

## Building the Erie Canal

### Final Assignment Instructions

In this lesson, you have learned about the construction of the Erie Canal, and the effect that the canal had on the United States, especially New York. You will now write an essay that shares what you have learned and what you think about it. You will need a printout of your notes.

- Choose one of the topics below and **write** an essay.
- **Organize** your response so that it includes at least three supporting details that you have learned from the reading passage, video, and other materials in this lesson.
- **Use** at least three vocabulary words (or a form of the words) as part of your supporting details.

### Essay Topics

1. Describe at least three goals in building the Erie Canal across upstate New York. Include in your answer how each of these goals was reached.
2. How did the Erie Canal change the economy of New York City and the United States?
3. Imagine that you are traveling along the Erie Canal five years after its construction. Write a journal entry to describe some of the economic effects on the region that you might see.

### Vocabulary Words

transport  
canal  
construction  
commercial