

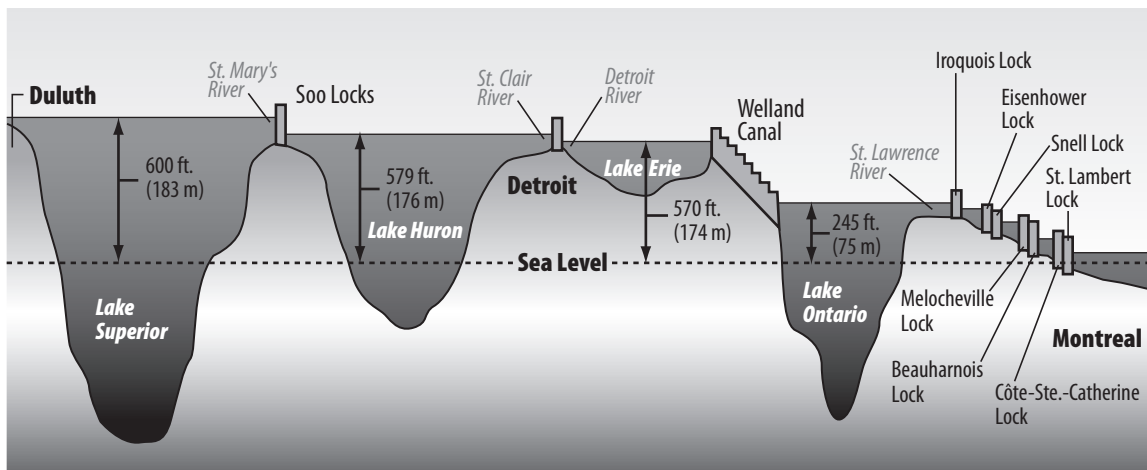
Geography Skills Activity

Canada

Understanding the St. Lawrence Seaway

Learning the Skill

The United States and Canada built the St. Lawrence Seaway in the mid-1900s. Its purpose was to provide a navigable water route from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. Canals and locks were built to allow ships to bypass rapids, waterfalls, and other obstructions that used to prevent their passage. Canals are human-made waterways that link nearby bodies of water. Locks are devices that raise and lower the water levels between bodies of water. In this way they allow ships to sail up and down steep changes in elevation.



Practicing the Skill

Directions: Use the paragraph and the map to answer the questions.

1. Which city lies near sea level?

2. The city of Duluth, Minnesota, is about how far above sea level?

3. What body of water links Lake Superior and Lake Huron?

Geography Skills Activity *cont.*



Canada

Applying the Skill

Directions: Use the information provided earlier in the worksheet to answer the questions.

1. How do locks help ships that are traveling from east to west on the seaway?

2. Why is Lake Michigan not shown on this graphic?

3. Are the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River really separate bodies of water? Why or why not?

4. Does the Welland Canal have locks? How do you know?

5. What do you think the stretch of water between Lake Ontario and Montreal was like before the locks were built? How do you know?
