



## Discover Portage Road Lesson Plan

### Lower Niagara River

Subject Area: Science

**Grades 6-8**

**Subject Area**      Science & Environmental Studies

#### **New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for Mathematics, Science and Technology**

Standard 1: Students will use mathematical analysis, scientific inquiry, and engineering design, as appropriate, to pose questions, seeks answers, and develop solutions.

##### 1.1 Scientific Inquiry

1.11 The central purpose of scientific inquiry is to develop explanations of natural phenomena in a continuing, creative process

1.12 Beyond the use of reasoning and consensus, scientific inquiry involves the testing of proposed explanations involving the use of conventional techniques & procedures and usually requiring considerable ingenuity

Standard 2: Students will access, generate, process, and transfer information using appropriate technologies

##### 2.1 Information Systems

2.11 Information technology is used to retrieve, process, and communicate information and as a tool to enhance learning.

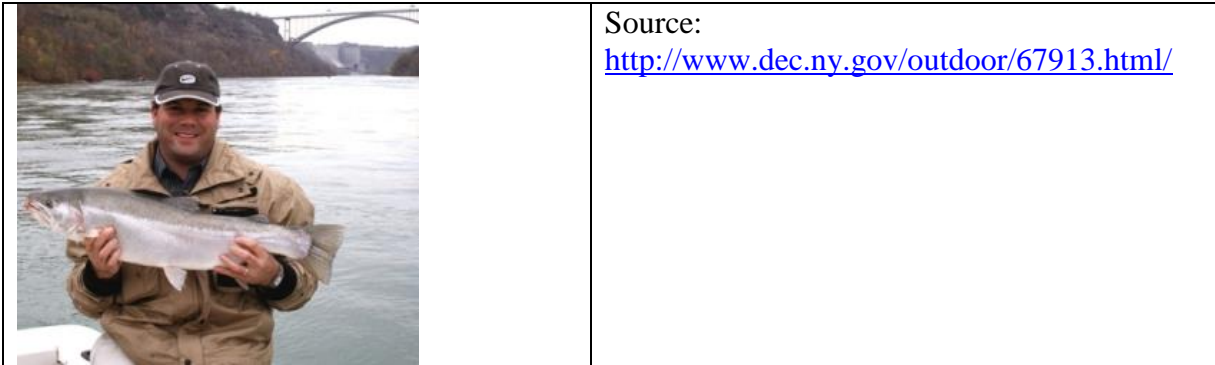
#### **Overview**

The Niagara River is a Great Lakes connecting channel and an international border between the United States (New York) and Canada (Ontario). The Niagara River flows northward from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario for a distance of 36 miles, conveying an average flow of about 200,000 cubic feet of water per second. The river is comprised of two parts, the Upper and Lower Niagara, separated at Niagara Falls.

The Lower Niagara River is approximately 14 miles in length. Fishing opportunities exist from the Whirlpool north to the mouth of the river at Lake Ontario. The outflow of the river into Lake Ontario is a powerful attraction to trout, salmon and other highly sought sportfish. The Lower Niagara can be fished literally 12 months a year, with different opportunities during each season of the year. The Lower Niagara River is well known for its Chinook salmon, steelhead (rainbow trout) and walleye fishing.

## Discover Portage Road Lesson Plan

In addition, there are great opportunities to catch lake trout, brown trout, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, muskellunge, yellow perch and smelt at different times of year. This is truly one of New York's finest trout and salmon fisheries, also offering tremendous overall fishing diversity.



In addition, there are great opportunities to catch lake trout, brown trout, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, muskellunge, yellow perch and smelt at different times of year. This is truly one of New York's finest trout and salmon fisheries, also offering tremendous overall fishing diversity!

Species	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chinook Salmon									X	X	X	
Coho Salmon									X	X	X	
Steelhead	X	X	X	X	X						X	X
Lake Trout	X	X	X	X						C	C	C
Brown Trout	X	X	X	X							X	X
Walleye			C	C	C	X	X	X	X	X		
Smallmouth Bass					X	X	X	X	X	X		
Muskellunge	C	C	C	C	C	C	X	X				C
Yellow Perch					X	X						
Smelt				X								

**X** = Species present in river, **C** = Month closed or partially closed to fishing for that species

## Discover Portage Road Lesson Plan

### **Activity**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Species present in river (X)</b>
January	
February	
March	
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	

### **Reference**

*Fishing the Lower Niagara River.* New York State Department of Environmental Conservation at  
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/67913.html/http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/67913.html/>