

Commas and Semicolons

- Both punctuate items in a list
- Use commas if the items are single words or simple phrases
- Use semicolons if the items contain commas already

Over the summer Jim helps clean for Mary, Ted, and Lia; walks the dogs of Millie, Erin, and Min; and waters plants for Luke, José, and Carlos.

To help students understand the when to use semicolons with lists, print out these pages onto cardstock and cut out.

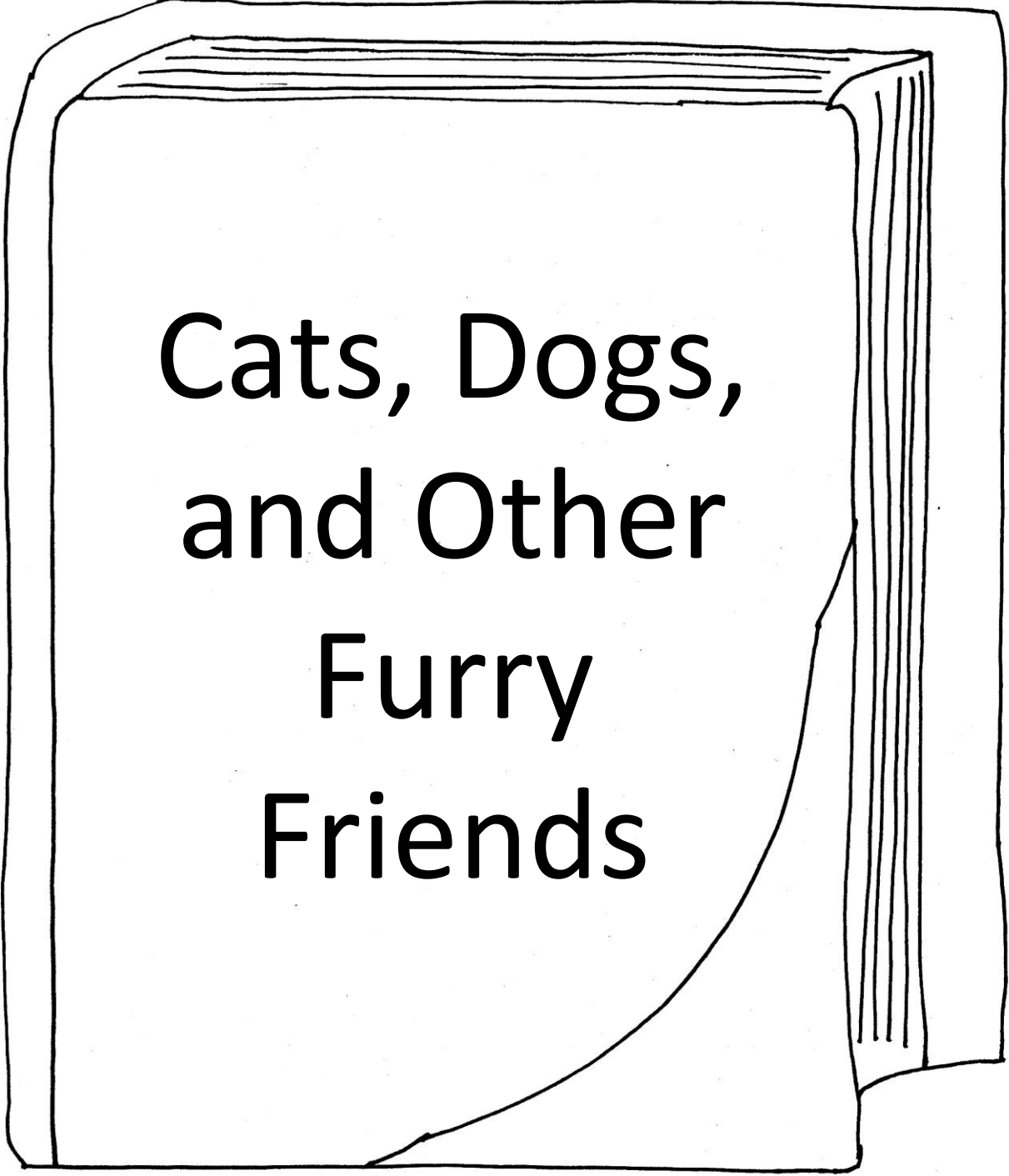
Make two copies of the semicolon.

Have students stand up and each hold one item in a list. Point out that each book, plate, calendar, or state already has a comma within it.

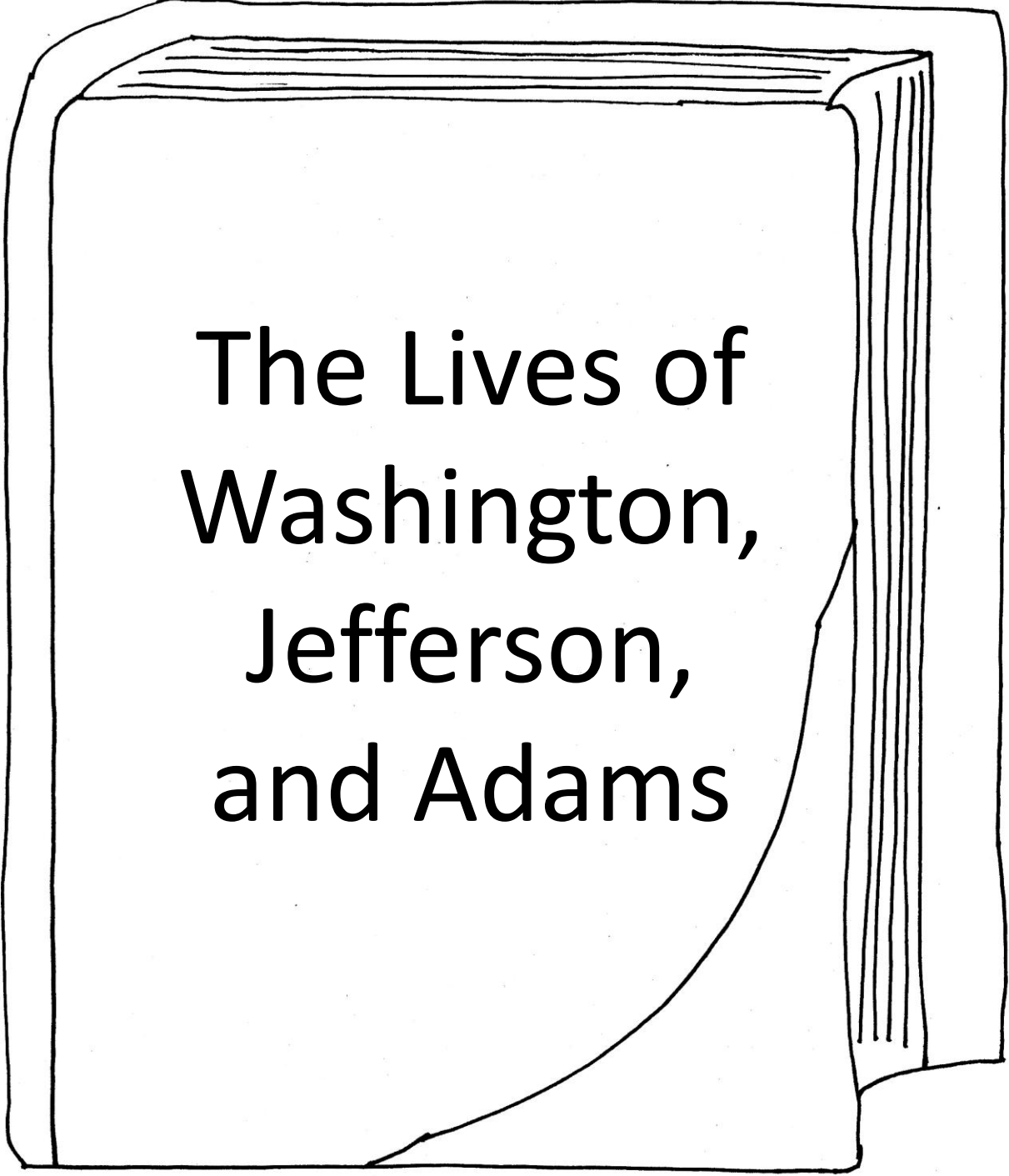
Therefore, in between the items, a semicolon is needed instead.

Read aloud, saying the words “comma” and “semicolon” as you do.

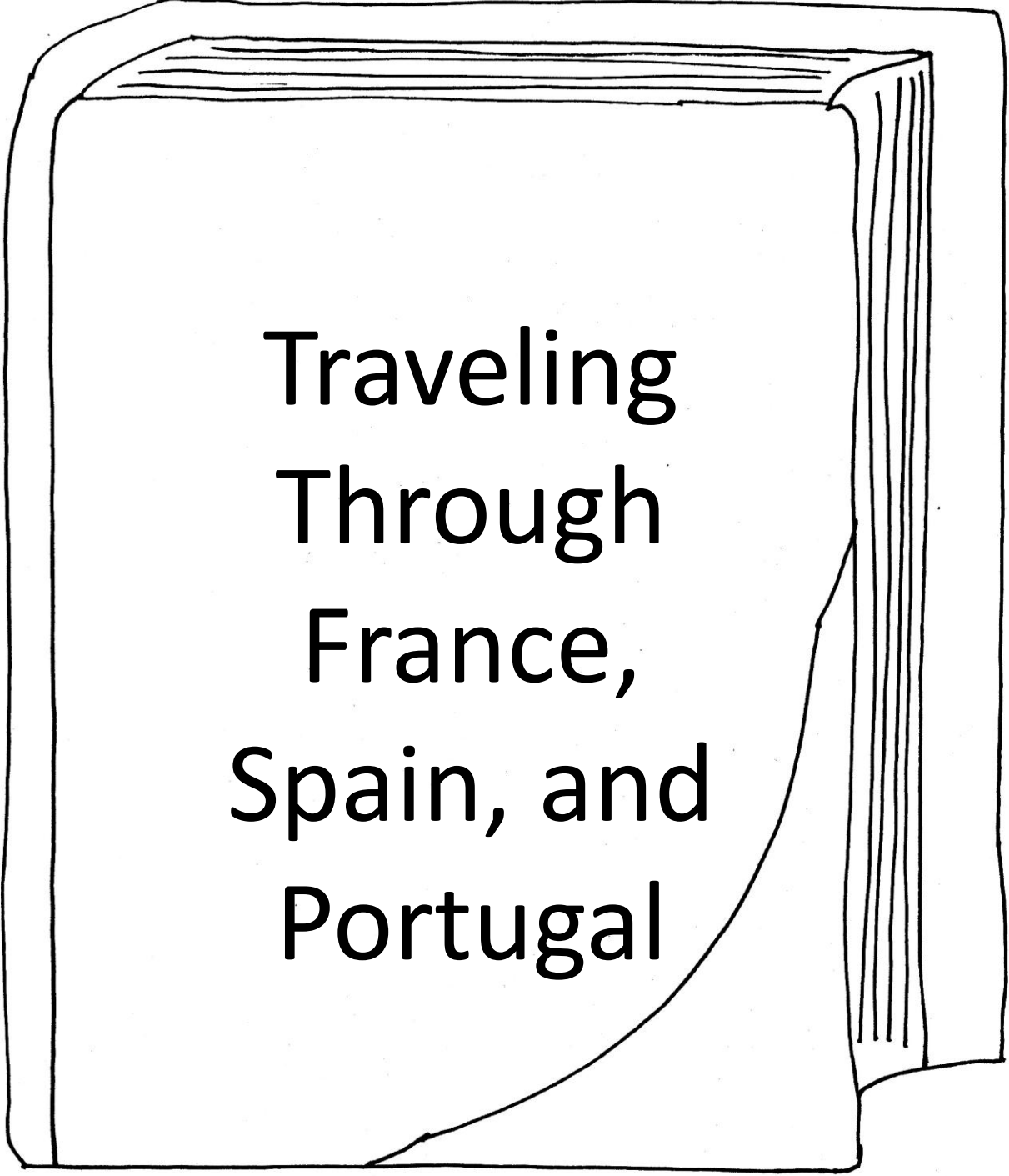




Cats, Dogs, and Other Furry Friends



The Lives of Washington, Jefferson, and Adams

A simple line drawing of a book cover. The book is shown from a slightly angled perspective, showing the front cover and the spine. The front cover is a large rectangle with a thin border. The spine is on the right side, showing several vertical lines representing the pages. The title is centered on the front cover in a large, bold, sans-serif font.

Traveling Through France, Spain, and Portugal

apples,
pears, and
apricots

1%, 2%, and
4% milk

cheddar,
Swiss, and
Gouda
cheese

Friday,

Jan.

19

Saturday,

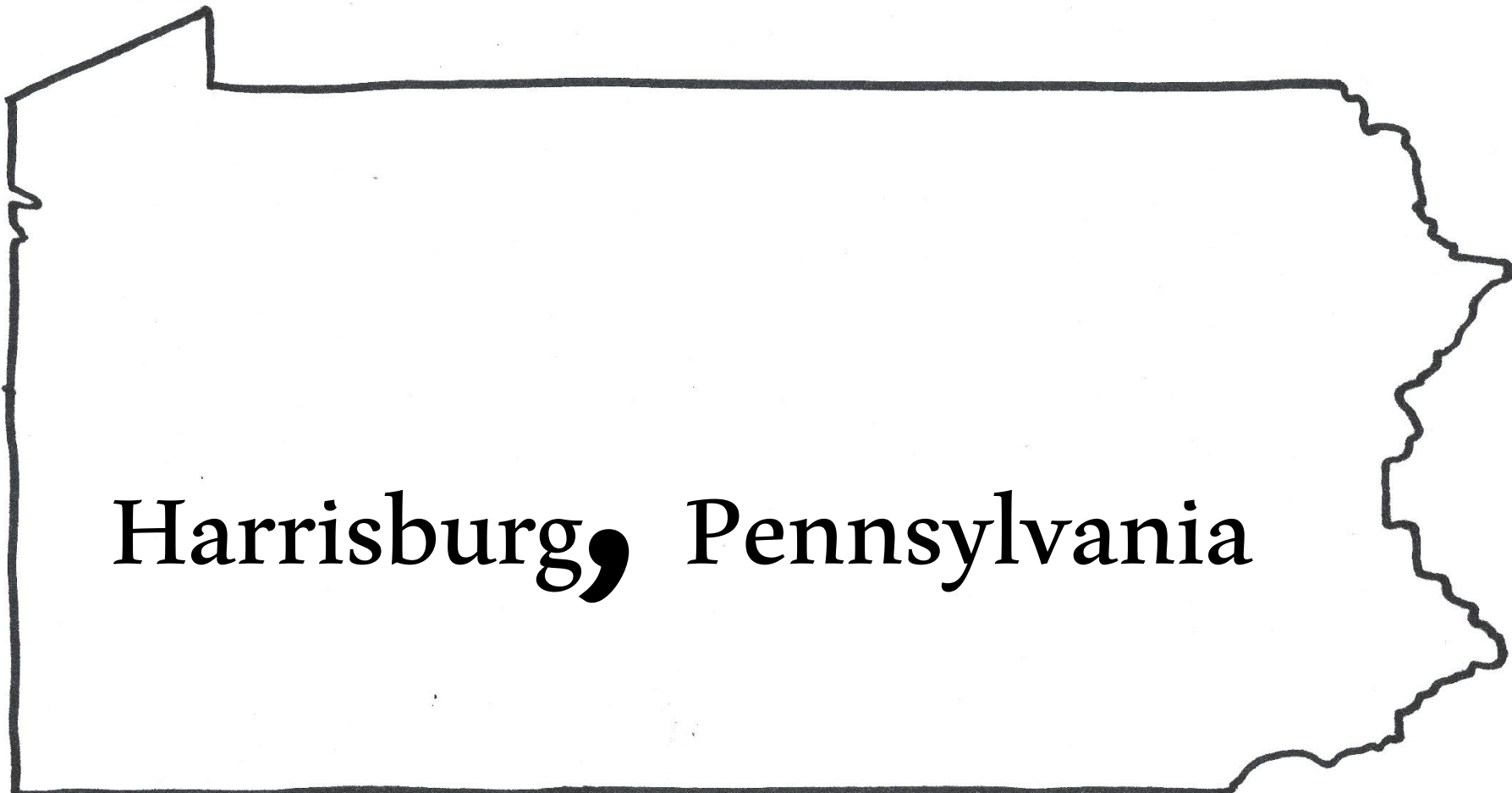
Jan.

20

Sunday,

Jan.

21

A large, hand-drawn outline of the state of Pennsylvania, centered on the page. The outline is simple and black, with a slightly irregular, hand-drawn appearance. The text 'Harrisburg, Pennsylvania' is written inside the outline.

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania



Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



