



Our Great Lake Erie

Grade 2-4

Teacher's Guide

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

Description

Test your Lake Erie I.Q.! How much do you know about the great freshwater resource at your doorstep? Learn about how we rely on our Great Lake Erie and what makes Lake Erie special. We will hike to the lake and explore our north coast shoreline, conduct water sampling and survey the local beach flora and fauna.

Please arrange for school field trip buses to pick you up at the east end of the Lake Erie parking lot in Huntington Reservation at the conclusion of your field trip time. Available during the school year in the months of September, October, April or May.

Length: 90 minutes- 2 hours. **Adult chaperones recommended:** 2

Content Standards

Subject	Gr	Standard
Life Science	4	Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful
Life Science	5	Organisms perform a variety of roles in an ecosystem. All of the processes that take place within organisms require energy.
Earth Science	7	The hydrologic cycle illustrates the changing states of water as it moves through the lithosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere.

Pre-Trip Activities

Vocabulary

abiotic/non-living	invasive
adaptation	native
aquatic	non-native
biotic/living	nutrient
ecosystem	observation
energy	oxygen
fertilizer	pH
habitat	phosphorus
	runoff

Recommended Books and Field Guides

- Invasive Species Underwater by Richard Spilsbury. PowerKids Press, 2015.
- Twine Line Magazine Series by Ohio Sea Grant. Online at <http://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/products/twineline>

Post-Trip and Extension Activities

- Research ways that humans can improve the health of aquatic ecosystems (e.g., recycling wastes, establishing rain gardens, planting native species).
- Research or conduct a field investigation for an aquatic invasive species that is present in the local community or in Ohio. Examples of research questions: How did the organism get into Ohio? What is being done to control the spread of the species? What is the impact of the species on the native organisms?

Other Resources:

- <http://greatlakesliteracy.net/> (Activities for teachers of all grade levels)
- <http://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/> (Activities for teachers of all grade levels)