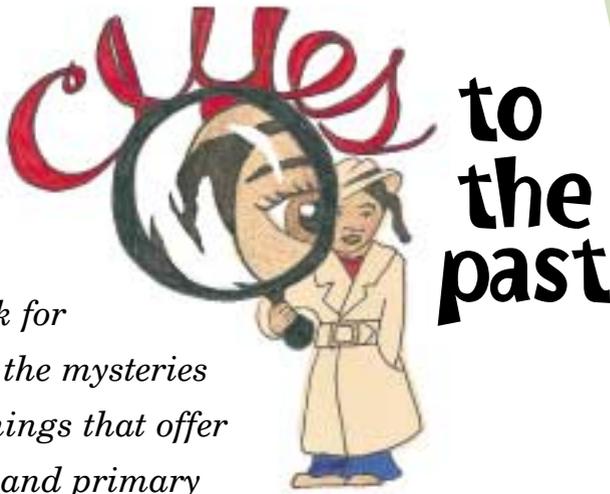


Have you ever wondered how historians know what they know? They are a lot like detectives who look for clues to help solve the mysteries of the past. Two things that offer clues are artifacts and primary sources.



- **ASK YOUR** grandparents if they have any artifacts or primary sources they can show you. Write down the stories they tell you about what the world was like when they were your age. Remember, it's never too soon to start investigating the past, including your own.

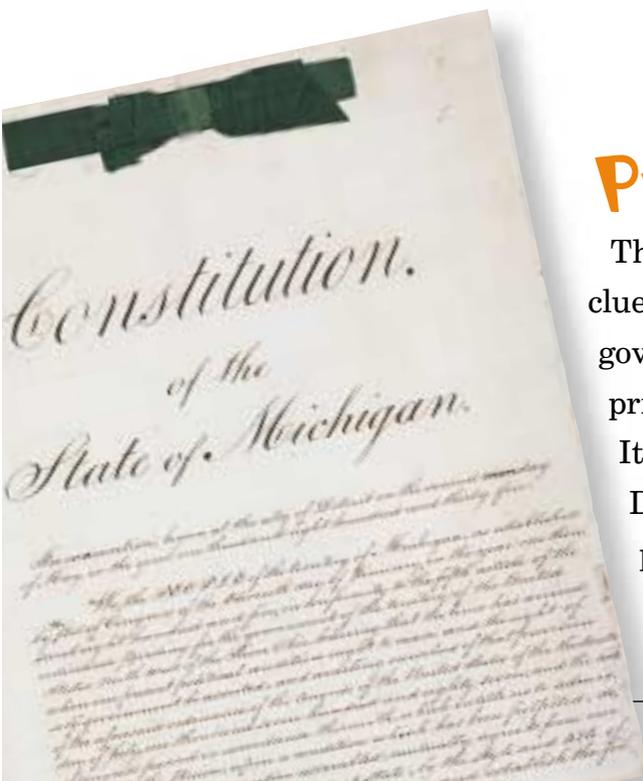
Artifacts

An artifact can be anything made by humans. This U.S. flag is an artifact that holds clues to the past. Count the number of stars. The star in the middle represents Michigan. Stars were added to flags when new states entered the Union. What number state was Michigan?



Primary Sources

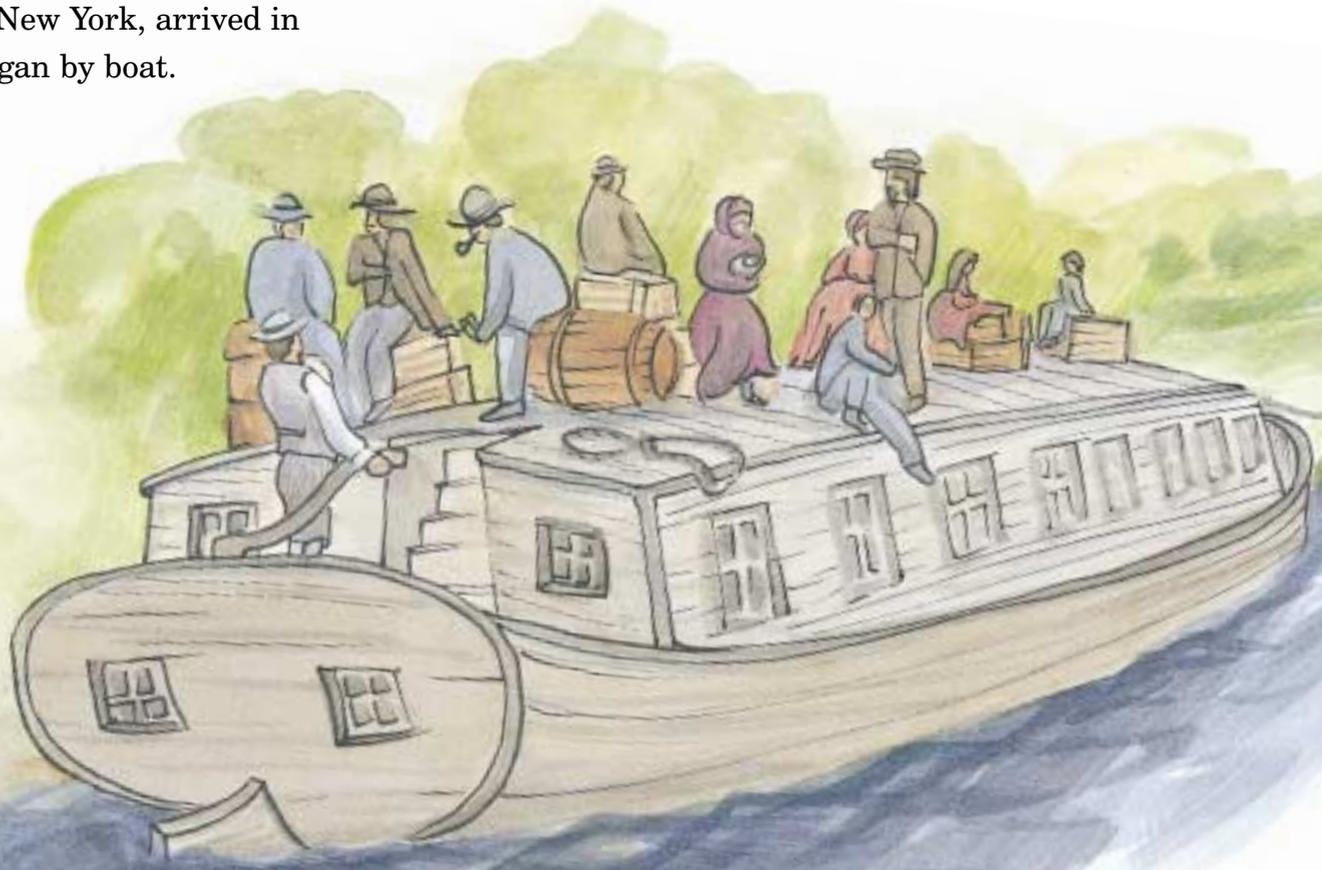
The Constitution of the State of Michigan of 1835 offers clues about how citizens of Michigan wanted to be governed back then. The constitution is one of many primary sources kept by the State Archives of Michigan. It is displayed once a year on January 26, Statehood Day. Primary sources, such as letters, documents and photographs, are made at the time an event happens.



PIONEERS coming to Michigan traveled along dirt roads that followed the routes of Indian trails. These roads were full of holes and often muddy. After traveling on one of these early roads, one pioneer wrote that she had had been “jolted to a jelly.”

Many other pioneers, especially those coming from New York, arrived in Michigan by boat.

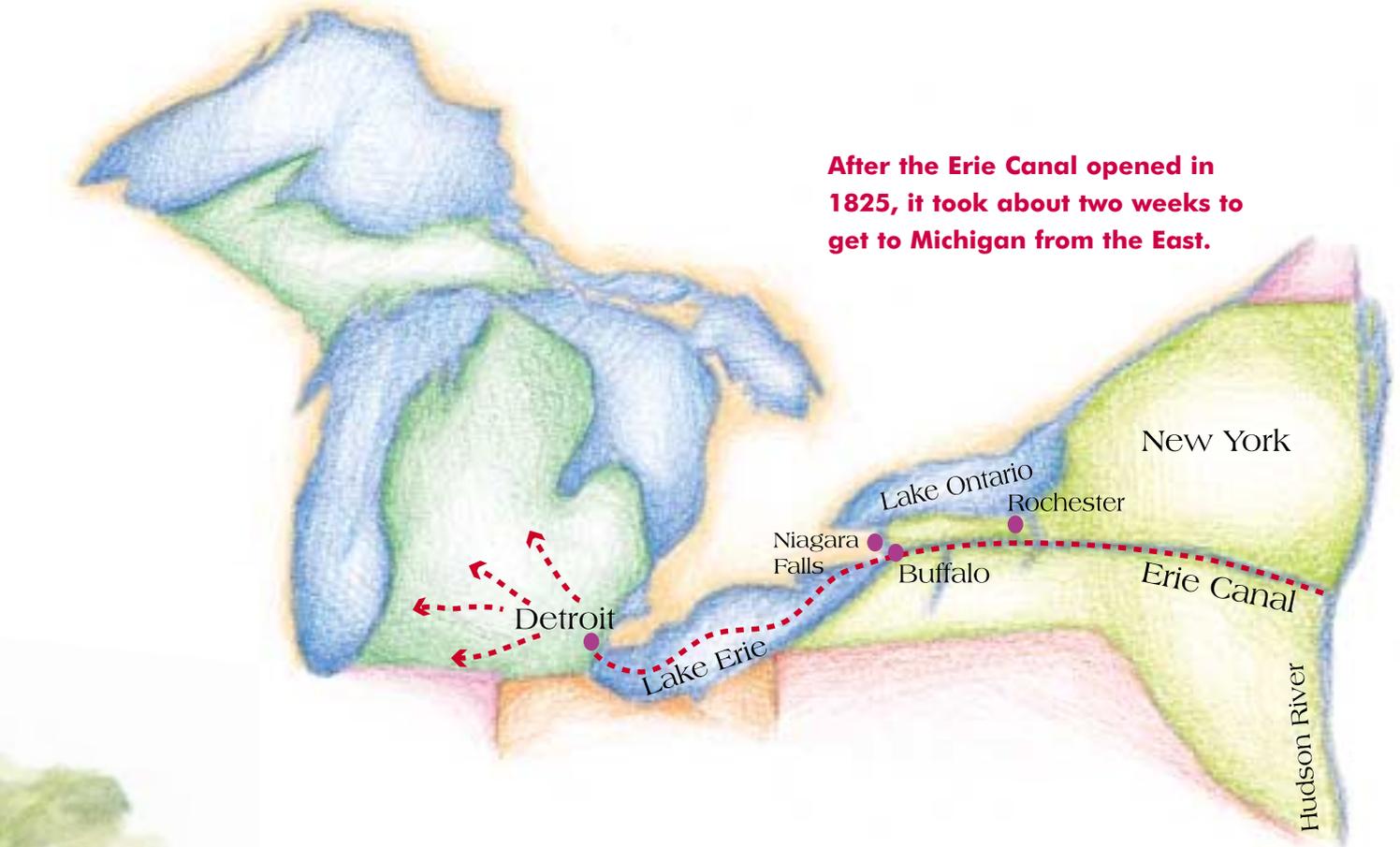
How They Got **HERE** **THE JOURNEY THROUGH THE ERIE CANAL**



Illustrations Carolyn Damstra

Passengers traveled along the Erie Canal in flatboats.

After the Erie Canal opened in 1825, it took about two weeks to get to Michigan from the East.



They started their journey on the Erie Canal. The Erie Canal looked like a small river. It was 4 feet deep and 42 feet wide, but it stretched 363 miles across New York state.

Passengers traveled on flatboats—large wooden boats that looked like a box. These flatboats were pulled by horses that

walked along the edge of the canal.

During the day passengers remained on the boat's deck. There, they sang or talked with the other passengers. At night travelers slept in the cabin. It was not a pleasant place to sleep. The straw-padded bunks were often dirty and smelly. The cabin's door and windows were closed to keep out the mosquitoes and the bad smells of the

canal. This left the cabin hot and stuffy.

Erie Canal flatboats traveled about 2 miles per hour and cost the passengers about a penny for every 2 miles. When flatboats reached Buffalo, New York, passengers boarded steamboats for the three-day journey through Lake Erie to Detroit. Once in Detroit, the pioneer families headed inland to settle the Michigan wilderness. ■

A Little Cabin on the Playground

by HOLLY A. MILLER

What was it like to build a log cabin? In 1997, one class of second-graders at Floyd Elementary School in Midland constructed a small cabin to find out.

The first step was cutting down the trees. Pioneers used axes to fell trees, but adults working on this cabin used chain-saws. They cut each log 6 feet long. Next, the class used chisels and mallets to dig notches in each log's end, so it would fit snugly with other logs. "If the log didn't fit together, we had to chisel them out to make them fit," said second-grader Michael Gustin.



Kristina Bennett uses a rasp to remove bark from the logs.

Jan Young's second-grade class poses with the log cabin they built.



Students peeled and scraped the bark off the logs, too, using a coarse file called a rasp. "It was hard work, but a lot of fun," remembers Haylie Miller.

The class stacked the logs until the walls were five feet tall. Then it was time to make the roof. The Midland students wanted their roof to last many



Photos Holly A. Miller

put in the cracks to keep the bugs and cold air out.”

For inside the cabin, the class recreated items that early settlers used. One day they made candles by dipping string into melted wax, over and over. Another day they made a rug for the floor. They braided old cloth into long strips and then sewed the strips together into a round mat.

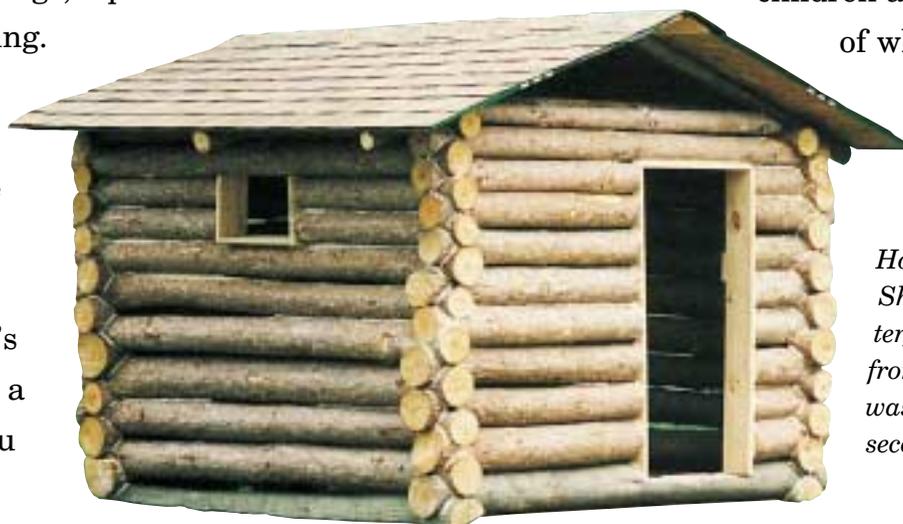
Dale Johnson, their guide throughout the building process, helped the students make furniture for their cabin. To carve smooth wooden legs for a stool, they shaved thin layers off a hefty stick with tools called a spoke shave and a drawknife. Some kids made pioneer toys, like corncob darts and cornhusk dolls. “They didn’t have Nintendo or Chutes and Ladders,” said Michael Gustin.

When the cabin was finished, the students made a video about pioneers moving west on the Oregon Trail. The end of the video tells how the kids built their log cabin. This experience gave these young

children a new perspective of what living the pioneer life was really like. ■

years, so they used modern shingles. The only job left was sealing the cracks between the logs, a process called chinking.

“My favorite part was the chinking,” said Jessica Wiggins. “It’s like caulk in a tube that you



Holly A. Miller lives in Shepherd. Her daughter, Haylie, located fifth from left, front row, was in Jan Young’s second-grade class.

A Day at the One-Room School

by LAURYN CHAMBERLAIN

Just as I finish braiding my thick, nut-brown hair, the school bell rings. Oh, mercy! I shall be late again! I rush out of the white farmhouse and into the barn. I leap up on our carriage horse Faye and gallop recklessly down the dirt road. I am not using a sidesaddle and one of my braids has come undone.

I am certain that Miss Morgan will be angry with me again. She always finds my flaws! But I do admire her skills and beauty very much.

I've arrived. I let go of Faye. She knows the way home. I find my seat in the fourth row next to May, my best friend. Miss Morgan strides to my desk. "Miss Katherine Edwards. What is it this morning?" she asks. I stand and curtsy. "I'm very sorry, ma'am," I reply, "but my dreaming always gets to me!" She gives me a tiny smile and thumbs my chin. "Well, don't let it happen again."

I feel like hugging her. It is the kindest she's been since the start of term. I shouldn't be mean. I know she has a certain set of rules to follow.

We begin our lessons. Arithmetic is first. I am learning my 6 and 7 multiplication tables:

$$6 \times 1 = 6 \quad 6 \times 2 = 12 \quad 6 \times 3 = 18$$



I begin writing on my slate. Arithmetic is not my best subject, but this isn't too hard. After writing, students like me in the sixth reader stand to recite our tables. Miss Morgan compliments me on how I've improved.

Next is reading. This is my favorite subject. I whisper to May how I read ahead and how great the story is. Miss Morgan is annoyed and I am off to the dunce chair. I would rather get the switch. I ignore the class's comments.

Miss Morgan sends me back in time to read. I begin in my most expressive voice. "Without the drama, please, Miss Katherine," says Miss Morgan. I nod, "Yes, ma'am."

Now comes practicing cursive. What good is cursive? What is the matter with plain, regular writing? I need work on that, so they can forget about the formal, "proper" kind. I grab my feather pen and dip it in the inkwell. It comes out splotchy and

disgusting. Miss Morgan comes over and says, "Less ink next time, Katherine."

It is time for lunch. As the other children run to the stream to fetch their lunch pails, I realize I have forgotten mine. May hangs back with me. "What's wrong?" she asks. "I forgot my lunch," I reply. "I'll be in trouble when my mother realizes I went hungry out of carelessness." May comforts me. "It's okay. Don't let it get you down. Don't let any of 'em get you down." She shares her lunch with me.

After lunch, it is time for the spelling bee that I forgot to study for. When it is my turn to spell Miss Morgan walks over to me.

"Spell independence."

"I-N-D-E-P-E-N-D-A-N-C-E," I respond.

"I'm sorry, that is incorrect," she says.

"Please be seated."

The day's last subject is Geography. I am called to recite the continents. "North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Antarctica, and Australia."

"That is correct!" Miss Morgan sounds shocked. I am very pleased.

I walk home by myself. When I arrive there I find my lunch pail in the barn. I gobble up the sandwich and walk into the kitchen. "Pleasant day, dear?" My mother asks.

"I guess so," I say with a grin. ■

Laurn Chamberlain is a sixth grader at Kinawa Middle School in Okemos, Michigan. This is her fourth article for Michigan History for Kids.

Teachers' Rules in the One- Room School



1. Each day you will fill lamps and clean chimneys.
2. You will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of pupils.
4. Men teachers may take one evening a week for counting purposes.
5. After 10 hours in school, the teachers may spend time reading the Bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside from each pay a goodly sum of their earnings for their declining years so they will not become a burden on society.
8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect their worth, intention, integrity, and honesty.

or MICHIGANDER MICHIGANIAN?

Both words mean you are from Michigan and proud of it. You can also be proud of the official state symbols that represent the Great Lakes State in a colorful and special way. Match up the correct State Symbol drawing with its description.

1. State Flower

In 1897, the _____ (*Pyrus coronaria*) was designated the state flower. Sponsors noted it was “one of the most fragrant and beautiful flowered species of apple.” It is native to the state.

2. State Bird

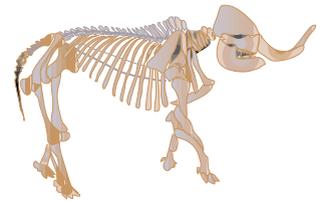
In 1931, the _____ (*Turdus migratorius*) was chosen the state bird. It had been favored by the Michigan Audubon Society. Sponsors called it the “the best-known and best-loved of all the birds in the state of Michigan.”

3. State Soil

In 1990, _____ was chosen as the state soil. First identified as a soil type in 1927, this soil ranges in color from black to yellowish brown. It is one of more than 500 soils found in the state. Unique to Michigan, it covers nearly a million acres in 29 Upper and Lower Peninsula counties.

4. State Stone

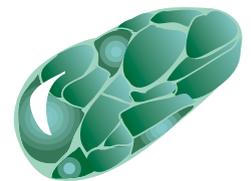
In 1965, the _____ (*Hexagonaria pericarnata*) was adopted as the state stone. It is fossilized coral that existed in the northern Lower Peninsula about 350 million years ago.



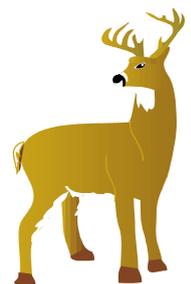
MASTODON



AMERICAN ROBIN



CHLORASTROLITE



WHITE-TAILED DEER



APPLE BLOSSOM



WHITE PINE

5. State Fish

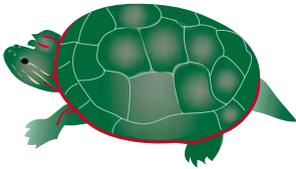
In 1965, the trout was designated as the state fish. In 1988, the Michigan legislature specified the _____ (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) as the state fish. It is native to Michigan and found throughout the state.



BROOK TROUT

6. State Reptile

In 1995, the _____ (*Chysemys picta*) was chosen as the state reptile after a group of Niles fifth graders discovered that Michigan did not have a state reptile.



PAINTED TURTLE

7. State Fossil

In 2002, the _____ (*Mammut americanum*) became the state fossil. Fossils of the prehistoric mammal have been found in more than 250 locations in the state.



PETOSKEY STONE

8. State Tree

In 1955, the _____ (*Pinus strobus*) was designated the state tree. It was chosen as a symbol of one of Michigan's greatest industries. From 1870 to the early 1900s, Michigan led the nation in lumber production.



DWARF LAKE IRIS

9. State Gem

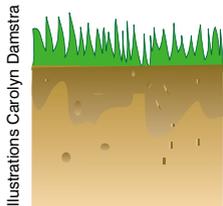
In 1972, _____ (literally "green star stone") was adopted as the state gem. Known as the Isle Royale greenstone, it ranges in color from yellow-green to almost black. It is primarily found in the Upper Peninsula.

10. State Wildflower

In 1998, the _____ (*Iris lacustris*) was designated as the state wildflower. Native to the state, the endangered flower grows along the northern shorelines of Lakes Michigan and Huron.

11. State Game Mammal

In 1997, the _____ (*Odocoileus virginianus*) was designated the state game mammal after the successful lobbying efforts of a group of Zeeland fourth graders. Found in every Michigan county, these mammals are an important natural and economic resource.



KALKASKA SAND

Illustrations Carolyn Damstra

WHAT'S WRONG?

This picture shows a log cabin in 1837. Find TEN things that don't belong here.

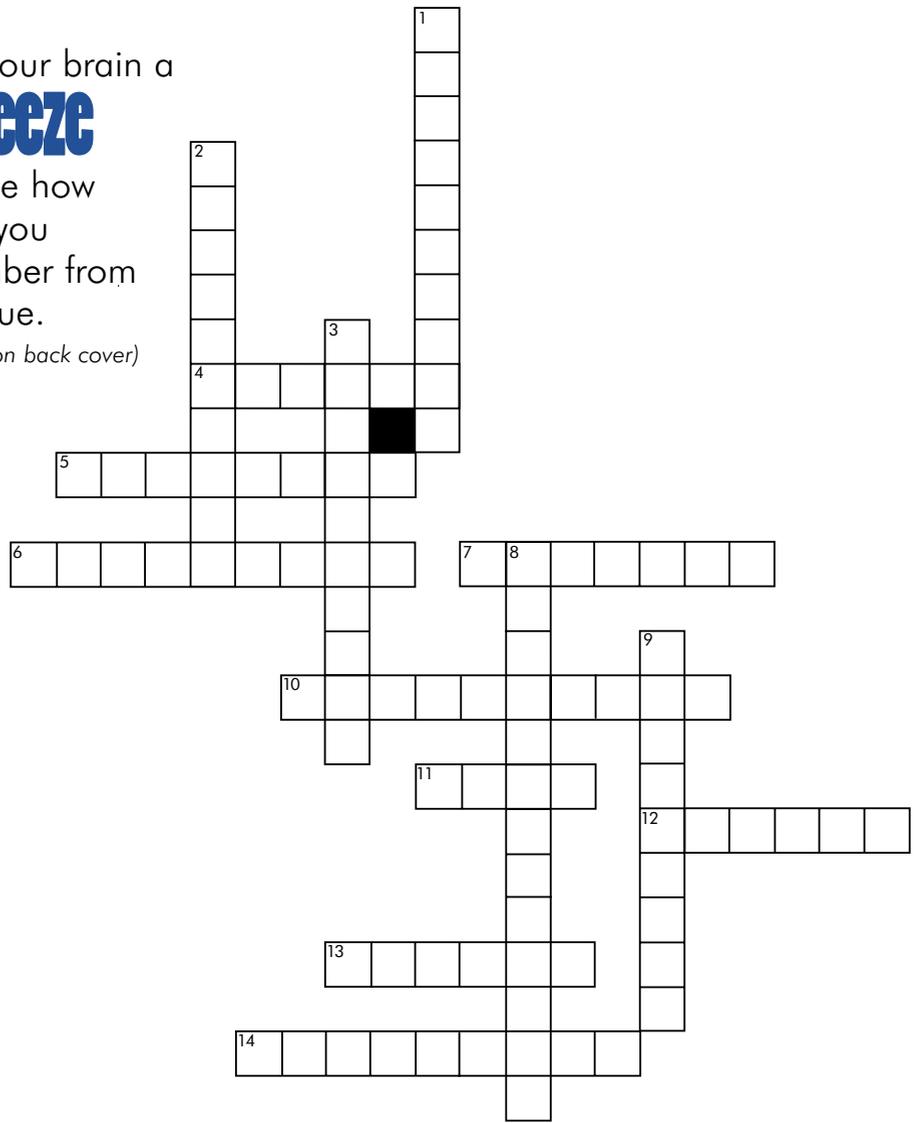
(Answers on back cover)





Give your brain a **Squeeze** and see how much you remember from this issue.

(Answers on back cover)



List of answers in random order:

- Administrator**
- Lewis Cass**
- Desolation**
- Frontier**
- Toledo**
- Jackson**
- Insistence**
- Generation**
- Perpetual**
- Erie**
- Statehood**
- Dismal**
- Solemn**
- Mosquitoes**

ACROSS

- 4. The name of the city that Michigan and Ohio fought over
- 5. A region beyond a settled area
- 6. Continuous, everlasting
- 7. U.S. president who signed the bill that made Michigan a state
- 10. Type of insects that gave early settlers diseases like malaria
- 11. In 1825, people started traveling the _____ Canal to get from New York to Michigan
- 12. Deeply serious
- 13. Gloomy or depressing
- 14. Every year on January 26, Michigan celebrates _____ Day

DOWN

- 1. The state of being deserted or ruined
- 2. A firm demand
- 3. An average length of time between parent and child
- 8. A person who manages or directs something
- 9. Michigan's territorial governor from 1813 to 1831

WILLIE FACT

Michigan was the fastest growing area of the United States from 1830 to 1840. The number of people went from 31,639 in 1830 to 212,267 in 1840.

The population today is about 9,883,640





For other educational materials, including
Michigan Mitten, go to
seekingmichigan.org/learn

ANSWER KEY—Michigander or Michiganian?, page 20

1. Apple Blossom 2. American Robin 3. Kalkaska Sand 4. Petoskey Stone 5. Brook Trout 6. Painted Turtle 7. Mastodon
8. White Pine 9. Chlorastrolite 10. Dwarf Lake Iris 11. White Tail Deer

ANSWER KEY—What's Wrong?, page 22

1. hair dryer 2. glass in window 3. cereal 4. banana 5. electrical outlet 6. digital clock 7. photograph 8. telephone
9. girl wearing pants 10. tennis shoes

ANSWER KEY—Brain Strain, page 23

ACROSS: 4. Toledo 5. Frontier 6. Perpetual 7. Jackson 10. Mosquitoes 11. Erie 12. Solemn 13. Dismal 14. Statehood
DOWN: 1. Desolation 2. Insistence 3. Generation 8. Administrator 9. Lewis Cass