

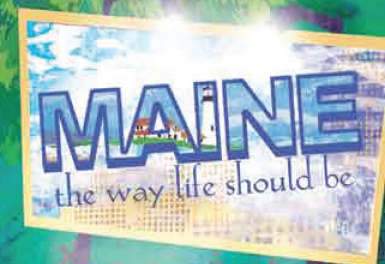
Between Earth and Sky

MAINE AND THE MANY WAYS LIFE CAN BE

Just before dawn, fireflies Lucy and Ace were snug in their headlight hammocks. Their bright light let the flowers see far ahead on the road.

As the sun rose in the sky, the fireflies dozed. A golden light spread over the land.

The flowers could soon see tall, green trees, granite rock, and a sign that said, Maine—the way life should be.



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Flashes in the Night

Most fireflies sleep during the day and are awake at night. They flash their light to talk to one another.

How do you use light in your life?

“‘The way life should be.’ What does that mean?” Zinni asked. “Life isn’t just one way!”

“No, it isn’t,” agreed Lupe. “That sign is just a way of saying Maine is special. Every place is special in its own way.”

Soon the flowers reached the Morning Glory Inn. Gloria, the morning glory, ran out to greet her friends. “Lupe! Zinni! Clover! You’re just in time for breakfast,” she called. Platters of blueberry pancakes were balanced on her leaves.



The berries in Gloria's pancakes are wild Maine blueberries. They grow on mountains and on flat land called blueberry barrens.

What fruits grow near your home?

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Lupe likes Maine in the summertime.
Do you remember why?

Name your favorite place.

Do any flowers or foods grow there?

“Eat up!” Lupe said, as the flowers settled into the Morning Glory Inn’s garden. “I want you all to be petal perfect today. I’m taking you to one of my favorite places in Maine.”

“And what place is that?” asked Zinni.

“Wait and see,” Lupe said with a wink.

By noon, the flower friends were fresh and full of energy. They drove off in Lupe’s petal-power car. Soon they came to a **fork** in the road. They saw three signs. One pointed right. It said, “Jasper Beach, one-half mile.”

As soon as the flowers could see the beach, Clover gasped. “There’s no sand!” she cried. “Just stones! I’ve never seen so many stones. Look at all the colors! This is awesome!”

