

Grade 5 History & Geography

Unit 1: World Lakes

4 lessons and a unit quiz. Use this pack with the **World Lakes Student Reader** (print it, or download it once from the course) to teach the whole unit without the internet.

What is in this pack

- A lesson plan for each chapter: the Big Question, words to know, which pages to read, questions to talk over and the activity pages.
- The unit quiz, ready to print.
- Answers for the teacher at the back: every discussion question and the quiz key.

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Lesson schedule

Two or three lessons a week, about 30 minutes each. Tick each one off as you go.

	Lesson	Reader pages	Activity pages
☐	Chapter 1: Lakes of Africa	PDF pages 8–17	AP 1.1, AP 1.2, AP 1.3, AP 1.4, AP 1.5
☐	Chapter 2: Lakes of South America	PDF pages 18–23	AP 1.1, AP 1.5
☐	Chapter 3: The Great Lakes of North America	PDF pages 24–33	AP 1.1, AP 1.5
☐	Chapter 4: Lakes of Eurasia	PDF pages 34–41	AP 1.1, AP 1.5, AP 4.1
☐	Unit quiz	—	—

Page numbers are the PDF page numbers of the Student Reader file, so they match what your PDF reader shows.

Chapter 1: Lakes of Africa

THE BIG QUESTION

What resources and benefits does each of the three African lakes provide to people?

Words to know

- **lake** — a body of water surrounded by land *Lake Chad is one of many lakes on the continent of Africa.*
- **rift valley** — a long, deep, narrow valley in East Africa *Cracks in Earth's surface created Africa's Great Rift Valley.*
- **resource** — something that people can use *Lakes can be an important resource because they provide water and fish for people to drink and eat.*
- **transportation route** — a path for traveling from one place to another *A lake can be used as a transportation route by allowing people to travel by boat from one part of the shore to another.*
- **dock** — a platform where boats can load and unload people and goods *Fishermen leave from the dock in the morning and unload their catch at the dock in the evening.*
- **source** — a starting point or beginning of a river's water *Lake Victoria in East Africa is the source of the famous Nile River.*
- **game reserve** — an area set aside by the government where animals are protected from hunters *A tourist might see lions, elephants, and giraffes on a visit to a game reserve in East Africa.*
- **papyrus** — a tall grasslike plant that grows in swamps or wetland areas *An area of shallow water filled with many papyrus plants may look like solid land or a field of tall grass from the distance.*

Read

Read Chapter 1 in the Student Reader: PDF pages 8–17. Look at the pictures and maps together.

Talk it over

1. Why is Lake Tanganyika so long and narrow?
2. How do people make use of Lake Tanganyika?
3. How did Lake Victoria get its name?
4. In addition to visiting Lake Victoria, what else might a tourist to Tanzania or Kenya do?
5. What famous river begins at Lake Victoria?
6. How is Lake Chad different from the other lakes in this chapter?
7. Why is Lake Chad deeper from June to September than during the rest of the year?

8. How do people use Lake Chad to make a living?

Answers are at the back of this pack.

Check for understanding

- Answer the Big Question in a sentence or two: What resources and benefits does each of the three African lakes provide to people?
- Use one of today's words in a sentence of your own.

Activity pages

- Activity Page 1.1: World Map — Teacher Guide PDF page 65
- Activity Page 1.2: Imaginary Lines — Teacher Guide PDF page 66
- Activity Page 1.3: prior to reading this — Teacher Guide PDF page 29
- Activity Page 1.4: Three Different Map Projections — Teacher Guide PDF page 68
- Activity Page 1.5: , which students have already completed. They are being — Teacher Guide PDF page 57

Chapter 2: Lakes of South America

THE BIG QUESTION

In what ways are these South American lakes important natural resources?

Words to know

- **natural resource** — something from nature that is useful to humans *Trees are a valuable natural resource because of the lumber and fruit that they provide.*
- **plateau** — a large area of high, flat ground *The train traveled more easily crossing the plateau than climbing the mountain.*
- **gulf** — a part of an ocean extending into land *Lake Maracaibo is really a gulf because it is not completely surrounded by land like other lakes.*
- **petroleum** — a naturally occurring oil found in certain rock layers under Earth's surface used to make plastics and fuels, such as gasoline *Lake Maracaibo is a rich source of petroleum, which is why Venezuela sells so much oil.*
- **derrick** — a framework tower that supports a drill over an oil well *Visitors to Lake Maracaibo might see oil derricks standing tall in the water.*
- **industry** — a business that manufactures a product or provides a service *Because of Lake Maracaibo's petroleum deposits, the oil industry is an important part of Venezuela's economy.*
- **trading hub** — a place that is a center for the buying and selling of goods and services *Lake Maracaibo's location near the coast helped make it an important trading hub.*

Read

Read Chapter 2 in the Student Reader: PDF pages 18–23. Look at the pictures and maps together.

Talk it over

1. How do we know people have been living on the shore of Lake Titicaca for thousands of years?
2. How do people near Lake Titicaca use llamas?
3. What are papas?
4. What natural resources does Lake Titicaca provide to the people who live nearby?
5. What natural resource is found under Lake Maracaibo?
6. How is petroleum used?
7. How is Lake Maracaibo different from Lake Titicaca?

Answers are at the back of this pack.

Check for understanding

- Answer the Big Question in a sentence or two: In what ways are these South American lakes important natural resources?
- Use one of today's words in a sentence of your own.

Activity pages

- Activity Page 1.1: World Map — Teacher Guide PDF page 65
- Activity Page 1.5: , which students have already completed. They are being — Teacher Guide PDF page 57

Chapter 3: The Great Lakes of North America

THE BIG QUESTION

Why are the Great Lakes of North America such important transportation routes?

Words to know

- **mineral** — a naturally occurring substance found in Earth's crust *Gold is a valuable mineral.*
- **cargo ship** — a large boat used to carry goods *The Edmund Fitzgerald was a cargo ship carrying minerals across the Great Lakes.*
- **canal** — a channel dug by people, used by boats or for irrigation *A canal was built to connect Lake Huron and Lake Superior.*
- **lock** — a part of a canal that has gates for lowering and raising the water level *Locks help ships move from a lake where the surface of the water is high to a lake with a lower surface.*
- **strait** — a narrow body of water that connects two larger bodies of water *Ships sail through the strait that connects Lake Huron and Lake Michigan.*
- **smokestack** — a tall chimney on a factory or ship *Industrial cities have many buildings with smokestacks.*

Read

Read Chapter 3 in the Student Reader: PDF pages 24–33. Look at the pictures and maps together.

Talk it over

1. What was the SS Edmund Fitzgerald, and what happened to it?
2. How many Great Lakes are there, and what are their names?
3. How do people use the Great Lakes?
4. What is the purpose of locks such as those at Sault Ste Marie?
5. How do ships get from Lake Huron to Lake Michigan?
6. Why is Chicago an important city on the Great Lakes?
7. How does the automobile industry use the Great Lakes?
8. How do boats avoid Niagara Falls when traveling between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario?
9. How do boats reach the ocean from the Great Lakes?

Answers are at the back of this pack.

Check for understanding

- Answer the Big Question in a sentence or two: Why are the Great Lakes of North America such important transportation routes?
- Use one of today's words in a sentence of your own.

Activity pages

- Activity Page 1.1: World Map — Teacher Guide PDF page 65
- Activity Page 1.5: , which students have already completed. They are being — Teacher Guide PDF page 57

Chapter 4: Lakes of Eurasia

THE BIG QUESTION

Why do some lakes contain fresh water and some salt water?

Words to know

- **optical illusion** — something that appears to be different from what it really is *A car's side-view mirror creates an optical illusion by making objects appear smaller and farther away than they really are.*
- **evaporate** — to change a liquid to a vapor or gas *When water evaporates from a lake, it leaves behind salts and other minerals.*
- **evaporation** — the process by which a liquid changes to a vapor or gas outlet, n. a stream that flows out of a larger body of water *Although fresh water flows into the Caspian Sea, it has no outlet, and so it has a lot of built-up salt.*
- **volume** — the amount of space that something fills *The volume of water in the lake increased after a full day of heavy rain.*
- **divert** — to change the path of a river *People might divert a river to make it easier for farmers to get water to their crops.*

Read

Read Chapter 4 in the Student Reader: PDF pages 34–41. Look at the pictures and maps together.

Talk it over

1. What are some threats to the wild natural beauty of Lake Baikal?
2. What efforts are being made to protect the wild natural beauty of Lake Baikal?
3. How does a lake become a saltwater lake?
4. How is the Caspian Sea similar to Lake Maracaibo in South America?
5. What has happened to the Aral Sea since 1960?
6. What caused the Aral Sea to shrink?
7. How have people's lives changed because of the shrinking of the Aral Sea?
8. How can we determine if a large body of water is a lake or sea?
9. Why are lakes important?

Answers are at the back of this pack.

Check for understanding

- Answer the Big Question in a sentence or two: Why do some lakes contain fresh water and some salt water?
- Use one of today's words in a sentence of your own.

Activity pages

- Activity Page 1.1: World Map — Teacher Guide PDF page 65
- Activity Page 1.5: , which students have already completed. They are being — Teacher Guide PDF page 57
- Activity Page 4.1: World Lakes Domain Vocabulary — Teacher Guide PDF pages 70–71

UNIT QUIZ

World Lakes

Name: _____ Date: _____

Circle the letter of the best answer.

1. Why is Lake Tanganyika so long and narrow?
 - a) It is really a river.
 - b) Not many rivers empty into it.
 - c) It is in a rift valley.
 - d) No one knows.
2. Who or what was Lake Victoria named after?
 - a) Uganda's victory over Kenya in a war
 - b) Queen Victoria of England
 - c) the city of Victoria in Canada
 - d) the Australian who discovered the lake
3. Which of the following lakes is not in Africa?
 - a) Lake Chad
 - b) Lake Baikal
 - c) Lake Victoria
 - d) Lake Tanganyika
4. Which lake is the source of the Nile River?
 - a) Lake Victoria
 - b) Lake Chad
 - c) Lake Baikal
 - d) Lake Titicaca
5. On what continent is Lake Maracaibo located?
 - a) Africa
 - b) South America
 - c) Asia
 - d) North America
6. Which Great Lake is entirely in the United States?
 - a) Lake Michigan
 - b) Lake Ontario
 - c) Lake Huron
 - d) Lake Superior
7. On which lake did the Edmund Fitzgerald sink?
 - a) Lake Michigan
 - b) Lake Huron
 - c) Lake Superior
 - d) Lake Ontario

- 8.** Why do things on the bottom of Lake Baikal appear close?
- a) The water is shallow.
 - b) The lake has magnifying water.
 - c) The water is clear.
 - d) The lake has lots of pebbles.
- 9.** Traders used the Caspian Sea to get from Asia to
- a) North America.
 - b) Africa.
 - c) Europe.
 - d) South America.
- 10.** The Caspian Sea is located between which two continents?
- a) Europe and Asia
 - b) North America and South America
 - c) Europe and Africa
 - d) Russia and Kazakhstan
- 11.** The Aral Sea is located on which continent?
- a) Europe
 - b) Asia
 - c) Africa
 - d) South America
- 12.** How are lakes important to people all over the world?
- a) They provide water for crops.
 - b) They provide recreational opportunities.
 - c) They provide sources of food.
 - d) all of the above

Answers

Chapter 1: Lakes of Africa

- 1. Why is Lake Tanganyika so long and narrow?**
It is in an area known as a rift valley, where Earth's surface cracked and began separating.
- 2. How do people make use of Lake Tanganyika?**
People fish on the lake and use it as a transportation route.
- 3. How did Lake Victoria get its name?**
It was named for Queen Victoria, who was queen of Great Britain in the 1800s when the first Europeans came to the lake.
- 4. In addition to visiting Lake Victoria, what else might a tourist to Tanzania or Kenya do?**
Tourists might also visit a game reserve or climb Mount Kilimanjaro. Note: Students in the Core Knowledge program learned about Mount Kilimanjaro as part of their Grade 4 study of world mountains. Invite volunteers to share what they remember about the mountain.
- 5. What famous river begins at Lake Victoria?**
The Nile River begins at Lake Victoria.
- 6. How is Lake Chad different from the other lakes in this chapter?**
Possible answers: It is in a flat, dry area, and the other lakes are in mountainous areas. Lake Chad is a very shallow lake, and the other lakes are deep.
- 7. Why is Lake Chad deeper from June to September than during the rest of the year?**
That is the region's rainy season.
- 8. How do people use Lake Chad to make a living?**
They fish or have farms nearby.

Chapter 2: Lakes of South America

- 1. How do we know people have been living on the shore of Lake Titicaca for thousands of years?**
There are ruins left by a civilization hundreds of years older than the Inca.
- 2. How do people near Lake Titicaca use llamas?**
Farmers raise llamas for wool. The wool is used to make sweaters, scarves, hats, gloves, and blankets.
- 3. What are papas?**
Papas are potatoes, an important crop for farmers who live near Lake Titicaca.
- 4. What natural resources does Lake Titicaca provide to the people who live nearby?**
The lake provides fish to eat, water to drink and to irrigate crops, and reeds for making furniture, roofs, and boats.

5. **What natural resource is found under Lake Maracaibo?**
petroleum
6. **How is petroleum used?**
It is used to make plastic, paint, gasoline, cosmetics, and fabrics.
7. **How is Lake Maracaibo different from Lake Titicaca?**
Lake Maracaibo is more of a gulf than a lake. It is also busier with more modern industries, such as the petroleum industry. Lake Titicaca is a real lake. It is quieter, and its people make their living farming and fishing.

Chapter 3: The Great Lakes of North America

1. **What was the SS Edmund Fitzgerald, and what happened to it?**
The SS Edmund Fitzgerald was a very large cargo ship that was carrying tons of minerals, sailing on Lake Superior. It got caught in a storm and sank. A door collapsed, and water flooded inside the ship. LITERAL/EVALUATIVE—What else do you know so far about Lake Superior?
2. **How many Great Lakes are there, and what are their names?**
There are five Great Lakes: Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario.
3. **How do people use the Great Lakes?**
People use the Great Lakes for drinking water, fishing, shipping goods or cargo, and recreation.
4. **What is the purpose of locks such as those at Sault Ste Marie?**
Locks help change the level of water to raise or lower boats from one water depth to another.
5. **How do ships get from Lake Huron to Lake Michigan?**
They go through the Straits of Mackinac (/mak*in*aw/).
6. **Why is Chicago an important city on the Great Lakes?**
It is the largest inland port in America. Products are shipped from Chicago across the Great Lakes to other cities on the Great Lakes or to the ocean.
7. **How does the automobile industry use the Great Lakes?**
Materials used to make cars, such as iron ore and steel, are shipped across the lakes to cities such as Detroit, Michigan, where steel factories are located.
8. **How do boats avoid Niagara Falls when traveling between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario?**
They use the Welland Canal.
9. **How do boats reach the ocean from the Great Lakes?**
They use the St. Lawrence Seaway, which connects Lake Ontario to the St. Lawrence River. They then travel the river to the Atlantic Ocean.

Chapter 4: Lakes of Eurasia

1. **What are some threats to the wild natural beauty of Lake Baikal?**
Possible answers: timber companies are cutting down trees to make lumber and paper; ships are being built on its shores; fishing boats are coming and going; a

railroad connects mines and industries to towns along the shore.

2. **What efforts are being made to protect the wild natural beauty of Lake Baikal?**

People have created parks and game reserves around the lake to protect the area's rivers and animals.

3. **How does a lake become a saltwater lake?**

Water evaporates faster than it is replaced. Evaporated water leaves behind salt, which builds up in the lake.

4. **How is the Caspian Sea similar to Lake Maracaibo in South America?**

Both lakes are rich sources of oil.

5. **What has happened to the Aral Sea since 1960?**

It has shrunk. It is no longer the world's fourth-largest lake.

6. **What caused the Aral Sea to shrink?**

People diverted, or changed the path of, the rivers that once fed it.

7. **How have people's lives changed because of the shrinking of the Aral Sea?**

Farmers have a shorter growing season. People who used to live on the shore now live far away from the water. Many people who relied on fishing can no longer do so.

8. **How can we determine if a large body of water is a lake or sea?**

Even if you use the definition provided in this unit for determining whether a body of water is—or is not—a lake, i.e., a body of water surrounded by land, there are inconsistencies in the way different bodies of water around the world are named. You can check the Internet or an almanac or encyclopedia for a specific body of water to see what most experts think.

9. **Why are lakes important?**

They provide food, water, transportation routes, and opportunities for fun and relaxation. Activity Page

Unit quiz key

1. c 2. b 3. b 4. a 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. c 9. c 10. a 11. b 12. d