

## THE GREAT LAKES SERIES

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|---|-----------------------|
| H | • LAKE HURON (GLH)    |
| O | • LAKE ONTARIO (GLO)  |
| M | • LAKE MICHIGAN (GLM) |
| E | • LAKE ERIE (GLE)     |
| S | • LAKE SUPERIOR (GLS) |

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### Consider Visiting These Web Sites:

<http://www.niagarafallslive.com/>  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake\\_Erie](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake_Erie)  
<http://www.great-lakes.net/lakes/erie.html>



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# LAKE ERIE



**The GREAT Lakes**  
A Hist-ography Series

***INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE***

## INTRODUCTION TO SERIES

Designed to enhance the social studies curriculum for the intermediate aged student on up. "The Great Lakes" offers students a unique perspective about the vital role these five bodies of water have played in the lives of our ancestors and to this day continue to play that role in many important ways.

As a complementary device with each program, an instructional guide suggests exercises to enhance the learning for teachers, parents and students. These interactive exercises will reinforce and further develop a student's level of comprehension.

The instructional guide provides:

**Subject Profile • Q & A • Discussion Points & Activities  
Vocabulary • Geography (Including Maps) • Timeline**

### TABLE OF CONTENTS:

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| <i>Subject Profile</i> . . . . .                       | 1     |
| <i>Introduction of Lake Erie</i> . . . . .             | 2     |
| <i>Overview of the War of 1812</i> . . . . .           | 3     |
| <i>The Fall of Ft. Detroit</i> . . . . .               | 4     |
| <i>The Battle of Lake Erie</i> . . . . .               | 5     |
| <i>Lake Erie</i> . . . . .                             | 6     |
| <i>Native Americans / European Discovery</i> . . . . . | 7     |
| <i>The Erie Canal</i> . . . . .                        | 8     |
| <i>Fishing Industry</i> . . . . .                      | 9     |
| <i>Modern Cities</i> . . . . .                         | 10    |
| <i>Lake Effect Weather</i> . . . . .                   | 11    |
| <i>Map #1 of Lake Erie</i> . . . . .                   | 12-14 |
| <i>Map #2 of Lake Erie</i> . . . . .                   | 15-16 |
| <i>Timeline of Lake Erie</i> . . . . .                 | 17    |

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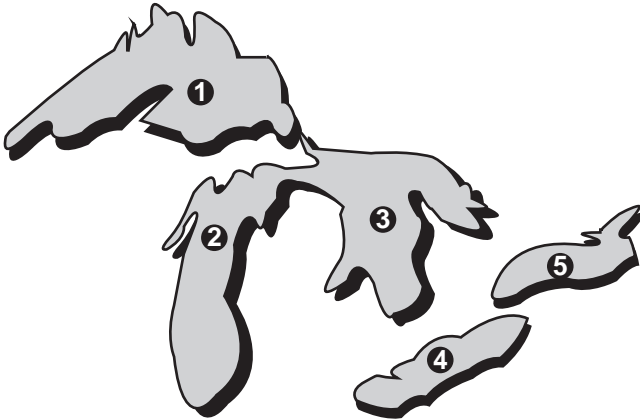
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## TIMELINE of **LAKE ERIE**

- **5,000 years ago:** The Great Lakes region begins to take on the form which is known today.
- **1669:** Louis Joliet becomes the first Frenchman to visit Lake Erie.
- **1783:** Erie, Pennsylvania becomes part of the United States.
- **1795:** The first fishery on Lake Erie is recorded.
- **1812:** War of 1812.
- **1813:** Battle of Lake Erie.
- **1825:** The Erie Canal completed
- **1832:** The Ohio Canal completed.
- **1835:** The first sea lamprey is found in Lake Erie.
- **1900:** The total fish production taken from Lake Erie is 33 million pounds.
- **1960:** A chemical called TFM is used to destroy the sea lamprey larvae.

## Map #2 of **GREAT LAKES**

Study the map and site descriptions on pg. 15. Then write the name of the location on the solid black line. On a separate piece of paper write a brief description about each location.



- ① \_\_\_\_\_
- ② \_\_\_\_\_
- ③ \_\_\_\_\_
- ④ \_\_\_\_\_
- ⑤ \_\_\_\_\_

## LAKE ERIE

Formed from a melting ice glacier 5,000 years ago with a continuous coastline of 5,000 miles long, the Great Lakes region has played a key role in the exploration and settlement of the North American continent. Over the centuries, the Great Lakes have supported native cultures, fur trappers, lumberjacks, miners, fishermen and sailors.

At 241 miles long and 57 miles wide Lake Erie is the fourth largest of the Great Lakes. However, with an average depth of 62 feet it is the shallowest of the five lakes. Flowing along its eastern edge the waters from Lake Erie drop 182 feet forming the world famous Niagara Falls.

Because Lake Erie is strategically located it became a main battleground during the War of 1812. Fort Detroit was one of four key American forts which controlled the passage between Lakes Erie and Huron. Realizing its significance the British fiercely targeted the fort and defeated the United States Army without much resistance. However, American troops regrouped and defeated the British in the Battle of Lake Erie. After the battle the United States eventually won the War of 1812 and the U.S.-Canadian border was officially established.

After the War of 1812 the United States sought access to the Atlantic Ocean via the St. Lawrence River. Because most of the area was controlled by the British, the United States built the Erie Canal. The canal was such a success that other canals were built. This prompted the Great Lakes region to become a major manufacturing center for many leading industries. Following the building of canals the Lake Erie region became home to some of America's most influential cities such as Buffalo, New York; Cleveland, Ohio; and Detroit, Michigan. Its also the habitat of fresh water's most popular fish; yellow perch; herring, sturgeon, salmon and pike.

Although Lake Erie is the shallowest of the five Great Lakes it has proven to be a natural resource worth honoring its past while preserving its future.

## Introduction of *Lake Erie*

For MORE geography SEE maps on pgs. 12-16

### Q & A :

- 1) Q - Name the five Great Lakes?  
A - Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario
- 2) Q - What occupations were supported by the Lake Huron region?  
A - Fur Trappers, Lumberjacks, Miners, Fishermen, Sailors.
- 3) Q - How were the Great Lakes formed?  
A - From a melting ice glacier 5,000 years ago.

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### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Review the geography of the Great Lakes with the use of a map or computer. Discuss the role the Great Lakes had during the exploration and settlement of North America.
- 2) Assign students to draw a map of Lake Erie and its surrounding territories.
- 3) Explain the geological formations which created the Great Lakes 5,000 years ago.

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### VOCABULARY:

**The GREAT LAKES:** Five bodies of water located in the upper central part of North America. 1/5 of all the fresh water found on earth is held by these five bodies of water.

**GLACIER:** A large body of ice moving slowly across a land surface. It was this type of geological formation which created the Great lakes 5,000 years ago.

## Map #2 of **GREAT LAKES**

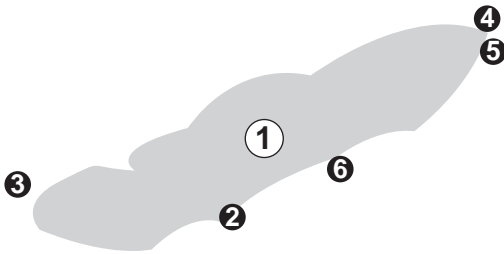
Study the Map & Its Significant Locations



- ① SUPERIOR
- ② MICHIGAN
- ③ HURON
- ④ ERIE
- ⑤ ONTARIO

## Map #1 of LAKE ERIE

Study the map & its locations on pgs. 12 & 13. Then on the solid black line write the name of the location. On a separate piece of paper write a brief description of each location



① \_\_\_\_\_

② \_\_\_\_\_

③ \_\_\_\_\_

④ \_\_\_\_\_

⑤ \_\_\_\_\_

## An Overview of the War of 1812

### Q & A :

- 1) Q - Who fought each other during the War of 1812?  
A - America and Britain
- 2) Q - Name two of the four key forts during the War of 1812?  
A - Ft. Niagara, Ft. Dearborn, Ft. Mackinac, Ft. Detroit
- 3) Q - Where was Britain's stronghold in North America in 1812?  
A - Canada
- 4) Q - What war did America defeat Britain prior to the War of 1812?  
A - The Revolutionary War
- 5) Q - Who helped the British attack American settlements in the northwest territory?  
A - Iroquois and Shawnee Indians

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### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Discuss how wars were fought in the year 1812. How are wars different and similar today? How were wars fought prior to 1812 during other time periods? How have wars changed throughout history?
- 2) Assign the students to research the four American forts during the War of 1812. Then have the students build a model replica of one of the forts.

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### VOCABULARY:

**WAR OF 1812:** A war fought between the United States and Britain for control of the Great Lakes region. After the war the U.S. and Canadian border was officially established.

**FORTS NIAGARA, DEARBORN, MACKINAC, DETROIT:** The four key American forts located throughout the Great Lakes region during the War of 1812.

## The Fall of Fort Detroit

### Q & A :

- 1) Q - Who won the battle for Fort Detroit?  
A - The British
  - 2) Q - Name the Shawnee Chief whose tribes surrounded Ft. Detroit while the British attacked from the Detroit River?  
A - Tecumseh
  - 3) Q - Name the American General who surrendered Fort Detroit to the British?  
A - General Hull
  - 4) Q - Where did the British reinforce their position to prepare an attack against Ft. Detroit?  
A - Ft. Malden
- 

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Discuss why Ft. Detroit was a key battleground during the War of 1812.
  - 2) Use a map to indicate where Fort Detroit was located.
- 

### VOCABULARY:

**CHIEF TECUMSEH:** A Shawnee Indian chief who led his tribe to surround Ft. Detroit while the British attacked from the Detroit River.

**GENERAL HULL:** An American commander who surrendered Fort Detroit to the British.

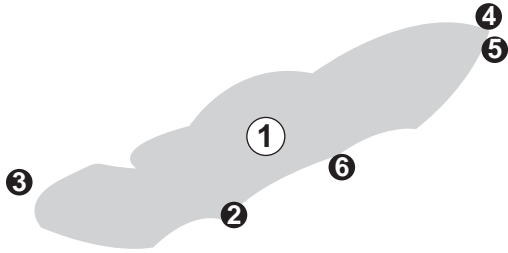
**FORT DETROIT:** A key army post located on the Detroit River which controlled passage between Lakes Erie and Huron. Because of its strategic location it became a main battleground during the War of 1812.

## Map #1 of LAKE ERIE

Study the modern-day map on pg. 12 and its significant locations numbered 1-6. Then test your geography skills on pg. 14.

- 3) **DETROIT, Michigan:** A major city near Lake Erie and has become world famous for its automobile industry.
- 4) **NIAGARA FALLS:** An area located along the U.S. Canadian border where water from the Niagara River drops approx. 182 ft. into Lake Ontario. It consists of three separate falls named: Horseshoe Falls, Bridal Veil Falls and American Falls. This waterfall is also a tremendous source for electrical power.
- 5) **BUFFALO, NEW YORK:** Was a key American position in the War of 1812. Today this modern-day city remains an important center of education, communication and transportation.
- 6) **ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA:** The location where Oliver Hazard Perry build the ships used in the Battle of Lake Erie.

## Map #1 of **LAKE ERIE**



① **LAKE ERIE:** At 241 miles long and 57 miles wide it is the fourth largest of the Great Lakes. However, at an average depth of 62 feet it is the shallowest of all five great lakes.

② **CLEVELAND, OHIO:** The largest city along Lake Erie and is a major manufacturing center of the Great Lakes area.

## The Battle of Lake Erie

### Q & A :

- 1) Q - Who fought the Battle of Lake Erie?  
A - The Americans and the British
- 2) Q - Who ordered a fleet of ships to be built?  
A - American President James Madison
- 3) Q - Name the officer President Madison appointed to command the American fleet during the Battle of Lake Erie?  
A - Oliver Hazard Perry
- 4) Q - What boundary did the War of 1812 officially establish?  
A - The U.S Canadian boundary.
- 5) Q - What Great Lake is entirely within the boundaries of the United States?  
A - Lake Michigan

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### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Assign the students to write a brief history about the Battle of Lake Erie.
- 2) Discuss how battles were fought during the early part of the 19th century. How are wars (battles) fought today? How were they fought prior to the 19th century? Explain how wars were fought during different time periods throughout history.

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### VOCABULARY:

**OLIVER HAZARD PERRY:** A young military officer and ship-builder who led the Americans to defeat the British during the Battle of Lake Erie.

## Lake Erie

### **Q & A :**

- 1) Q - Lake Erie is named after what Native American tribe?  
A - The Erie Indians
  - 2) Q - What Great Lake is the shallowest?  
A - Lake Erie
  - 3) Q - Name two U.S States bordering Lake Erie? What Canadian Province borders Lake Erie?  
A - Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York / Ontario
  - 4) Q - Name the location where the waters of Lake Erie drop 182 feet into Lake Ontario?  
A - Niagara Falls
- 

### **DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:**

- 1) Use a map to discuss the geography associated with Lake Erie. Indicate the significant locations surrounding and bordering Lake Erie.
  - 2) Discuss some of the unique characteristics of Lake Erie.
- 

### **VOCABULARY:**

**LAKE ERIE:** At 241 miles long and 57 miles wide it is the fourth largest of the Great Lakes. However, at an average depth of 62 feet it is the shallowest of all five great lakes.

## Lake Effect Weather

### **Q & A :**

- 1) Q - Where does the warm air across the Great Lakes come from during the summer?  
A - The Gulf of Mexico
  - 2) Q - What causes the severe November storms on the Great Lakes?  
A - The cold Arctic air from the north colliding with the warm Gulf air from the south.
  - 3) Q - What is the name given to icy wind blasts from the north-west which have the potential to release five feet or more of snow into the Great Lakes area ?  
A - Lake Effect Snow.
- 

### **DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:**

- 1) Invite a meteorologist to discuss the different weather patterns effecting the Great Lakes region.
  - 2) Create a science project which demonstrates different weather patterns from the Great Lakes region.
  - 3) Discuss how the weather patterns in the Great Lakes region are different from other areas of the United States and Canada. How is it similar?
- 

### **VOCABULARY:**

**LAKE EFFECT SNOW:** Icy wind blasts from the northwest which absorb moisture and move rapidly across the Great Lakes region with a potential to release five feet of snow or more.

## Modern Cities on Lake Erie

### Q & A:

- 1) Q - Where did Oliver Hazard Perry build the ships used in the Battle of Lake Erie? What was the name of Commander Perry's ship?  
A - Erie, Pennsylvania / Niagara
  - 2) Q - Where is Buffalo?  
A - New York
  - 3) Q - What is the largest city along Lake Erie?  
A - Cleveland, Ohio
  - 4) Q - What industry located in Detroit has become world famous? Where does this industry receive many of its parts?  
A - The Automobile Industry / Windsor, Ontario
- 

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) If possible visit some of the modern cities of Lake Erie.
  - 2) Use a map to locate the major cities of Lake Erie.
  - 3) Many cities along Lake Erie manufacture different products. Visit a manufacturing plant and experience how products move from the assembly line to your local merchandise store.
- 

### VOCABULARY:

**CLEVELAND, OHIO:** The largest city located along Lake Erie.

**DETROIT, MICHIGAN:** A major city near Lake Erie and has become world famous for its automobile industry.

## Native Americans and European Discovery

### Q & A:

- 1) Q - Lake Erie is named after what Native American tribe?  
A - Erie Indians
  - 2) Q - What language was used by the Erie Indians ?  
A - Iroquois Language
  - 3) Q - Who was the first Frenchman to visit Lake Erie?  
A - Louis Joliet
  - 4) Q - Why was Lake Erie the last lake to be "discovered"?  
A - Because it was controlled by the Iroquois who were at war with the French and their Algonquin allies.
- 

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Many different Indian cultures lived throughout the Lake Erie region. Assign the students to prepare a presentation which explains the lifestyle of these native cultures.
  - 2) Assign the students to perform a play which accurately demonstrates the relationship between the Native Indian tribes and the Europeans.
  - 3) Visit a museum which offers exhibits about different native cultures and early European explorers.
- 

### VOCABULARY:

**ERIE INDIANS:** A Native Indian tribe who lived along the southern shores of Lake Erie for whom the lake was named after.

**LONG HOUSES:** The name given to the communal dwellings built by the Iroquois Indians.

**LOUIS JOLIET:** The first Frenchman to visit Lake Erie.

## The Erie Canal

### Q & A :

- 1) Q - Who developed the plan to build the Erie Canal?  
A - Dewitt Clinton Governor of New York
  - 2) Q - Why was the Erie Canal built?  
A - So goods could be shipped from the Great Lakes region to New York City.
  - 3) Q - What other major canal was built because of the success of the Erie Canal?  
A - The Ohio Canal
  - 4) Q - Name two modern day cities that owe much of its prosperity to the Erie and Ohio canals?  
A - Ashtabula, Cleveland, Sandusky and Toledo
- 

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Discuss how locks work. Perhaps invite an engineer to explain how canals are built and locks operate.
- 

### VOCABULARY:

**DEWITT CLINTON:** A governor of New York who developed the plan to build the Erie Canal.

**ERIE CANAL:** A man-made water channel built in 1825 allowing ships to travel directly from the Great Lakes region to New York City.

**OHIO CANAL:** A man-made water channel built in 1832 which became an extension of the Erie Canal.

**LOCKS:** A system which raises and lowers ships as they pass through different levels of water.

## Fishing Industry

### Q & A :

- 1) Q - How many species of fish were in the Great Lakes when the Europeans arrived during the early 17th century?  
A - 150
  - 2) Q - Name two species of fish in the Great Lakes?  
A - Sturgeons, Lake Herring, Pike, Perch, Salmon, Trout, White Fish
  - 3) Q - What were the two biggest problems for the fishing industry?  
A - 1) Resources were being depleted faster than they could be replaced; 2) The Sea Lamprey preyed on the fresh water fish.
  - 4) Q - How was the problem of the Sea Lamprey addressed?  
A - A chemical called TFM was deposited causing harm to the Sea Lamprey larvae but not other species of fish.
- 

### DISCUSSION POINTS / ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Visit a natural museum which exhibits the different species of fish found in the Great Lakes.
  - 2) If possible charter a boat with a fishing guide and fish the waters of the Great Lakes.
  - 3) Assign the students to read a book about the variety of fish species found in the Great Lakes.
- 

### VOCABULARY:

**SEA LAMPREY:** A skinny eel-like fish which attaches itself to other fish while sucking the blood out of them.

**TFM:** A chemical used in 1960 to destroy Lamprey larvae but not harm other species of fish.