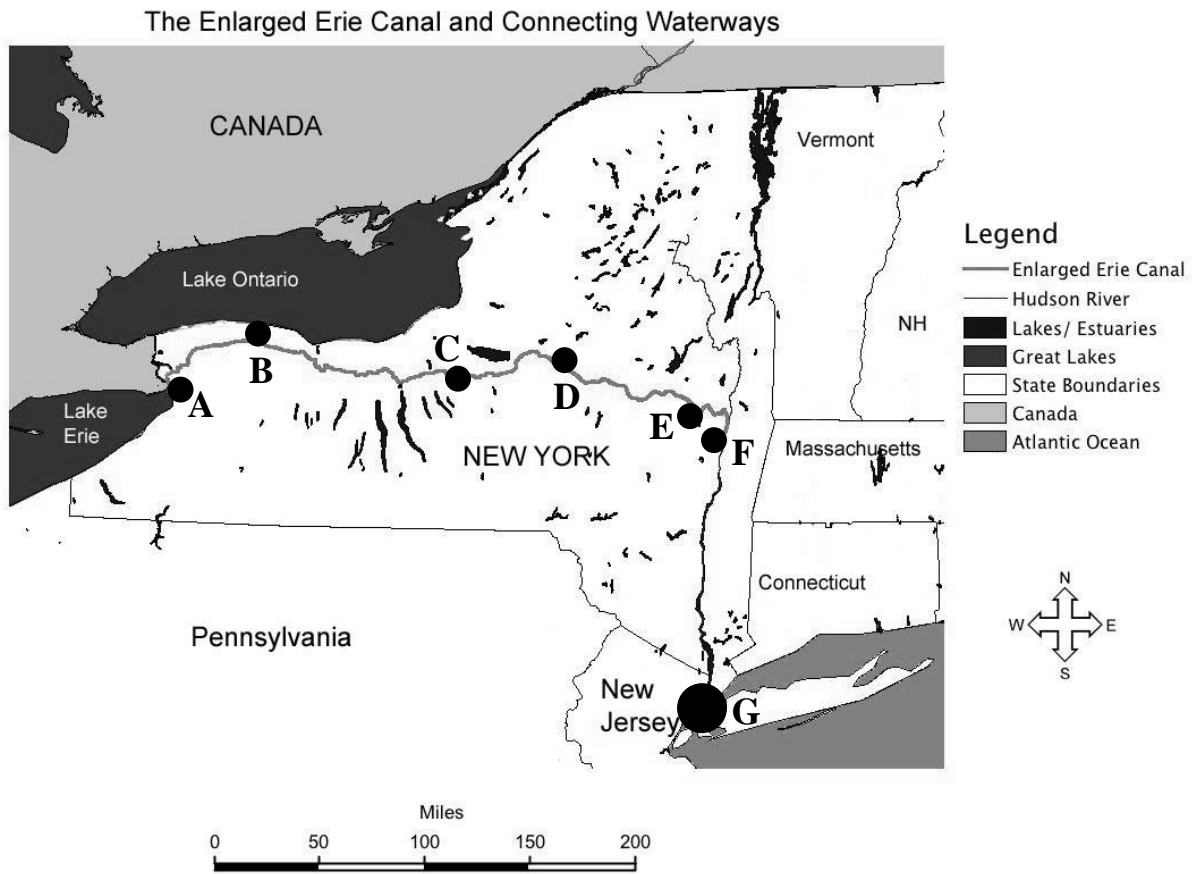


If you want to be connected, it helps to stay **LOW**!



Many of the questions on this activity sheet are based on maps on pages 4 and 5 of the *Atlas of New York: Legacies of the Erie Canal*. There is a map titled, “Land Elevation of the Northeastern United States.” You will also be using the map at the top of this sheet.

1. Elevations on this map are color-coded. How can you tell that Long Island has a **low** elevation (near sea level)? _____

How can you tell that the Adirondack Mountains and the Catskills have a **high** elevation? _____

2. There is a narrow belt running north from New York City that has a low elevation. What important river is found there? _____

There is also another low elevation belt between the Adirondacks and the Catskills. What river can be found here? _____

HINT: To find the names of rivers go to page 8 of the *Atlas of New York*.

3. Study the map on the front of this Activity Sheet (“The Enlarged Erie Canal and Connecting Waterways”). Label *two* important waterways: **Hudson River** and the **Erie Canal**. This map shows us that the Hudson River flows _____ out of the Adirondack Mountains and reaches the Atlantic Ocean at _____ City.

The Erie Canal is a man-made waterway that *connects* Lake Erie to the _____ River. Refer back to page 4 in the Atlas. Does the Erie Canal cross any mountains? _____ Does it follow a low-elevation route between the mountains? _____

4. Match these New York cities with the letters on *the Enlarged Erie Canal and Connecting Waterways Map*.

Schenectady _____

Buffalo _____

Albany _____

Utica _____

Syracuse _____

New York City _____

Rochester _____

Now look at *where* these large cities are found. These cities are NOT scattered randomly all over the map. Instead, except for New York City, they all located along the _____. New York City is found at the end (“mouth”) of the _____ River, where it meets the ocean.

5. BIG IDEAS!!

A. Use the following words to finish this sentence: Important settlements (cities) are usually found _____

B. What geographic features help to connect settlements and help them grow?
