

*North American*  
**GEO QUEST**  
A 13 part Hist-ography Series



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Presents

*North American*  
**GEO QUEST**  
*Series*



A 13 Part Hist-ography Series

THE  
**GREAT LAKES**  
REGION

Illinois • Indiana • Michigan  
Minnesota • Ohio • Wisconsin

*INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE*

## INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES

The purpose of this video series is to provide students with a stimulating overview of both the history and the geographical regions of the United States, the Provinces of Canada, and Mexico. Specifically developed to enhance the social studies curriculum, **North American GeoQuest is a 13-part Histo-graphy series.**

Filmed on location, these videos present *spectacular photography* along with *dynamic computer graphics*. Other features include; important historical figures, commerce, capital cities, significant points of interest and more! These videos also inform students of the relationships between the geologic, geographical and historical effects upon a region's past and present developments. Some geologic and geographical developments include the formation of mountains, lakes, volcanoes and glaciers and how these strongly influence a region's culture and history.

By understanding the profiles of these regions, students will acquire the knowledge that will define a *balance between the past and present*. Furthermore, as students study these videos, they will learn the geography of North America and about their own *heritage and those of others*.

As a complementary device with the video, this instructional guide suggests exercises to help aid teachers, parents and students. These exercises will reinforce and further develop a students level of comprehension. The instructional guide provides:

### DVDs Allow:

- students to actively participate in the learning experience
- for greater flexibility and interactive learning
- for custom user interfaces
- for a level of control over learning
- for the learner to become more engaged
- for the enhancement of the learning process by combining media and text

Vocabulary! ✓

Chronology! ✓

Discussion Points/Activities! ✓

13 videos  
in the  
**GEOQUEST Series**

*Pacific Region*  
*Mountain West Region*  
*Midwest Region*  
*Southwest Region*  
*Mississippi River Region*  
*New England Region*  
*Great Lakes Region*  
*Mid-Atlantic Region*  
*Southeast Region*  
*Washington D.C.*  
*Eastern Canadian Provinces*  
*Western Canadian Provinces*  
*Mexico*

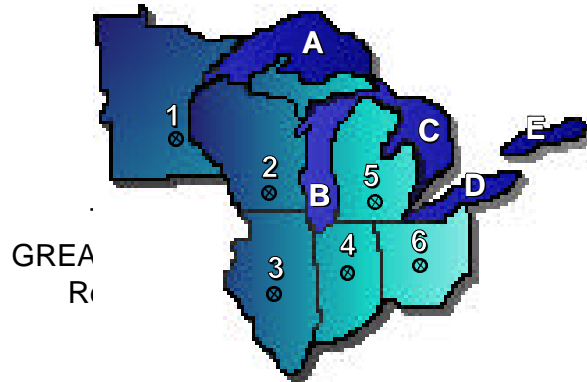
### Suggested Usage:

Geography, History, Social Studies,  
Language Arts, Commerce, Environment

Intermediate, Jr. High, General  
Approx. 22 minutes each video 1998

Permission granted to copy the following  
exercises provided in this guide for educa-  
tional use **ONLY**.

On the dotted line, list the name of the State and its Capital City. Then from A thru E, name the five Great Lakes.



GREA  
Ri

1 -----

2 -----

3 -----

4 -----

5 -----

6 -----

⊗ = Location of Capital City

A \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_

C \_\_\_\_\_

D \_\_\_\_\_

E \_\_\_\_\_

# THE GREAT LAKES REGION

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 1600's.

Aboard ships, French explorers arrived in the Great Lakes Region through the St. Lawrence Seaway. Anxiously seeking great expectations of wealth and fortune, these settlers through hard work achieved enormous success. Through the invention of the automobile, inventive use of the waterways, and imaginative agricultural methods, 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—totalling more than 95,000 square miles. Entry to and from this region allows both the U.S. and Canada to transport vast amounts of imported and exported goods. Located in the North Central part of the United States, the Great Lakes Region is home to over 146,000,000 acres of productively rich farmland. Along with its serene prairies, and immense waterways, the Great Lakes Region also offers elegant beauty—each year, millions of travelers visit this region to enjoy its lakeshores, state parks, and one of its main attractions Niagara Falls.

As we study the Great Lakes Region, we begin to revisit the pioneer spirit. It is through that spirit which today has provided this region with grand innovation that continues to reinvent the American dream.

## VOCABULARY of GREAT LAKES Region

**GLOBAL COOLING:** According to scientists, this process occurs over time, when volcanic eruptions release huge amounts of volcanic ash into the air. The volcanic ash by blocking the sunlight then cools the earth. As the earth cools, the polar ice caps grow larger by forming glaciers. These glaciers then spread into many regions of the earth– thus causing the formation of lakes (*Great Lakes*), rivers, mountains and other forms of terrain.

**GREAT LAKES Region:** Term used to describe the region located in the North Central part of the United States. This region includes 6 states and 5 Great Lakes; The Great Lakes are; Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario: The states include; Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio.

**ICE AGE:** A period approx.10,000 years ago, during which time, glacier ice due to global cooling, moved from the polar ice caps into the great lakes region.

**JEAN NICOLET:** First European to explore Wisconsin in 1634.

**JACQUES MARQUETTE & LOUIS JOLIET:** First Frenchmen to explore Illinois in 1673.

5. Draw a map (if you like, use a computer or the map provided on page 8) of the Great Lakes region, indicating significant points of interest. For example, the capital cities, i.e. Lansing, Michigan; important events, i.e. ; The Blackhawk War of 1832 in Wisconsin or the names of early explorers, i.e. Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet for Illinois etc..

6. 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?

7. If possible, arrange a trip near your community to visit museums, cultural centers, state parks etc. to stimulate your imagination to explore the beautiful history and geography of the Great Lakes Region.

## Discussion Points/Activities

1. Today such conveniences as computers, telephones, automobiles, electricity, etc. are used to enhance our modern day lives. Explain how these enhancements differ to those used during the time the Great Lakes Region was being discovered. Use this information for the following study points/activities.
2. 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..
3. 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 it relates to our everyday lives? Furthermore, how do the disciplines of geography and history interact or relate with other areas of study in your school's curriculum?
4. 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.

**MISSISSIPPI RIVER:** The largest river in North America, the Mississippi River begins in Northern Minnesota and flows 2,600 miles south into the Gulf of Mexico.

**NIAGARA FALLS:** The area where the Niagara River drops 160 ft. into Lake Ontario. Located on the U.S.-Canadian border, thousand of travelers visit Niagara Fall each year to witness its power and beauty. This waterfall is also a tremendous source for electrical power.

**NORTH AMERICA:** The third largest continent in the world consisting of Canada, the United States, Mexico and Central America.

**PALEO - INDIANS:** *Nomadic Hunters and gatherers* who were the first known inhabitants to live in the Great Lakes region.

**ROBERT CAVALIER & SIEUR DE LA SALLE:** Frenchmen who built and sailed, the first ship called the "Griffon", on the Great Lakes, in 1679.

**SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN:** A Frenchman, who was the first to discover the Great Lakes in 1609.

**ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY:** A major waterway located between the U.S.- Canadian border. This Seaway flows from the Atlantic Ocean into the Great Lakes. The first French explorers sailed through this seaway to allow entry into the Great Lakes region.

## Chronology of GREAT LAKES Region

- **25,000 years ago:** Paleo-Indians migrate 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 begins moving from the Arctic into Great Lakes Region.
- **1615:** Samuel De Champlain first explorer to discover the Great Lakes.
- **1634:** Frenchmen Jean Nicolet is the first European explorer to arrive in Wisconsin.
- **1654:** Frenchmen Pierre Radisson and Sieur Des Groseilliers first to explore Minnesota
- **1655:** French missionaries explore the Ohio territory.
- **1673:** French missionaries Pere Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet explore the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, and the area which today is known as the city of Chicago.
- **1675:** French Missionaries are the first Europeans to explore the Indiana territory.
- **1754:** The French and Indian War begins.
- **1759:** The French empire in North America was defeated by the English.
- **1803:** Ohio becomes the 17th state to join the Union.

- **1807:** The Treaty of Detroit forced the Indians to succeed 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 begins. Some of the main causes include; the British seize U.S ships trading with France; and Britain aided Indians attacking U.S western borders.
- **1816:** Indiana becomes the 19th state to join the Union.
- **1818:** Illinois becomes the 21st state of the Union.
- **1832:** The Blackhawk War of 1832 begins 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 becomes the 26th state to join the Union.
- **1848:** Wisconsin becomes the 30th state to join the Union.
- **1858:** The famous debates for the U.S. Senate occurred between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas.
- **1858:** Minnesota becomes the 32nd state to join the Union.
- **1890's:** Henry Ford's invention, the automobile, begins mass production in Detroit, Michigan.