Reading Note:

* Reading: Have students read the following article to get a brief background on the Erie Canal. If students have access to computers they may view an interactive video clip and slide show at the same website to supplement the lesson.
* Reading Notes: Upon reading the article, students will be asked to analyze what they read by annotating an ad for a travel agency, encouraging tourists to visit the Erie Canal. For instance, they can fill out a flyer urging individuals to visit the Erie Canal and explore all that is has to offer, or they can create an invitation or poster urging others to explore the many attractions of the Erie Canal. All ads must include a brief historical background along with a minimum of five reasons as to why people should visit the Erie Canal. For more advanced students, have them complete the same project, however, in the past. For instance, have students illustrate a flyer dating back to the time of the Erie Canal's opening, urging citizens to come explore the Erie Canal!

<http://www.westernny.com/erie.html>

<https://www.pbs.org/wnet/newyork/laic/episode1/topic7/e1_t7_s1-ec.html>