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Activities

The Great Lakes

Name: _____ Date: _____

Great Lakes make up the largest freshwater surface system on the planet. In fact, the lakes hold enough water to cover the United States nine feet deep! In this Planet Diary activity, you'll find out how the lakes formed. Then you'll learn some fun facts about them.

Directions

- How and when did the Great Lakes form? Go to How the Great Lakes Were Formed and click *Begin*. Use the information to answer Workspace questions 1 and 2.
- Continue to this Introduction to the Great Lakes. Read the text and Fun Facts. Click to enlarge the satellite photo (on the right). Then answer question 3.
- Click these links to find out more about each lake:
  - Lake Superior
  - Lake Michigan
  - Lake Huron
  - Lake Erie
  - Lake Ontario
- Use the information to complete the Fun Facts matching activity for question 4. Each lake may match more than one fact.

Workspace

1. What is glacial erosion?

2. Where did the water in the Great Lakes come from?

3. What fraction of the total fresh surface water of the United States do the Great Lakes hold?

4.

Fun Fact	Which Lake?
Has the longest total shoreline, including its 30,000 islands.	
The only one of the five found entirely within the U.S.	
Shallowest of the lakes, and smallest by volume.	
Has the largest surface area of any freshwater lake on the planet.	
Has the world's largest freshwater sand dunes.	
Has the largest freshwater island in the world.	
Often the only lake to freeze in winter.	
The deepest lake.	

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