

Chapter 4- The Great Lakes: The US and Canada's Freshwater Treasure

Introduction

1. How were the Great lakes formed and how long did this take?
2. Why are the Great lakes so important to the US and Canada?

Geographic Setting

3. Identify the five lakes of the Great Lakes.
4. The Great Lakes go by two other names. What are they?
5. What is the difference between a food web and a food chain?
6. How does pollution impact the food web?
7. Read the article on pages 68 & 69. In what ways was the Great Lakes being killed through pollution?

The Great Lakes Today: Pollution

8. Did pollution levels improve in any of the Great Lakes? If so, how?
9. What is a point source pollution?
10. How does non-point source pollution work?
11. What has the US and Canada done to eliminate non-source point pollution as well?

The Great Lakes Today: Invasive Species

12. What is an invasive species?
13. How do most invasive species reach new areas?
14. How are the invasive species upsetting the ecosystem of the Great Lakes?

The Great Lakes Today: Habitat Loss

15. What mythological figure was supposed to have resided in the Great Lakes region?
16. What is a habitat?
17. What happened to the vast forests of the Great Lakes region?
18. What are companies doing to reverse the loss of the forest?
19. What is a wetland?
20. In what ways are people protecting the wetlands?

Beginning to Think Globally

21. How much of the Earth's surface is water?
22. What percent is non-salty?
23. Where is the vast majority of earth's freshwater located?
24. Is any freshwater source good to drink from?
25. How many people die from diseases such as cholera each year? What causes the diseases?
26. What is causing an increase in water shortage around the world?
27. How could global warming impact water supply?
28. Which country has the most water usage?
29. How does the US compare in its use of water per person?

Global Connections

30. What factors might cause the changes in freshwater availability you see in the maps on pgs. 76 & 77?
31. What concerns for the future can be drawn from the maps?
32. How can people best use and manage the world's freshwater resources?