

#9210

GREAT LAKES REGION

FILMS IDEAS, INC.

1998

Grade Levels: 3-9

22 minutes

2 Instructional Graphics Enclosed



DESCRIPTION

Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Ohio form the Great Lakes region. An overview of the area includes its history, climate, geography, and economy. Describes each state's population, capitals, history, size, and economy. The five Great Lakes and these six states are closely bound together.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Geography: Uses of Geography

- Standard: Understands how geography is used to interpret the past
 - Benchmark: Knows significant physical features that have influenced historical events (e.g., mountain passes that have affected military campaigns such as the Khyber Pass, Burma Pass, or Brenner Pass; major water crossings that have affected U.S. history such as the Tacoma Strait in Washington or the Delaware River near Trenton, New Jersey; major water gaps, springs, and other hydrologic features that have affected settlement in the U.S. such as the Cumberland Gap, the Ogallala Aquifer, or the artesian wells of the Great Plains)

Subject Area: United States History

- Standard: Understands the United States territorial expansion between 1801 and 1861, and how it affected relations with external powers and Native Americans
 - Benchmark: Understands the major events of U.S. foreign policy during the early 19th century (e.g., differences between the Monroe Doctrine and earlier foreign policy; renewed English-French hostilities; whether the War of 1812 was a war of independence, expansion, or maritime rights)

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To introduce the overview of both the history and the geographical regions of the United States, the provinces of Canada, and Mexico.
2. To depict important historical figures, commerce, capital cities, significant points of interest and other characteristics.
3. To study the Great Lakes region as one of the most important industrial locations in the world.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Descendants of the Paleo-Indians, the Chippewa and Potawatami Indians, were the first known inhabitants to occupy this land. Later, the first European settlers, mostly from France, began to explore this region during the early 1600s.

French explorers arrived in the Great Lakes region, anxiously seeking great expectations of wealth and fortune. These settlers through hard work achieved enormous success. Through several inventions, these early settlers founded the Great Lakes region, which today has become one of the most important industrial locations in the world.

Along with its rich history, the Great Lakes region also has geographical significance. The five great lakes are the largest fresh water basin in the world—totaling more than 95,000 square miles. Entry to and from this region allows both the United States and Canada to transport vast amounts of imported and exported goods.

This region with grand innovations continues to reinvent the American Dream.

VOCABULARY

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. global cooling | 7. Niagara Falls |
| 2. Great Lakes region | 8. North America |
| 3. Ice Age | 9. Paleo-Indians |
| 4. Jean Nicolet | 10. Robert Cavalier & Sieur de La Salle |
| 5. Jacques Marquette & Louis Joliet | 11. Samuel De Champlain |
| 6. Mississippi River | 12. St. Lawrence Seaway |

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Imagine what it would be like to be an early explorer. Discuss issues which may have concerned these early settlers: weather conditions, commerce, regional terrain, food/vegetation, dealing with foreign policy issues with England, France, or Spain, etc.
2. Both geographical and historical information has been documented throughout the world. Explain why this type of information is important when studying the Great Lakes region, and how do the disciplines of geography and history interact or relate with other areas of study in your school's curriculum?
3. Since tensions must have existed between the early settlers and the European authorities, i.e., War of 1812, assemble the students into small groups to negotiate or debate the interests of these groups.
4. Indicate significant points of interest of the Great Lakes region. For example, the capital cities, i.e., Lansing, Michigan; important events, i.e., The Black Hawk War of 1832 in Wisconsin; or the names of early explorers, i.e., Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet for Illinois; and so on.
5. The Great Lakes region is well known for its vast amounts of waterways. Name these waterways and explain why these waterways are so vital to the growth of this region and the rest of the country.
6. If possible, arrange a trip near the community to visit museums, cultural centers, state parks, etc. to stimulate the imagination to explore the beautiful history and geography of the Great Lakes region.

Applications and Activities

1. Complete the worksheet "Where Is It?" (See INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS.)
2. Use the "Chronology of the Great Lakes Region" to create a time line on a bulletin board. Use drawings or pictures cut from magazines to illustrate these historical events. (See INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS.)

RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- Great Lakes, Part 1: Superior, Michigan #2390
- Great Lakes, Part 2: Huron, Erie, Ontario #2391
- Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin #8819



World Wide Web

The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and “kid safe” sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **GREAT LAKES NATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE**

<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/>

From the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Great Lakes National Program Office oversees and helps all Great Lakes stakeholders work together in an integrated ecosystem approach to protect, maintain, and restore the chemical, biological, and physical integrity of the Great Lakes.

- **THE GREAT LAKES**

<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/atlas/intro.html>

An environmental atlas and resource book, provides extensive and detailed information on the Great Lakes—from its beginnings to its current day.

- **T.E.A.C.H. GREAT LAKES**

<http://www.great-lakes.net/teach/>

Interested in learning more about the Great Lakes? Have a specific question about the Great Lakes? Then check this site for mini-lessons on Great Lakes topics: environment, history and culture, geography, pollution, and others. For elementary to high school students.

- **GREAT LAKES AQUARIUM**

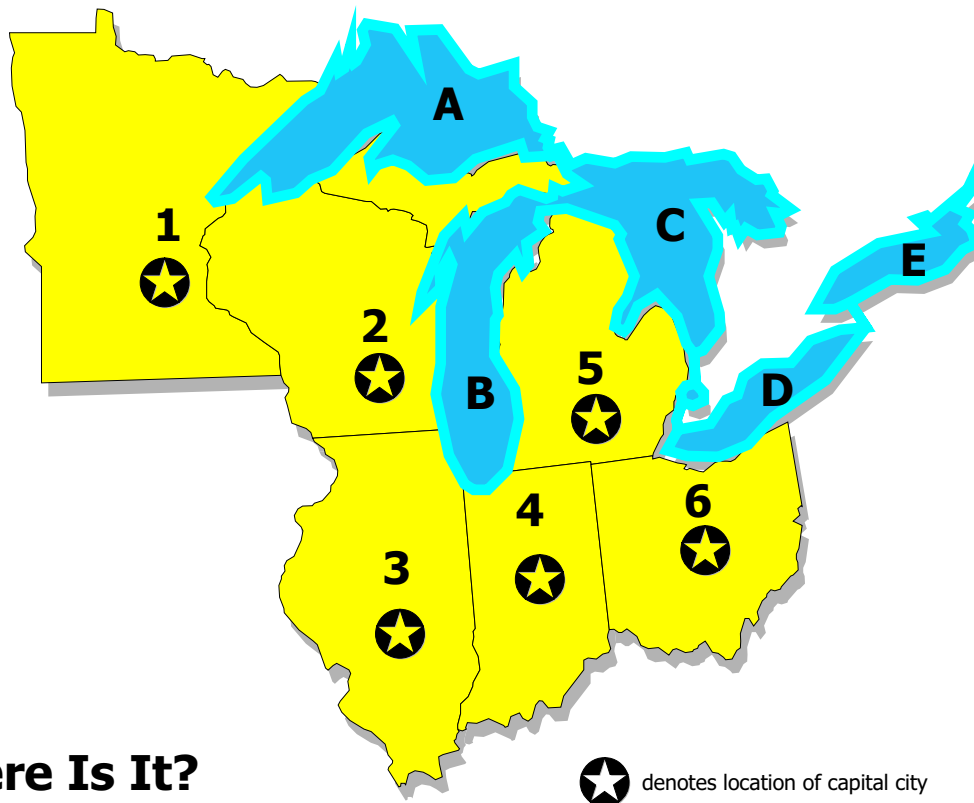
<http://www.glaquarium.org/learn/lakematters/>

A joint project, Lake Matters teaches Lake Superior ecology through environmental service and monitoring. Join other Lake Superior schools using Lake Matters curriculum by registering your school for free.

INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS

- WHERE IS IT?
- CHRONOLOGY OF THE GREAT LAKES REGION





Where Is It?

List the name of the state and its capital city.

State	Capital City
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____

Name the Great Lakes

- A _____
- B _____
- C _____
- D _____
- E _____

Chronology of the Great Lakes Region

- 25,000 years ago:** Paleo-Indians migrated from Asia into North America by using a land bridge which at one time connected Asia with Alaska.
- 10,000 years ago:** Last Ice Age began moving from the Arctic into the Great Lakes Region.
- 1615:** Samuel de Champlain was the first explorer to discover the Great Lakes.
- 1634:** Frenchman Jean Nicolet was the first European explorer to arrive in Wisconsin.
- 1654:** Frenchmen Pierre Radisson and Sieur des Groseilliers were the first to explore Minnesota.
- 1655:** French missionaries explored the Ohio territory.
- 1673:** French missionaries Père Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet explored the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, and the area which today is known as the city of Chicago.
- 1675:** French missionaries were the first Europeans to explore the Indiana territory.
- 1754:** The French and Indian War began.
- 1759:** The French empire in North America was defeated by the English.
- 1803:** Ohio became the 17th state to join the Union.
- 1807:** The Treaty of Detroit forced the Indians to cede much of their land. Eventually this treaty led to the Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811. The Indians lost that battle causing them to ally with the British in the War of 1812.
- 1812:** War of 1812 began. Some of the main causes included the British seized U.S. ships trading with France; and Britain aided Indians attacking U.S. Western borders.
- 1816:** Indiana became the 21st state of the Union.
- 1832:** The Black Hawk War of 1832 began between the Indians and the settlers when tribal lands east of the Mississippi River were taken and treaties transferred ownership to the U.S. government.
- 1837:** Michigan became the 26th state to join the Union.
- 1848:** Wisconsin became the 30th state to join the Union.
- 1858:** The famous debates for the U.S. Senate occurred between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas. Minnesota became the 32nd state to join the Union.
- 1890s:** Henry Ford's invention, the automobile, began mass production in Detroit, Michigan.