

# Sometimes We WIN and Sometimes THEY Lose!

## Lesson for the *Atlas of New York: Legacies of the Erie Canal*

Even before the Erie Canal was completed in 1825, it brought people to New York State. They settled on farms and they worked in the towns along the new canal and along the Hudson River.

1. On page 23 of the Atlas is a map of *Winners and Losers*. How is that indicated on the map?

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2. Can you explain why Buffalo was a *winner*? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. New York City was a BIG winner, but it is *not* on the Erie Canal. How is this city connected to the Canal? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Name three *losers* of the canal period. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
and \_\_\_\_\_

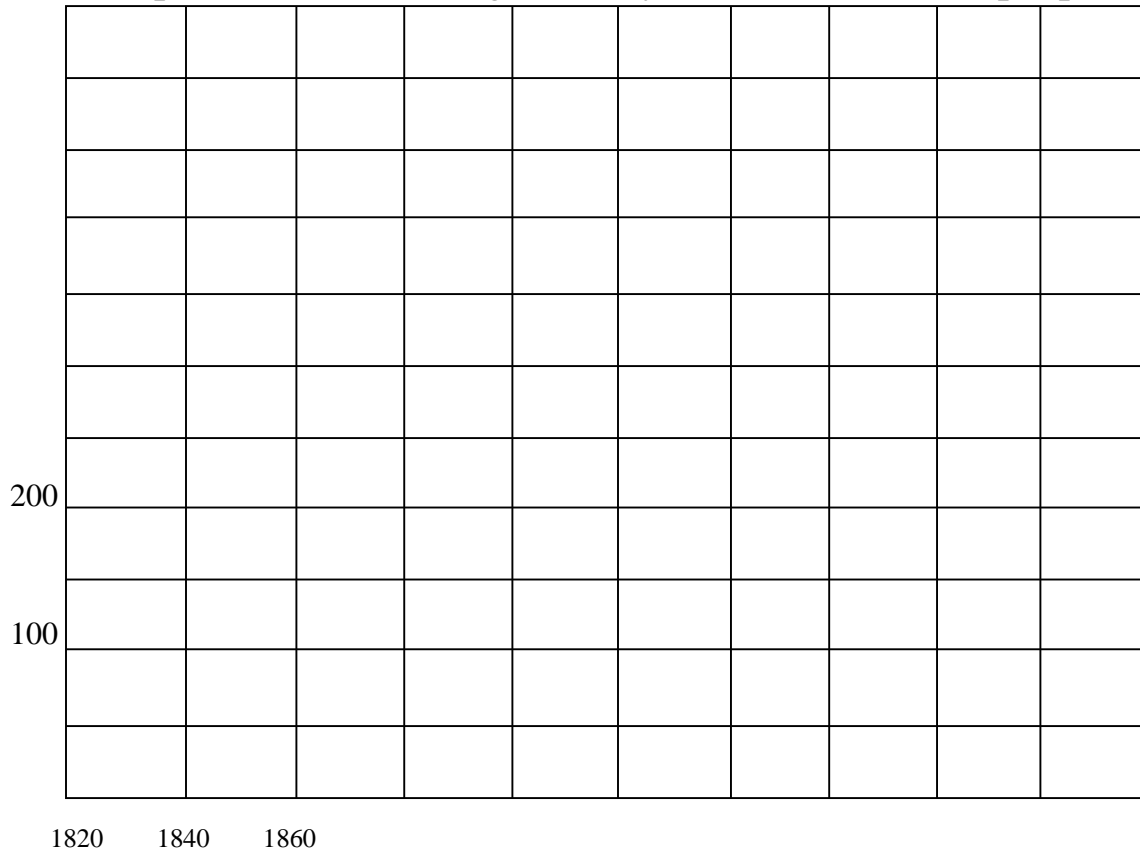
Why didn't they benefit from this water transportation route? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Below is a table showing the population of Onondaga County (Syracuse area) from 1820 to 2000. Your task is to graph this data on the next page. First, finish numbering the axes. Then make it a line graph and connect the dots together. Then answer the questions about Onondaga County.

<b>Census Year</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Census Year</b>	<b>Population</b>
1820	41,500	1920	241,000
1840	68,000	1940	295,000
1860	91,000	1960	423,000
1880	118,000	1980	464,000
1900	167,000	2000	458,000

Population of Onondaga County, NY (thousands of people)



6. Was Onondaga County a “winner” during the days of the old canal (1820 -1920)? \_\_\_\_\_

Can you explain your answer? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What about now (the 21<sup>st</sup> century)? \_\_\_\_\_ What has changed? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Look at this map on next page of the **Great Lakes Region** that shows the Erie Canal. Some of the cities of the region are labeled on the map. Place two plus (+) signs and two minus (-) signs next to the “winners” and “losers” of the Erie Canal.

8. Why are the two cities winners? \_\_\_\_\_

Why are the other two cities losers? \_\_\_\_\_

