

About the Great Lakes

Lake Superior

Surface area: 31,700 sq. miles
Maximum depth: 1,335 feet
Name Origin: From the French phrase meaning “upper lake”

Lake Huron

Surface area: 23,000 sq. miles
Maximum depth: 748 feet
Name Origin: French explorers named it for a local Native American tribe.

Lake Michigan

Surface area: 22,300 sq. miles
Maximum depth: 925 feet
Name Origin: From a Native American word for “great water”

Lake Erie

Surface area: 9,910 sq. miles
Maximum depth: 210 feet
Name Origin: From a Native American word for “long tail”

Lake Ontario

Surface area: 7,340 sq. miles
Maximum depth: 804 feet
Name Origin: From a Native American word for “beautiful lake”

Do You Know?

Which one of the Great Lakes has the smallest area?

Which one of the Great Lakes is the deepest?

Which one of the Great Lakes was named for the Native American Word for “long tail”?

Remember the Great Lakes!

A good way to remember the names of the Great Lakes is to use the acronym “HOMES.” Write the name of each of the Great Lakes next to its starting letter.

H _____

O _____

M _____

E _____

S _____