

EXPLORING THE GREAT LAKES

The **Great Lakes Adventure CD ROM** teaches students about our five Great Lakes and the steps that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is taking to monitor and solve potential environmental problems. The Lake Guardian is an EPA owned and maintained 180 foot, self-contained, non-polluting research ship that travels the five Great Lakes. The vessel travels all 5 lakes, collecting and analyzing samples to test air and water quality, and plant and animal health. A special feature of this CD is the interactive panorama of the ship that allows users to control the video viewing direction. A Youth Activity Sheet and Teacher key are included on the Teacher CD. Both versions (student and teacher) contain a copy of the information-rich resource, the EPA *Great Lakes Atlas*.

Program Sections

➤ The Great Lakes Region

- The 5 Lakes - includes general information about the Great Lakes and the surrounding watersheds
- Natural Processes of the Great Lakes – includes information about
 - 1) Plants and Wildlife in the Lakes
 - 2) The Hydrologic Cycle,
 - 3) Stratification and Turnover
- What are the Great Lakes Used For?
- Who Manages the Great Lakes?



- **R/V Lake Guardian Tour** – photographs and interactive panoramas of the ship. Students can control the viewing direction of fifteen (15) panoramas taken on different parts of the ship.
- **Hot Topics** - 1) loss of habitat, 2) beach closures, 3) exotic species, 4) fish communities, 5) eutrophication, and 6) toxins
- **Tools** – pictures and descriptions of the tools used by Lake Guardian scientists.
- **Mystery** – challenges youth to solve a virtual environmental mystery using the knowledge they have gained from the *Great Lakes Adventure* CD ROM. A newspaper article alerts the student to an environmental problem. The student then runs tests on samples taken from the problem site, logs test results in a journal, calls a press conference, and submits a final report. Their findings are checked for accuracy until the mystery is solved!

Glossary – definitions of terms used in the program

Internet site for more information about the ship: www.epa.gov/glnpo/guard/ship.html

Order Information: <https://secure.agriculture.purdue.edu/store/>

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