

## Teaching with Great Lakes Data

### LINKING THE CLASSROOM TO REAL WORLD SCIENCE



Often scientific data can be too ... well, scientific, to use in a classroom. Teaching with Great Lakes Data connects educators and students to data collected throughout the Great Lakes and breaks the information into a digestible format. Greatlakeslessons.com provides Great Lakes data sets, an overview of teaching methods, and ready-to-go lessons and activities. Any of these resources may be easily incorporated into your curriculum and are multidisciplinary. All the materials on the website are free.

Teaching with Great Lakes Data enables educators to:

- Encourage students to develop higher-level thinking skills using real data.
- Enhance teaching skills through guided inquiry methods.
- Explore dead zones, climate/weather and fish habitat in the Great Lakes.

#### Great Lakes Water Data Sets for Teachers

Many agencies and websites provide access to scientific data. However, it is often in a form that only a knowledgeable scientist can use. Data for this website has been:

- Compiled from buoys, satellites and other monitoring devices.
- Customized for use in the classroom with fewer data and decimals points.
- Compiled into a usable spreadsheet format and is provided alongside a guide on how to use it.

#### Guided Inquiry Method

The online lessons also include a guided inquiry method to assist 5-12th grade teachers in targeting higher-level thinking and science process skills for their students. The website provides a step-by-step explanation of the guided inquiry methodology and includes the tools needed to implement in a classroom.

#### Lessons About the Great Lakes

Fully developed and ready-to-use lessons and activities make it easier to teach about dead zones, climate and weather and fish habitat in the Great Lakes region. The lessons:

- Include background information on broad scientific concepts like water density and specific information on Great Lakes science such as seasonal turnover.
- Are complete with hands-on learning activities.
- Have been aligned to content expectations, national standards and Ocean Literacy Principles

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