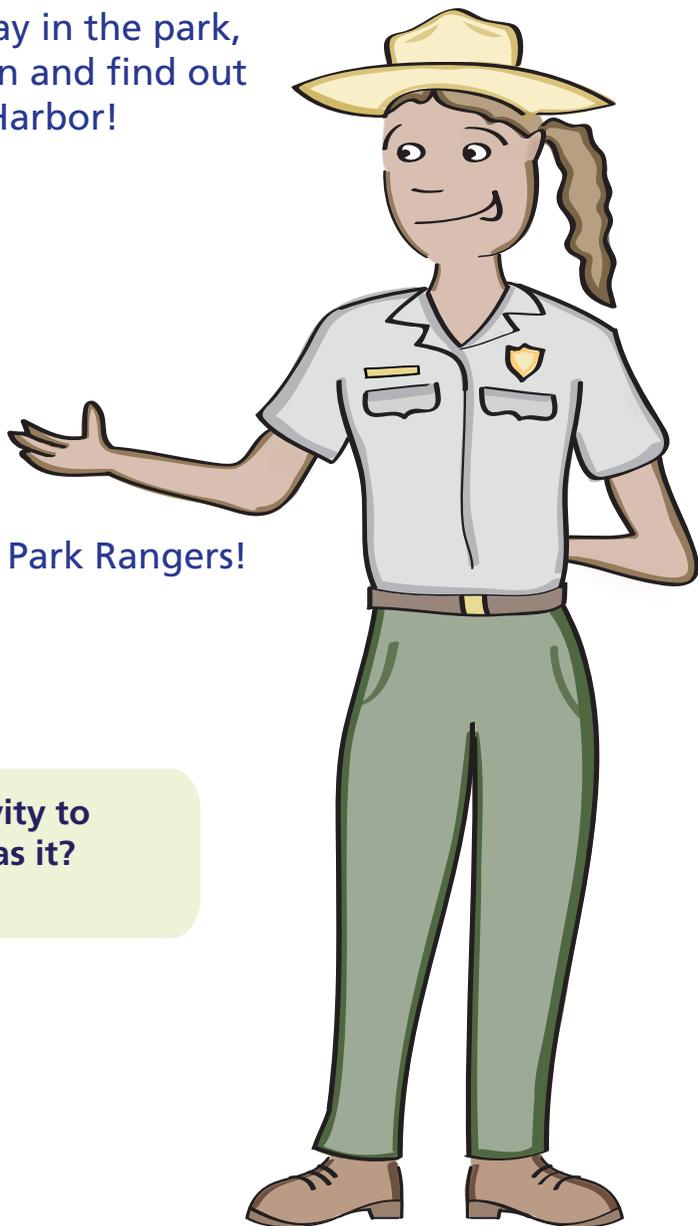
With 34 different islands and peninsulas, Boston Harbor is full of new places to explore. Put on your detective gear, and find out what there is to learn in this unique and incredible national park!

# Conduct a Ranger Interview

As you prepare for an exciting day in the park, find a Park Ranger or staff person and find out what it's like to work in Boston Harbor!

- What is your name?
- What does a Park Ranger do?
- Ask a question *you* have about Park Rangers!

If you can, find a park activity to attend. What program was it?  
What did you do?



# Little Brewster

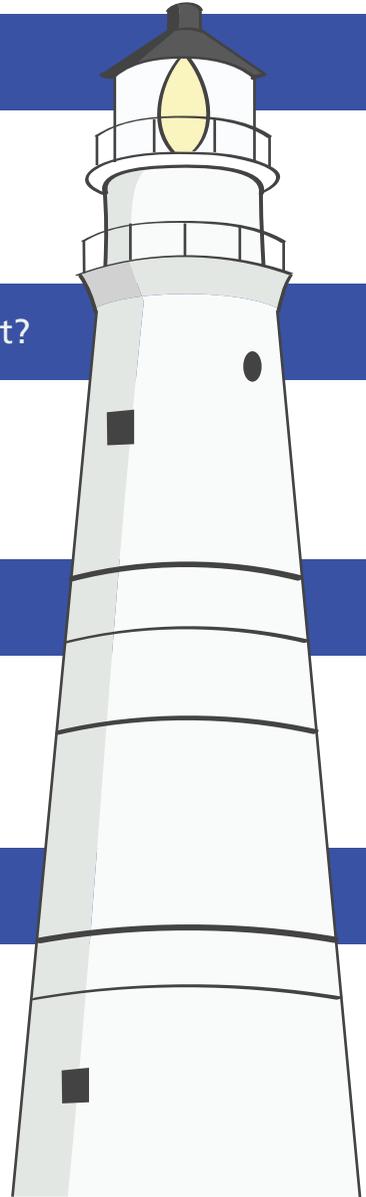
Throughout history, people have used different tools to **navigate**, or find their way. In the 1700's, Boston Light was built to help ship captains navigate safely through the harbor.

What are lighthouses used for?

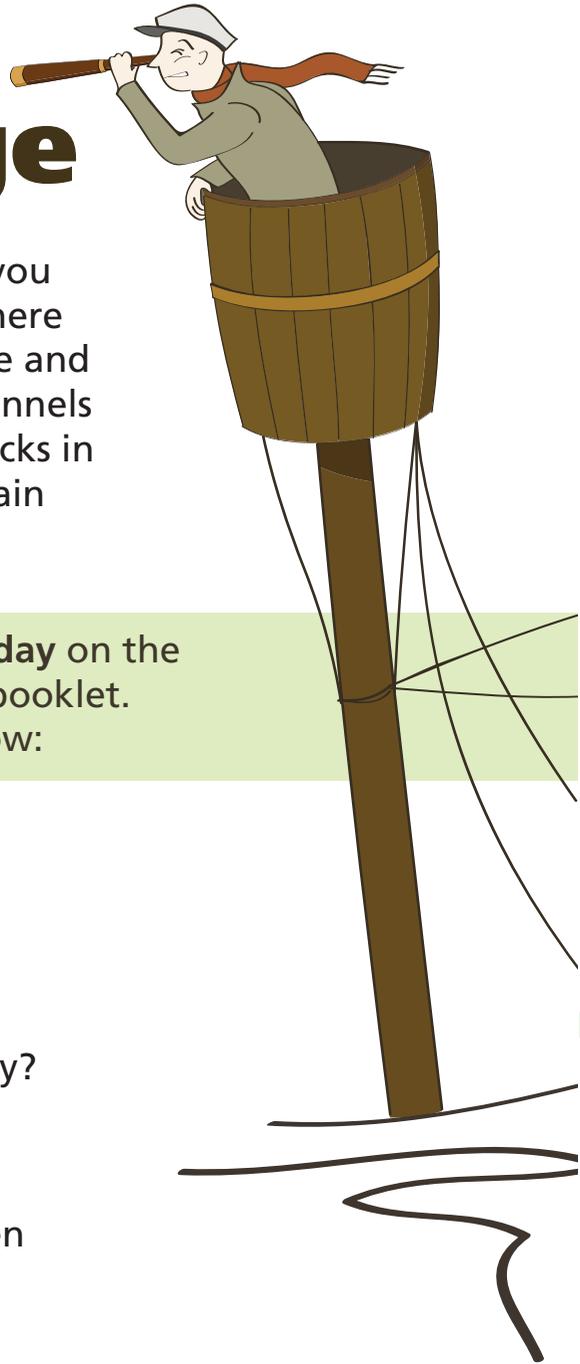
How many steps make up the staircase inside Boston Light?

What is something new you learned about Boston Light?

Every lighthouse has a different flash pattern.  
How many seconds are between Boston Light's flashes?



# Navigation Challenge



While cruising through Boston Harbor, you will travel through a **channel**: a path where the ocean is deep enough for ships large and small to pass through. Before these channels were created, there were many shipwrecks in Boston Harbor. Some sunken ships remain under the water's surface today!

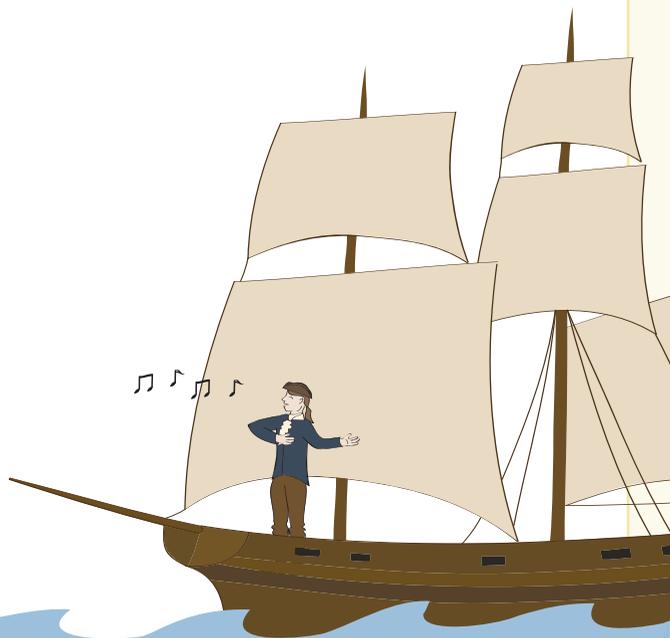
Trace the route you travelled today on the harbor map in the front of this booklet. Then, answer the questions below:

- ◆ Is there a name for the channel you traveled through today?
- ◆ Which islands did you see on the way?
- ◆ What do you think the red and green buoys mean?

## Write Your Own

# SEA CHANTEY

As long as people have been using the sea, they have been singing about it. Imagine what it would be like if you lived and worked on board a boat. Write a song about the work you do, the challenges of life at sea, or the adventures you think you might come across!



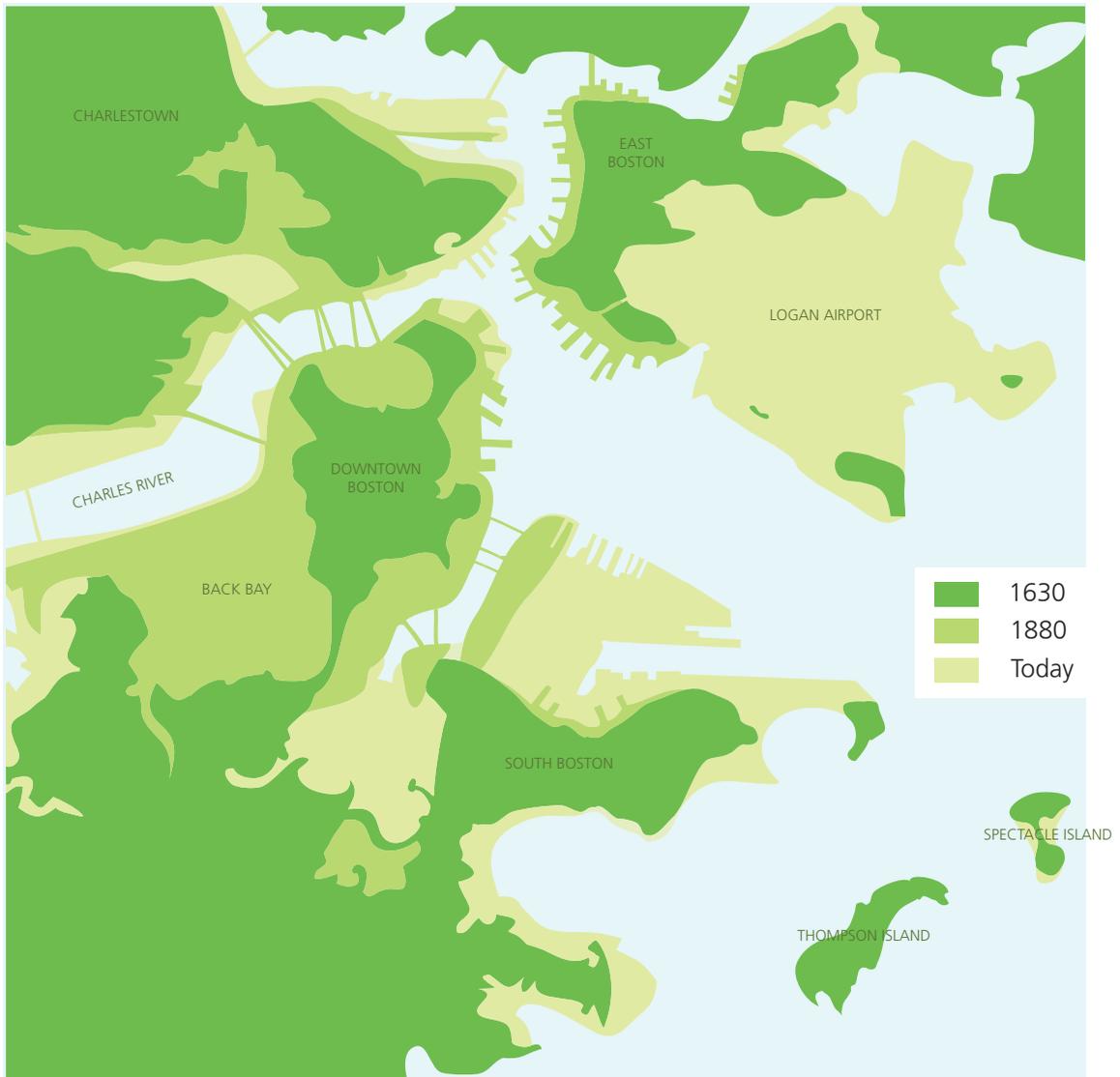
# Lighthouses of Boston Harbor



There are a number of lighthouses in Boston Harbor, and each one looks different from the next. If you could build a lighthouse that looked any way you wanted, what would it be like? Draw or describe your answer below!

# The Harbor Through Time

Boston Harbor has changed a lot since the city was founded in 1630. Look at the map below and find out how it has transformed!



**How has Boston Harbor changed over time?**

# Glacial Facial

About 15,000 years ago, giant **glaciers** – or sheets of ice – over one mile thick covered what is today the Boston area. As the glaciers moved inland, they created sloping hills called **drumlins**. Sea level rise and melting ice eventually turned the drumlin valley into a harbor dotted with islands.

Use the text above along with information you have learned today to fill in the blanks! Use each word from the bank once.

1. Many of the islands are made up of \_\_\_\_\_
2. This park includes \_\_\_\_\_ islands and peninsulas
3. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ is surrounded by water on three sides
4. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ is surrounded by water on all four sides
5. \_\_\_\_\_ created many of the islands and hills in and around Boston Harbor

**BANK:**

**Glaciers**

**34**

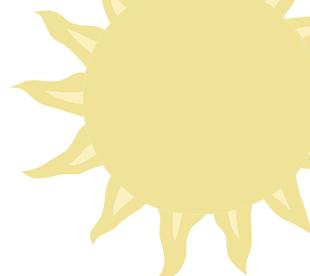
**Island**

**Drumlins**

**Peninsula**



# Weather Watchers



The weather affects us every day. Sometimes it's warm and sunny outside; other times it's cold and rainy. Using the descriptive words below as a guide, write about the weather in the harbor today.

<b>Temperature</b>	Hot	Warm	Cool	Cold
<b>Humidity</b>	Fog	Sticky	Damp	Dry
<b>Wind</b>	Storm Gusts	Windy	Breezy	Calm
<b>Waves</b>	Whitecaps	Medium	Small	Flat
<b>Sky</b>	Very Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Clear
<b>Precipitation</b>	Heavy Rain	Rain	Drizzle	None

**What is the Weather Like Today?**

# Boats of Boston Harbor

As you travel through the harbor, you will see many different types of boats. Your challenge is to count them and organize them into three categories:

**Recreational:** Small boats for personal enjoyment, individual fishing or travel

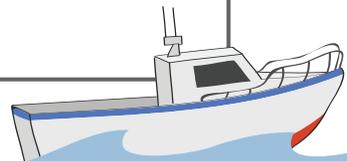
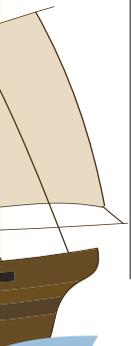
**Passenger:** Medium to large vessels carrying groups of people

**Commercial:** Large, non-passenger ships carrying goods and products

**Recreational**

**Passenger**

**Commercial**





**As a  
Junior Ranger,  
I pledge to:**

- Continue learning about the Boston Harbor Islands
- Actively explore and protect this park and other special places
  - Share what I learn with my family and friends

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Junior Ranger's Signature

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Park Official's Signature



- |                       |                        |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Bumpkin Island        | Green Island           | Nixes Mate            | Sheep Island       |
| Button Island         | Hangman Island         | Nut Island            | Slate Island       |
| Calf Island           | Langlee Island         | Outer Brewster Island | Snake Island       |
| Deer Island           | Little Brewster Island | Peddocks Island       | Spectacle Island   |
| Gallops Island        | Little Calf Island     | Raccoon Island        | Thompson Island    |
| Georges Island        | Long Island            | Ragged Island         | Webb Memorial Park |
| Grape Island          | Lovells Island         | Rainsford Island      | Worlds End         |
| The Graves            | Middle Brewster Island | Sarah Island          |                    |
| Great Brewster Island | Moon Island            | Shag Rocks            |                    |

Can't turn in this booklet in person? Make a copy of your completed booklet and send it with your name and address to:

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PRESS

Union Park Press, proud supporters of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park and publishers of *Discovering the Boston Harbor Islands: A Guide to the City's Hidden Shores*.