

New York State Social Studies Standards for Erie Canal Simulation

4th Grade

4.6 WESTWARD MOVEMENT AND INDUSTRIALIZATION:

(Standards: 1, 3, 4; Themes: MOV, TCC, GEO, ECO, TECH)

4.6b In order to connect the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean, the Erie Canal was built. Existing towns expanded and new towns grew along the canal. New York City became the busiest port in the country.

- > Students will examine the physical features of New York State and determine where it might be easiest to build a canal, and form a hypothesis about the best location. Students will compare their hypothesis with the actual location of the Erie Canal.
- > Students will examine how the development of the canal affected the Haudenosaunee nations.
- > Students will locate and name at least five towns and four cities along the canal, and identify major products shipped using the canal.

7th Grade

7.6 WESTWARD EXPANSION:

(Standards: 1, 3; Themes: ID, MOV, TCC, GEO)

7.6c Westward expansion provided opportunities for some groups while harming others.

- > Students will examine the Erie Canal as a gateway to westward expansion that resulted in economic growth for New York State, economic opportunities for Irish immigrants working on its construction, and its use by religious groups, such as the Mormons, to move westward.

11th Grade

11.3 EXPANSION, NATIONALISM, AND SECTIONALISM (1800 – 1865):

(Standards: 1, 3, 4, 5; Themes: TCC, GEO, GOV, ECO, TECH)

- > Students will examine the market revolution, including technological developments, the development of transportation networks, the growth of domestic industries, the increased demands for free and enslaved labor, the changing role of women, and the rise of political democracy.