



# Family Newsletter for Unit 5

## Michigan and the Midwest

### Learn About It

In this unit, your child will learn:

- how the landforms, climate, and natural resources of the Midwest relate to the region's economy
- how Michigan is linked to the rest of the United States and the world

Here are some ways that you can help your child learn:

### Talk About It

Chapter 9: Exploring the Midwest

**Waterway travel** There are two main waterways in the Midwest: the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River system. Discuss how these natural waterways provide inexpensive and convenient transportation throughout the area.

Chapter 10: Working with the World

**Interdependence** Talk about ways in which different regions of the United States are dependent upon one another and give examples of how the U.S. is interdependent with the rest of the world.

### Make It

**A poster** Work with your child to create a poster about plants and animals found in the Midwest. Make drawings of plants or animals or find pictures in magazines or on the Internet. Label the plants and animals, and provide a fact about each one.

### Read to Learn More About It

*The Mississippi River (Rookie Read-About Geography)*, by Allan Fowler. Traces the Mississippi River from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico and talks about its history and physical features.

*A Life Like Mine*, by Harry Belafonte. Tells how children live around the world and uses colorful photographs to transport readers to different areas of the world.



### Technology

Check out  
[www.eduplace.com/ssf](http://www.eduplace.com/ssf)  
for more information.