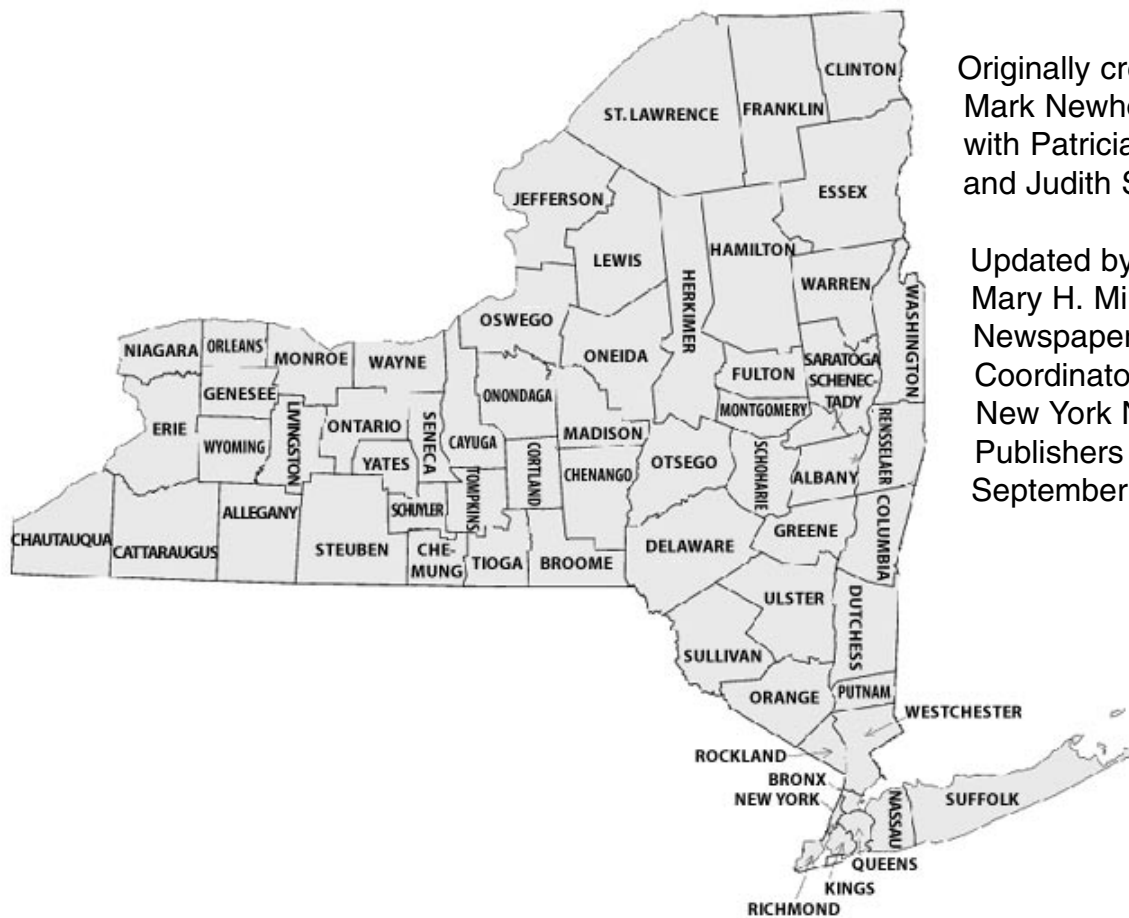


Using the Newspaper to

# *Rediscover New York*



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# *Introduction*

## **Note to Teachers**

Newspapers have played an important part in the history of New York.

It was in New York that John Peter Zenger fought for and won the principle of freedom of the press. Today, it is more important than ever that our citizens, especially our young citizens, become aware of the role of the newspaper in helping them keep pace in our changing world. It is our hope that this guide will serve the dual purpose of reacquainting our students with their state and reaffirming the versatility and scope of a daily newspaper.

The activities in this book may be completed, at the teacher's discretion, by individuals, groups or the entire class. While they may be administered in any sequence, asterisked activities may be considered more challenging. We hope you will find these materials useful and enjoyable in helping your children learn more about their community and state.

New York State Learning Standards addressed by the activities in this book are:

English Language Arts: Standard 1 and 3

Career Development and Occupational Skills: Standard 1

Social Studies: Standards 1, 3 and 5

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# *Rediscover New York Scavenger Hunt*

To begin your newspaper study of New York State, see how many of the following types of newspaper features you can locate and cut out from your newspaper.

1. Any map showing New York State.
2. A news story related to New York State government.
3. A story about your county.
4. A picture of a famous/infamous New Yorker.
5. A story about a New York natural resource or environmental feature.
6. A story related to the economy of New York.
7. A story featuring a New York athlete or team.
8. An editorial cartoon.
9. A story related to our ethnic/cultural roots or immigrant contributions/problems.
10. A story or ad for New York recreation.
11. A crossword puzzle.
12. A movie ad.
13. An advice column.
14. A real estate ad from your town.
15. An interview.
16. An action photo.
17. A story related to the Third World.
18. A TV schedule.
19. A book review.
20. A positive role model story or feature.
21. Three different foreign food restaurant ads.
22. Three different job ads requiring a college education.
23. Two automobile ads or articles.
24. Statistics from two sports.

Total Found: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Newspaper Has Something For Everyone!**

# Lesson 1

## What is New York State's Global Address?



### Questions:

Using an atlas or a globe, find the answer to the following questions about the location of New York State:

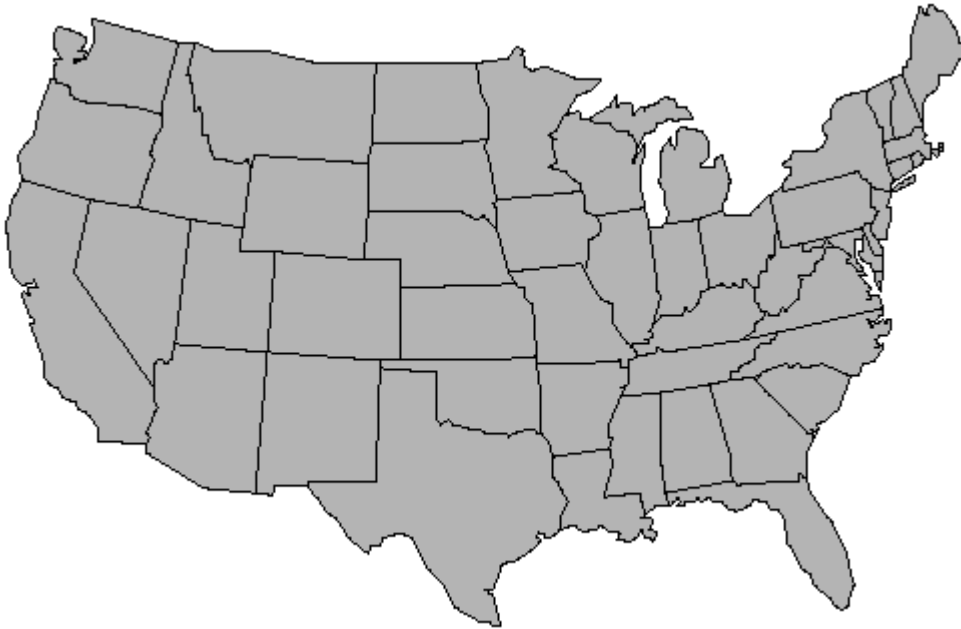
1. New York is located in what hemisphere?
2. New York is located on which continent?
3. New York is part of what nation?
4. What is our longitude?
5. What is our latitude?
6. What body of water is to our east?
7. What country is north of New York?
8. What other continents make up our hemisphere?
9. What other countries share our continent?

### New York in the News:

1. Newspapers often print news about other countries that may have an important effect on how we live in New York. Try to find a news story about a country that may have such an effect. Discuss with class, group, or team what you have found.
2. Countries that are interdependent depend on each other for trade, defense or for help to solve problems. Can you find a story in the newspaper that illustrates how countries are interdependent? Write an opinion about whether or not you think this interdependence is good or bad for the United States. Provide facts to support your opinion.

# Lesson 2

## What is New York State's National/Regional Address?



### Questions:

1. List the states that border New York. (Label and fill in each state in a different color.)
2. Name the country that is along New York's northern border.
3. What Great Lakes border New York?
4. What bodies of water separate New York from its neighbors?
5. What famous canal joins New York to the West?

### In the News:

1. Things we do in our state may affect our neighboring states. Find an example of something happening in New York that you feel could have an effect on one or more of our neighbors.
2. The Federal Government passes many laws that affect us in New York. Find in the newspaper examples of how federal laws can affect us. Try to find out how our New York representatives voted on these issues.
3. Does New York ever disagree with its neighbors? Try to locate a story in the newspaper that answers this question.



# Lesson 4

## New York State Terrific Trivia

### How much do you really know about New York State?

1. What two famous figures appear on New York State's seal? \_\_\_\_\_
2. New York's motto is "EXCELSIOR," but what does that mean? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What appears on New York's state flag? When was our flag adopted? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is our official state flower? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is our official state tree? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What is our official state gem? (Yes we have one!) \_\_\_\_\_
7. What is our official state bird? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What is our official state animal? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What is our official state fish? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What is our official state fruit? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What is our official state song? \_\_\_\_\_
12. How many U.S. Presidents were from New York? \_\_\_\_\_
13. What New York city was the first capital of the U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_
14. George Washington was sworn in as president in New York City. True or False? \_\_\_\_\_
15. Has Albany always been our state capital? \_\_\_\_\_
16. What is New York's nickname? \_\_\_\_\_
17. What was the nickname for New Yorkers? \_\_\_\_\_
18. What two famous explorers came to New York? \_\_\_\_\_
19. What famous invention was tested in the Hudson River? \_\_\_\_\_
20. What do Seneca Falls and Lucretia Mott, Amelia Bloomer, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton have in common? \_\_\_\_\_
21. What nations fought for control of the continent right here in New York? \_\_\_\_\_
22. When did New York become a state? \_\_\_\_\_
23. This man-made waterway was called the "Gateway to the West," and was financed by New Yorkers. Name it. \_\_\_\_\_
24. What number was New York in the order of ratifying the Constitution? \_\_\_\_\_
25. How many newspapers are published in New York? \_\_\_\_\_

***Find out the answers on the next page.***

### **In the News:**

1. Make up your own trivia questions about our state from facts you learn in today's newspaper.
2. Find the different types of puzzles featured in the newspaper. Try a crossword puzzle each day. You could make a graph showing how many answers you get right over a period of time. Share a puzzle with your class and see how they do.
3. Make up a puzzle using information about your state, town or village. Send it to your school or local newspaper.
4. Why do newspapers include such non-news features as puzzles? Check your paper's index to make a list of the many features newspapers offer that might not be thought of as "news." You might try to conduct a survey with your classmates to see how many people make use of the various features in the newspaper.
5. Complete the two following work sheets on different types of news.

# Answers to New York State Terrific Trivia

1. On the seal, the figure on the left represents Liberty. The crown at her feet signifies that Liberty



has rejected kings and monarchies. The figure on the right symbolizes justice. A typical New York river scene is in the center of the seal, while an American eagle perches on the globe on the top. The seal was adopted in 1778.

2. The coat of arms of New York State bears the motto "Excelsior," meaning "Always Upward."
3. The state flag, adopted in 1909, has a reproduction of New York's coat of arms.
4. The rose, in any color or combination of colors, was designated the state flower in 1955 by the Governor.
5. In 1956 the sugar maple was made the official tree, even though school children had made the same choice in 1889 in a state-wide election.
6. The state legislature voted the garnet as the official state gem.
7. The state legislature voted the blue bird as the state bird.
8. The state legislature voted the beaver as the state animal.
9. The state legislature voted the speckled trout the state fish.
10. The apple is the state fruit.
11. New York does not have an official song, even though we have heard "I Love New York" and "New York, New York." Any composers out there?
12. Four presidents were born in New York State. Use your library to research who they were.
13. New York City was the nation's first capital.
14. True, George Washington took his oath of office in New York City.
15. The three temporary capitals of New York State were Kingston, Poughkeepsie, and New York City.
16. New York is referred to as the Empire State, but not because of the Empire State Building. Since colonial days it has been called the "Empire State" because, as some historians believe, George Washington proudly referred to New York City as "The Seat of the Empire."
17. New Yorkers were once referred to as the "Knickerbockers" from a figure used by cartoonists at one time. "Father Knickerbocker" was also used to symbolize New York City. The term is attributed

to Washington Irving's humorous "Knickerbocker's History of New York."

18. The first known sighting of the coastline of America was by Giovanni Verrazano. The first exploration of America's coast was by Henry Hudson. Hudson believed that the river he explored, which was later named for him, would lead him to China.
19. The Hudson River was the experimental area for navigation by steam power. It was in the Hudson River that Robert Fulton's steamboat changed the world of shipping.
20. The organized effort to gain suffrage (the right to vote) for women took



American Press Association

- place at Seneca Falls, New York, where a convention held in 1848 was led by Lucretia Mott, Amelia Bloomer and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.
21. The struggle for the continent was fought mostly on New York soil by the Indians, Dutch, French and English. New York was also the battleground for the War of 1812.
22. New York gained statehood July 26, 1788.
23. The gateway to the west was opened by the Erie Canal. Because the federal government would not support the venture, the canal was financed by New Yorkers.
24. Eighteenth.
25. Seventy.

## Some questions to find answers to:

- Which was the first state to ratify the Constitution? The last?
- Out of the 13 states, what number was New York in the order of ratification?
- How many minutes are allowed in a New York State voting machine?
- Does the Constitution say a voter must be a citizen?
- When did New York State enter the Union?
- Who were the four New York State Governors who became President of the United States?

# *News-North, East, West, South*

The newspaper provides news about nearby places and about places all over the globe. Choose several articles from the newspaper and categorize them according to: world, national, state and local news.

Make a chart for the articles you find, using at least one article from each category. (Note: The dateline is found at the very beginning of the article; it gives the place and the date for the story. The byline refers to the name of the article's author. Sometimes more than one person contributed to the story; at other times, the story is written from information that comes to the newspaper through a news service, or an organization that gathers news for the newspaper.

	<b>Headline</b>	<b>Dateline</b>	<b>Byline or News Service</b>
<b>World</b>			
<b>National</b>			
<b>State</b>			
<b>Local</b>			

# *What Makes News?*

Every day newspaper editors must decide which stories make news, out of all the possible items they have for the newspaper. Following are things that editors take into account when deciding if something is newsworthy.

Is it timely? Events are timely if they have just happened; events that have happened in the past but that are affecting us now or in the future would also fall into this category.

Is it nearby? An event that is local-in our city or state.

Is it important? An event that affects many people.

Does it involve well-known names? An event that involves famous or familiar people, places or things.

Does it indicate progress? The latest information in science, education, medicine, archaeology or other fields.

Does it indicate conflict? Disagreements between people, countries, businesses, etc.

Is it of human interest? Events that touch emotions, that have to do with the "ups and downs" of life.

Is it of an unusual nature? Events that are out of the ordinary or unexpected.

Choose several articles from today's newspaper. Determine which categories from those listed above explain why the articles are in the news.

Discuss your findings with your teacher. Paste the headline from the article in the space on the left. Write the categories that apply in the space on the right.

<b>Headline</b>	<b>Category</b>

# Lesson 5

## New York has an Exciting History

### History of New York Timeline

????--Native Americans (Algonquin, Iroquois)  
1000-Vikings may have sailed by  
1524-Verrazano visited New York Harbor  
1609-Hudson claims New Amsterdam for Dutch  
Champlain gives French claim to northern New York  
1626-Peter Minuit purchased Manhattan Island from Canarsie Indians  
1648-English settle on Long Island  
1664-Dutch surrender New York to English  
1689-1768-- New York battleground of French and Indian War  
1735-John Peter Zenger case establishes Freedom of the Press  
1776--New York signs Declaration of Independence; becomes major battleground  
1777-British lose at Saratoga (turning point of Revolution)  
1788-Iroquois defeated  
1789-Washington sworn in as President; New York City, first capital of U.S.  
1807-Fulton's steamboat sails from New York City to Albany  
1820--New York most populated state  
1825-Erie Canal opens West  
1827--New York ends slavery  
1848-Seneca Falls convention for women's suffrage  
1860-65--New York joins Union in Civil War  
1865-present--New York becomes center of industry in U.S.  
1886--New York City, welcoming port for immigrants; Statue of Liberty dedicated.

### Questions:

1. What date is the earliest recorded on our New York Timeline?
2. How many years ago did this event take place?
3. Which event do you think is the most important?
4. Make up a timeline with at least ten important events in the history of your town or county. Work on your own, in a group, or with the class.

### In the News:

1. "Today's news may become tomorrow's history." Can you find any articles in the newspaper about New York that you think will be important enough to become part of tomorrow's history? Discuss what makes these events significant. Try to follow one event as it progresses. Does it become more or less important with the passage of time?
2. Newspapers have many different kinds of articles. Three important types are hard news, features and editorials. See if you can find samples of these three important types. Discuss their differences with your class. You might try to set up a bulletin board to see which of these types appears most frequently during your subscription.
3. News stories, features and editorials often use historic information to help their readers understand current events. Select suitable examples and highlight the historical background sections.
4. Make a class timeline of important current events by dating, clipping and collecting headlines from your newspaper during your subscription. You might also try to make up your own headlines for important events of the past or present.
5. Many newspapers have advice columns. Study the advice columns in your newspaper. Select one person from New York's history and write a letter to the newspaper as if that person were asking for advice.
6. Select one of the events above and write your own story as if that event were taking place today.



Immigrants arrive at Ellis Island, New York City's welcoming port.

# Lesson 6

## New York Counties' Claims to Fame

New York has many unusual and historic claims to fame. Here is just a small sampling provided by members of the New York State Reading Association:

### New York Counties' Claims to Fame

- Mark Twain lived in Fredonia, Chautauqua County
- Ross Park Zoo, first zoo in country (Broome County)
- Cortland County land given to soldiers as a reward for fighting in the Revolutionary War
- Charles Lindbergh crossed the Atlantic from Mitchell Field, Nassau County
- Onondaga County leader in salt production
- President Franklin D. Roosevelt lived in Dutchess County.

### In the News:

1. Search your newspaper for a current happening that you predict may be tomorrow's claim to fame. Make up a chart about this event. Include the following:
  - A headline for the event
  - What is the event
  - Who is involved
  - When it happened
  - Where the event is happening
  - Why it is happening
  - How it is happening
  - Predict the outcome of this event
2. Use the inverted pyramid chart to analyze how stories in your paper are written using the "5 W's+1 H" formula. (Perhaps your teacher will need to explain this to the class.) Compare hard news stories to feature and editorial-type articles.

<b>WHO</b>	<b>WHAT</b>	<b>WHERE</b>	<b>WHEN</b>

**Write a beginning sentence including the information above.**

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**Write more about your news story answering the questions: Why and How.**

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# Lesson 7

## New York Hall of Famous People

1. Geraldine Ferraro
  2. Walt Whitman
  3. John Peter Zenger
  4. DeWitt Clinton
  5. Henry Ward Beecher
  6. Col. Elmer Ellsworth
  7. George Eastman
  8. Lou Gehrig
  9. James Baldwin
  10. Althea Gibson
  11. Theodore Roosevelt
  12. Franklin D. Roosevelt
- A. Governor who established Erie Canal
  - B. 32nd President
  - C. African-American author
  - D. Founded Kodak camera
  - E. Baseball's "Pride of the Yankees"
  - F. Freedom of the press case
  - G. Champion tennis player
  - H. 26th President
  - I. First woman candidate for V.P.
  - J. Long Island poet
  - K. Fought for end of slavery
  - L. First Union officer to die in Civil War

### Questions:

1. How many famous people came from your town or county?
2. Can you name a famous person/people who live in your area?
3. Make up a class "Hall of Fame" for your local celebrities. You might invite a celebrity to speak to your class.

### In the News:

1. Clip pictures of famous New Yorkers from the newspaper, then cooperate on a class collage.
2. Clip pictures of famous New Yorkers from the newspaper and research biographical information for your own New York Hall of Fame.
3. Interviews of famous people often appear in the newspaper. Study several of these celebrity interviews. Select a personality in today's newspaper and formulate ten questions you would ask that person if you were a reporter. Try mailing your questions to the celebrity.
4. Is there someone in the newspaper who deserves to be in the "Hall of Shame?" Select one candidate and write/discuss with your class why he/she deserves this. Have an election to see which newsmaker receives this "honor."

## Answers to Hall of Famous People Scramble

Geraldine Ferraro - First woman candidate for V.P. Walt Whitman-Long Island poet • John Peter Zenger - Freedom of the press case • DeWitt Clinton - Governor who established Erie Canal • Henry Ward Beecher - Fought for end of slavery • Col. Elmer Ellsworth - First Union officer to die in Civil War • George Eastman - Founded Kodak camera • Lou Gehrig - Baseball's "Pride of the Yankees" • James Baldwin - African-American author • Althea Gibson - Champion tennis player • Theodore Roosevelt - 26th President • Franklin D. Roosevelt - 32nd President

# Lesson 8

## New York has Important Natural Resources

New York State enjoys a wide range of natural resources. From the Hudson River, to the Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserves, and the ocean shores off Long Island New York is home to a diversity of plant and animal life. Various minerals, gas and oil are also part of these resources.

### Questions:

1. Natural resources may be simply defined as

material provided by nature. That makes them limited and non-reproducible. List on the chart below the most important natural resources in your area of New York and provide at least two uses for each resource.

2. Is there something in your area that is threatening one of your important natural resources? Explain how this is happening.

### Natural Resource

### Two Uses for Natural Resource


### In the News:

1. Find an article in the newspaper that deals with a natural resource. Search the newspaper for pictures of products made from that natural resource. Make a chart using these pictures.  
2. To complete the chart below, locate in your newspaper things that can be recycled or things that can conserve energy.

3. Write an editorial expressing your opinion as to whether or not recycling works.

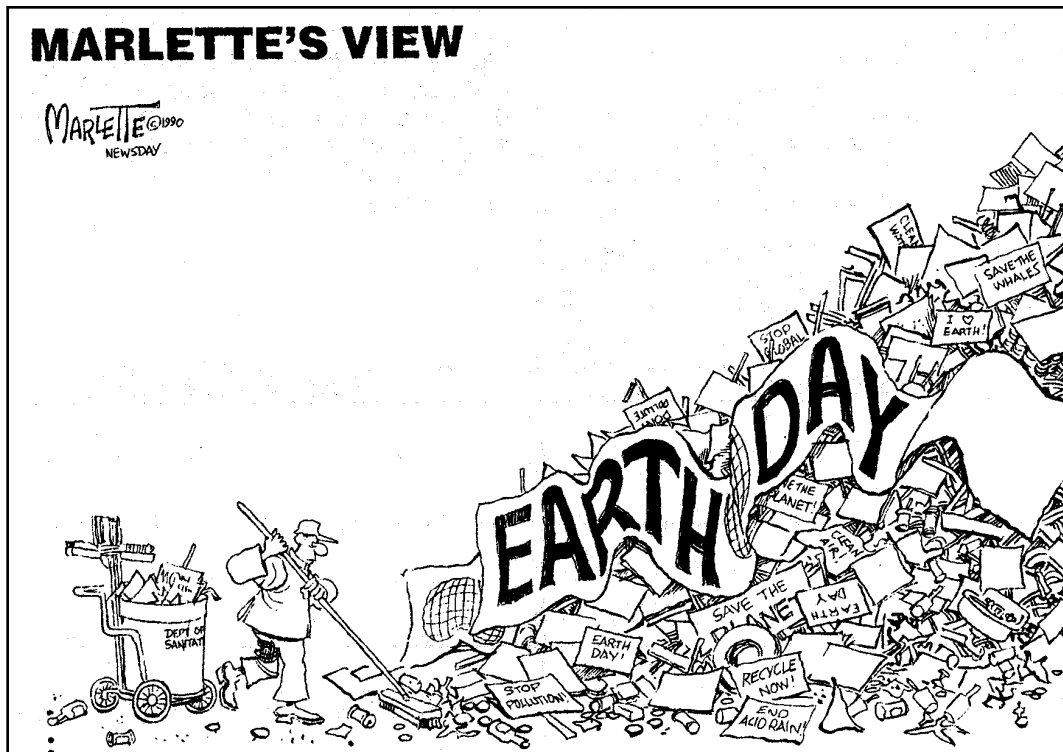
4. Garbage has become a serious problem in our state. Locate any articles that deal with this problem. Make a list or chart of the various solutions being proposed to solve this problem. Which of these do you think is the best?

### Recyclables

### Energy Conservation Methods


# Lesson 9

## What Dangers Threaten Our Environment?



### Questions:

1. What do you think this cartoon is trying to say about our environment?
2. What are some of the things that make up the environment in your area?
3. What kinds of things are threatening to damage your local environment?

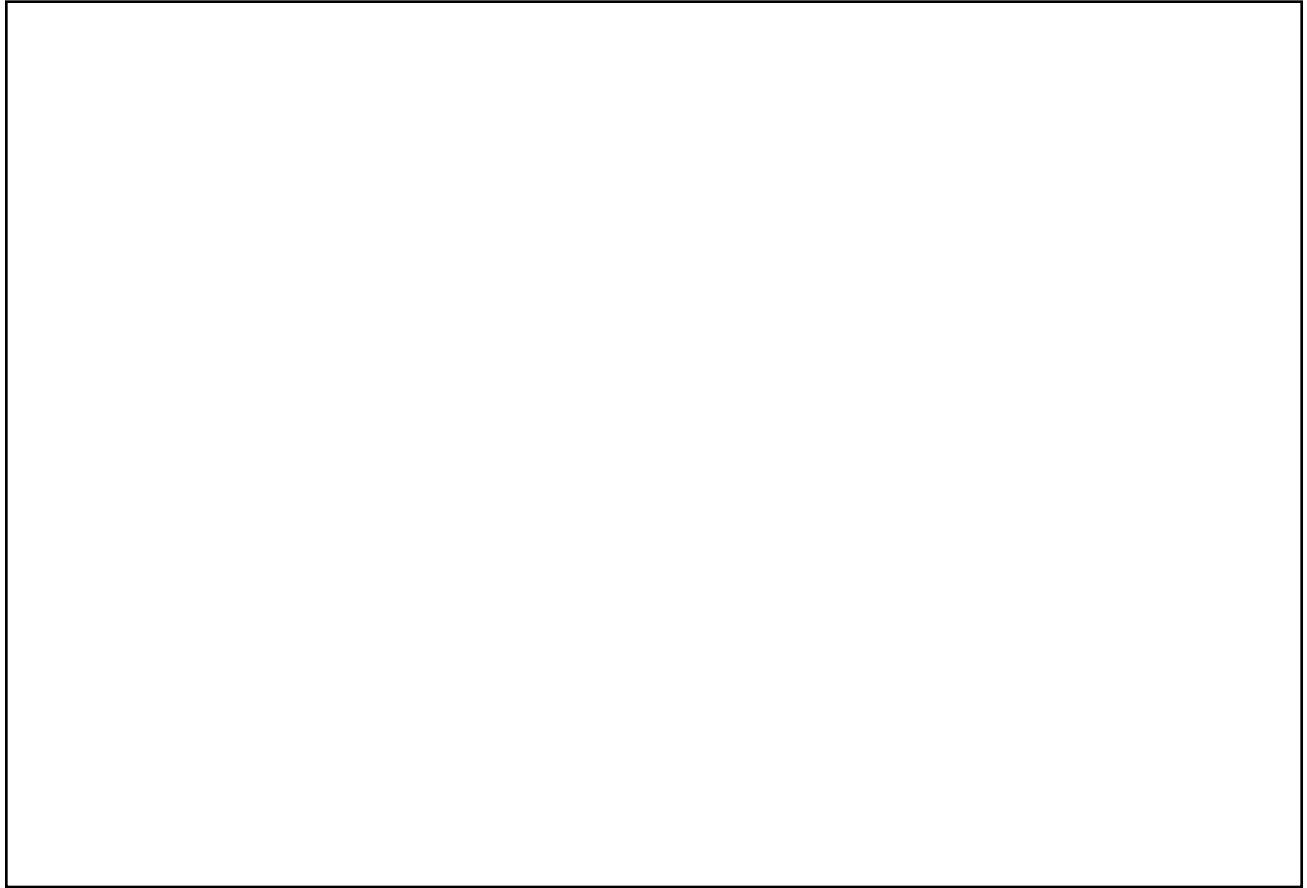
### In the News:

1. The cartoon above is an editorial cartoon. Scan your newspaper for other editorial cartoons. Where in your paper are they found? See if the same artist is featured daily. Discuss how editorial cartoons differ from those found in the comics section of your paper.
2. Editorial cartoons often use very graphic symbols to present their point of view. Select

- one environmentally related story from your newspaper and list some of the symbols you might use to represent the problem mentioned. Draw your own editorial cartoon expressing your point of view about a local issue.
3. Editorials are written points of view. Collect and analyze editorials in your newspaper. Compare these to news and feature stories. Write your own editorial presenting your point of view on an issue in today's newspaper.
4. Newspapers often print information about various organizations and meetings. Look in the newspaper for groups/meetings that are working to improve the environment. Write letters to obtain more information about these groups. You might try to arrange a visit from a group representative.

# Lesson 10

## Climate Affects Our Lives in New York



Clip the national weather map from your newspaper and paste it in the space above.

### Questions:

1. What kind of weather is most prevalent in your area?
2. How does this weather affect the way you live? Your recreation?
3. What kind of weather do you like best? Does your newspaper show a place that has this kind of weather today?

### In the News:

Using today's newspaper, can you answer the following questions:

1. What was your town's high temperature yesterday?
2. What was your town's low?
3. What was the difference between the high and low?
4. What was your prevailing weather yesterday?
5. What kind of weather is predicted for today?
6. What kind of weather is predicted for the next five days?
7. When was sunrise today?
8. Does your newspaper show temperatures from other parts of the U.S.? Can you give reasons why people

might want this kind of information?

9. Does your newspaper show temperatures from other parts of the world?

- Make a bar graph comparing average temperatures for any five places for the days you receive the newspaper.
- Make a line graph showing the increases/decreases in temperature in your area for the duration of the time you are using the paper.
- Make a circle graph showing the percentage of rainy/snowy days during this same period.

10. Can you find a story in your newspaper that demonstrates the influence of weather, e.g., How does weather affect our economy?

11. Humor appears in many columns in the newspaper. Examine several humorous columns and try to write your own humorous experience or ideas about the weather.

# Lesson 11

## Products and Services in New York

### In the News:

1. The change from agricultural to urban societies has not always been easy. Find a story or editorial in your newspaper that deals with this change or with problems facing either of these two important areas.

- Interview someone who witnessed this change in your area.

2. On an outline map of New York State, paste pictures of New York's manufactured/agricultural products you have found in the newspaper.

3. Collect and analyze advertisements found in your newspaper. Select one local product or service and design an ad for that product.

4. Does your newspaper report on stocks? Where can you find stock market reports in your paper? Star companies that you recognize as local. Learn how to read a stock market report, and make a line graph of the progress of one of your local companies.

- Have a contest to see who would have made the most money on stocks they have selected.

5. Newspapers help people learn about new products or services. Find an innovative product or service in the newspaper that you may not have known about before. Try to invent your own product or new service.

6. In the space below make lists of the services, agricultural and manufactured products available in your area.

### **Agricultural Products**

Examples: milk, apples

### **Manufactured Products**

Examples: computers, books

### **Services**

Examples: health care,  
car wash



# Lesson 13

## New Yorkers Have Many Ways of Making a Living

200 Years Ago	100 Years Ago	50 Years Ago	Today

### Questions:

1. How did most people in your town make a living 200 years ago? 100 years ago? 50 years ago? Now? Write your answers on the chart above.
2. Why do you think this has changed? Discuss or write your answers.
3. Predict how you think most people in your area will make a living 100 years from now. Explain why you think what you do.
4. What problems do you see in your area that are affecting your economy? What positive things are happening?

### In the News:

1. Does your newspaper have a section devoted to business? Find an article that deals with an important economic issue facing New York. Can you find ten new vocabulary words in the article? Write the words and definitions on the chart below.

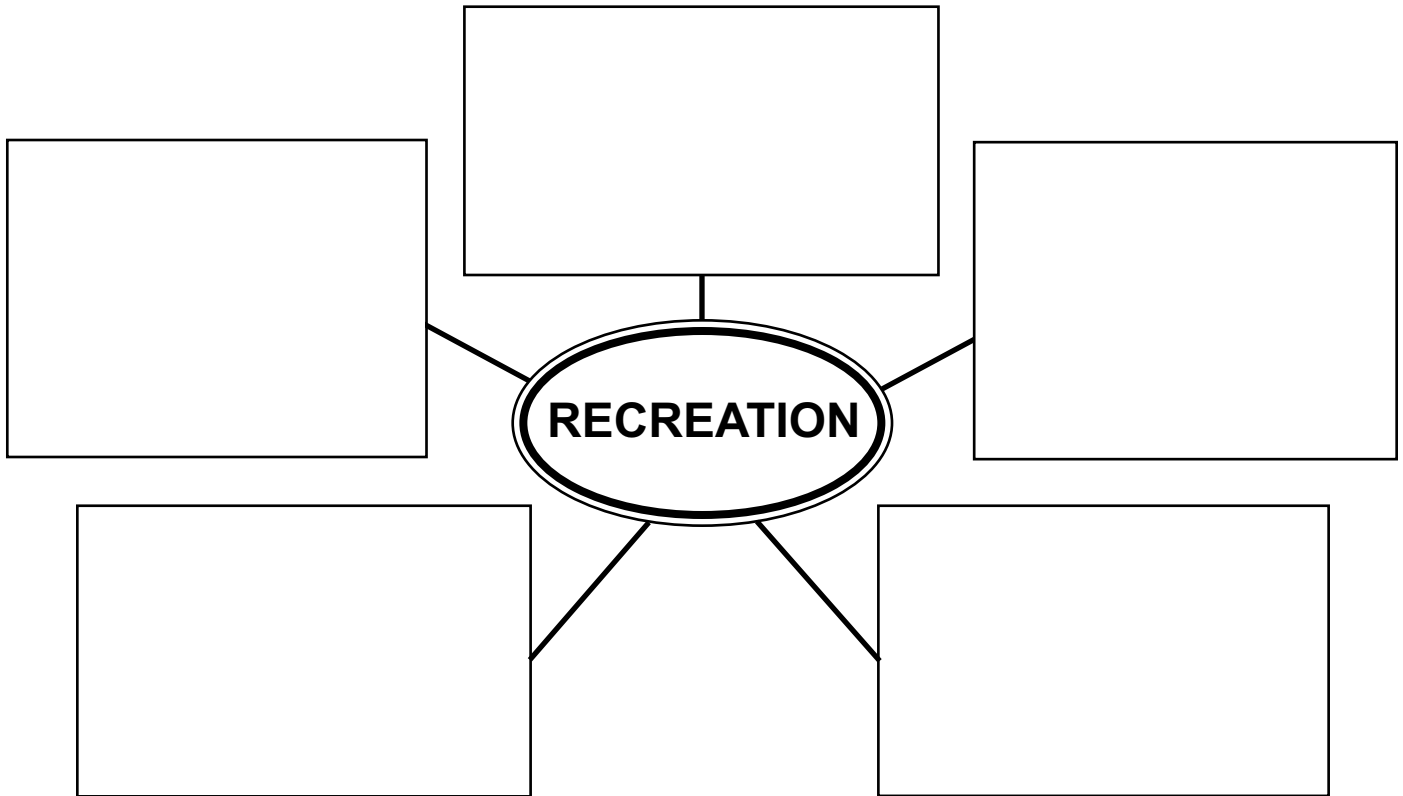
\*Make up flash cards to play a memory match game with these new words.

2. Looking at the article you chose, discuss why you feel this issue is important. When did this become an issue? What occupations are affected by this issue? How will this issue affect you, your family, or friends? What long-term effects will this produce? What possible solutions are reported in the newspaper? What solutions do you propose?
3. Where can you find career and job information in the newspaper? How many occupations and jobs are found in your newspaper? Have a scavenger hunt through your newspaper's classified section and see how many jobs and careers are mentioned.
4. Study want ads. Make a dictionary of abbreviations. Write your own want ads for classified jobs.

Word	Definition

# Lesson 14

## New York is Filled with Opportunities for Recreation & Fun



### Questions:

Complete the diagram above with answers to the following questions.

1. What are your area's favorite recreational activities?
2. What local sports teams are in your area?
3. What arenas or stadiums are in your area?
4. What parks, beaches and resorts are nearby?
5. What are your favorite recreational activities?

### In the News:

1. Try to guess how many sports are covered by your newspaper in one day. Now turn to your sports section to verify your answer.
2. Using your newspaper, collect articles and ads about popular recreational activities and facilities in your area.  
\*Survey your classmates about their favorites.
3. Using ads in your paper, try to determine how much it would cost you to purchase equipment for various forms of recreation.
4. Are certain recreational activities endangering the environment? Are changes in the environment affecting recreation, e.g. beach pollution? Find articles in the newspaper that deal with these questions and write a letter to the editor expressing your feelings.
5. What are the dangers in some recreational activities?

Find an article in the newspaper that deals with safety in recreational activity. Write a letter to the editor expressing your feelings about this activity and safety. Include your feelings on whether recreation is important.

6. Make a poster for your favorite team or recreation by using lettering and pictures from your newspaper.
7. Movies are a favorite form of relaxation. Newspapers often print schedules and reviews of movies. See how many different movies are playing in your area and how many times they are shown.

\*Write a movie review.

8. Reading is a wonderful form of recreation. Libraries offer many services to their community. Check your newspaper to see if your local library is holding any special events. Report on one of these events to your class.

\*Read a newspaper book review. Select a book you have read and write your own review.

9. Select from your newspaper a local team player whom you would add to a Hall of Fame. Discuss your choices with your class.

10. Select one controversial sports-related issue in the paper and hold a class debate.

11. Create your own personalized sports card by using pictures, words and statistics from the newspaper.



# *Lesson 16*

## Good News New York



What are some things you love about living in New York? Write your answers in & around the heart above.

### Questions:

1. What are some things you like about living where you do?
2. What are some things you like about the people where you live?
3. Have you ever done something you felt was really good?
4. Do you know someone who has done something special?
5. How do people who do something special get recognized in your school?

### In the News:

1. Newspapers like to report good news as well as bad news about their community. Collect stories from your newspaper that relate good things happening in your community. Put up a good news bulletin board with these articles.

\*Write a congratulatory note to the person who is being reported about in the paper.

2. Select a person from the newspaper who you

feel serves as a positive role model and invite him or her to your classroom. Prepare to interview him or her for your school paper.

3. Write a travel article or design a travel poster using pictures and lettering from your newspaper, highlighting why people should visit your part of New York.

\*Use headline lettering to make up a bumper sticker slogan for your area.

4. Can bad news ever become good news? Find any news articles that appear to be bad news. Discuss possible positive aspects produced by this news. Try to make a flowchart illustrating the possibilities. Keep following this story to see how it concludes.

5. Make an "I Love New York" bulletin board using pictures, articles and lettering from the paper.

6. Make up your own class newspaper using your newspaper as model.

\*Invite a local newspaper person to visit your class.

# Lesson 17

## New York has Many Educational Opportunities



### Questions:

Match the answers to see how much you know about education.

1. When was the first public school established in New York? \_\_\_\_
2. In what year did public schools become entirely free? \_\_\_\_
3. When was the Board of Regents started? \_\_\_\_
4. When was the state university system started? \_\_\_\_
5. When did education become compulsory in New York? \_\_\_\_
6. When did physical education become a requirement? \_\_\_\_
7. When did science become required in grammar school? \_\_\_\_

- A. 1867
- B. 1784
- C. 1638 by the Dutch in New Amsterdam
- D. 1948
- E. 1874
- F. 1958
- G. 1916

8. What are the names of some local colleges and universities in your area?

9. What would you like to do after you graduate from high school?

### In the News:

1. Newspapers report frequently on educational matters. Collect articles in the newspaper about education in your area. Discuss these issues with your class.
2. Students are reported in the news because of unusual accomplishments. Locate a story about such a student (or teacher) and invite that person to speak to your class about the problems and successes they have experienced in school.
3. Using the information in the classified section of your newspaper, make a chart showing the kinds of jobs that require different levels of education and how much education is required.
4. Select one local educational problem appearing in your newspaper and simulate a meeting of your

school board to discuss this issue.

5. Institutions of higher learning offer many services to their communities. Examine the newspaper to see if local educational institutions are having special presentations or events for the public.
6. Is education important to you? Select from the newspaper stories that demonstrate the importance of education.
7. The newspaper is a vehicle for education, a "living textbook." Collect and classify stories and features that deal with social studies, science, mathematics, language arts, art, music, reading, philosophy, etc.  
\*Make a bulletin board depicting all the features of your local "living textbook."

Answers to New York has Many Educational Opportunities:  
1. C 2. A 3. B 4. D 5. E 6. G 7. F

# Appendix A

## Web Links

**[www.empire.state.ny.us/statemap.htm](http://www.empire.state.ny.us/statemap.htm)**

Empire State Development web site, Region and Counties section - click on the region (either on the map or text in right hand column) to find out important facts about the geography, weather, population, major employers, educational institutions, health care, and quality of life for that area.

**[http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/maps/new\\_york\\_map.html](http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/maps/new_york_map.html)**

The U.S. Census Bureau New York State locator map - click on the county to bring up census quick fact data by comparing county and state.

**[www.nysegov.com/map-NY.cfm?gameMode=on](http://www.nysegov.com/map-NY.cfm?gameMode=on)**

Once you've learned more about the where each of the 62 counties of New York State are located, perhaps you'd like to test your knowledge by playing the "Find the County" Game? Once you click the 'start the game' button, a county name will appear and you click on the map to indicate where you think that county is. The game will keep score.

**[www.dos.state.ny.us/kidsroom/nysfacts/counties.html](http://www.dos.state.ny.us/kidsroom/nysfacts/counties.html)**

This web page from the New York State Department of State provides a list of NYS County names and the derivations of how these counties got their names. The list was compiled by state historians.

## Questions about your area of NYS

Using the websites listed above and other sources, find the answers to the following questions about your local area:

- What county/counties is your school district in?
- What region of the state are you in?
- What is the population of your county?
- What is the area in square miles of your county?
- List some famous people from your area. What made them famous?
- What outstanding geographic features are there in your area?
- What are some important natural resources from your area?
- What are two important products from your area?
- Can you list two tourist attractions in your area?
- What major companies do people in your area work for?
- Are there any threats to your environment? What and why?
- What animals and vegetation are native to your area?
- Why is your area a good place to live?
- How did your county get its name?

Back Cover  
(Newspaper Logo and Info/Sponsorship Page)