Processing Assignments:

* Proclamation Scrolls: Have students list ways in which they will contribute to the success/longevity of the Erie Canal (through community clean up, not polluting, donating, community service, etc.). Students must state a minimum of 8 things that they "intend" to do to help better the Erie Canal.
* Community Service Awards: Students must create an award to honor another person who has made a significant contribution to the Erie Canal's success/longevity. This person can be deceased or living. For instance, students could write to Mayor DeWitt Clinton, a worker who helped construct the Erie Canal, a president and/or public figure that fought for the Erie Canal, an individual that donated to the Erie Canal, a historian, a current canal employee, and/or someone they personally know that has contributed to the success of the Erie Canal. Upon completion, students will share their finished awards with the class to illustrate just how many people have contributed to the success of the Erie Canal, and to illustrate that everyday individuals can have just as big of an impact on something as a government official.
* Travel Brochures: Have students create travel brochures for the Erie Canal for communities to read about, that encourage tourists to come visit and explore the wonders of the Erie Canal. To do this, have students each illustrate a map of the Erie Canal spanning from Albany to Buffalo in which students must create a key that illustrates geographical features such as mountains, bodies of water, major cities, natural resources, climate, etc. The completed brochure should include a brief history of the canal, a minimum of ten reasons to visit the canal, particular sights to see/activities to do when visiting the canal, information on how to visit the canal (sources such as informational websites), why the Erie Canal is such a beautiful sight, when to visit, etc.).