

## Michigan Week

**Note to teachers:** This supplement includes a discussion guide, lessons and Michigan Content Standards to use with the Michigan Time Traveler Kids' History page published in the *Lansing State Journal* on May 14, 2003. You may reproduce the pages in this supplement to use with students.

### DISCUSSION GUIDE

(SOC.1.1. *Time and Chronology*; SOC.1.2. *Understanding the Past*; SOC 1.3. *Analyze and Interpret the Past*;  
ELA.1. *Meaning and Communication in Context*)

**Michigan Week Has a History.** When was the first Michigan Week? Describe several events or activities that have taken place during Michigan Week. What is Michigan Week's longest lasting continually celebrated event? How long is Michigan Week?

**Why Michigan Week?** What are the three goals of Michigan Week? What is this year's theme? In what way(s) does each theme mentioned in the article reflect one or more of those goals?

**Awards Are Always Special.** Name the awards that have been given during Michigan Week. Why might Michigan Week be a good time to honor people? Have you or someone you know ever acted like a "Minuteman?" Name some products that have won Michigan Week awards. What characteristics would make a product deserving of an award? What things would you honor with Michigan Week Awards?

**Everyone Loves a Parade.** What is Michigan Week's "kick-off" city? Locate it on a map of Michigan. What are the two highlights of the 2003 Lansing parade?

**Time Line.** In what area of Michigan government did Michigan Week begin? How would meeting the goals of Michigan Week help economic development? Was Michigan Week always part of state government? What was special about Michigan Week in 1987?

### Words to know:

<b>Chair</b>	The person in charge a meeting, organization or committee (also, chairman, chairperson)
<b>Hospitality</b>	The sincere welcome and entertainment of guests in the home or of customers by a business such as a store, hotel or restaurant

<b>Kick off</b>	The act that begins the proceedings
<b>Livelihood</b>	Means of support; job
<b>Task force</b>	A group of persons who are experts in different areas and who come together to investigate a particular problem and suggest ways to solve it

### ACTIVITY ONE: Everything Has a History

(SOC.1.1. *Time and Chronology*; SOC.1.2. *Understanding the Past*)

**Part 1:** Discuss: History is made up of individual events and persons. Even a celebration such as Michigan Week has a history. As people's interests changed through the years, its activities changed and the event grew or declined. In economics it is called the "product life cycle." Each of the holidays in the list below has a history. Discuss how they began and how have they changed through the years. Use library or Web resources to learn more about these and other celebrations. For example, if we send greeting cards, have we always done so? Which have parades, and have they always had them? Does everyone celebrate the same event in the same way? If not, what different kinds of things do people do? Make a brief time line of changes through the years for each event. Include its starting date, one or two changes, and how we celebrate today.

HOLIDAY	MADE AN OFFICIAL U.S. HOLIDAY	REASON FOR HOLIDAY
Mother's Day (2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in May)	1907	Started by Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia to honor all mothers on the anniversary of her mother's death.
Memorial Day (last Monday in May)	First presidential proclamation, 1948 (First recorded observances were in the late 1860s for Civil War soldiers.)	Also known as Decoration Day from the practice of decorating graves of soldiers. Changed to a Monday holiday in 1971; the traditional celebration had been on May 30.
Independence Day (July 4)	1873	Birthday of the United States of America.
Thanksgiving Day (4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday in November)	1789, the first US holiday to be proclaimed by presidential proclamation (George Washington)	"A day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity to peaceably establish a form of government for their safety and happiness" (proclamation, October. 3, 1789).
Veteran's Day (November 11)	1926, originally called Armistice Day	Begun to honor war veterans; moved to a Monday holiday from 1971 to 1977, then changed back to November 11.

**Part 2:** Ask students to consider their own birthday. What is the cause for celebration? When was it first celebrated? For how many years have they been celebrating? How did they celebrate their first birthday; their most recent birthday? Do they remember any particular birthdays for special reasons, whether happy or sad? Have students make a personal time line of their birthday. If you have done a unit on autobiographies or family history this year, discuss how looking at this information helps organize their life stories.

## ACTIVITY TWO: Make Your Own Michigan Week

*(SOC.IV.4. Economic Systems; SOC.V.1. Information Processing)*

Design and celebrate Michigan Week in your classroom. Use this year's "Great Lakes, Great Traditions" theme or have students suggest themes, then vote to choose one. Make these activities part of your planning.

**1. Write a class proclamation for your Michigan Week.** The first Michigan Week in 1954 was proclaimed by a concurrent resolution of the Michigan House and Senate. It is on page 3 of this guide. In recent years a governor's proclamation has established Michigan Week. Read this year's proclamation at [www.michigan.gov/hal](http://www.michigan.gov/hal). Organize students into small groups and ask each group to construct one "whereas" section for your Michigan Week.

**2. Set a theme for each day of your Michigan Week.** Focus on school subjects or look at your community and designate days for its history, attractions, businesses, schools, parks and natural resources. Ask students to volunteer to present a display and/or report about something related to each day's topic. Divide topics so that each student has one assignment for the week with one-fifth of the class reporting each day for that day's topic.

**3. Learn about Michigan products.** Page 4 of this teacher's guide includes a reproducible shelf card used in Michigan Week 1959 and list of selected Michigan companies. Ask each student to research a Michigan product, bring in a picture (e.g., La-Z-Boy or Steelcase furniture) or empty container (e.g., Kellogg cereal or Jiffy Mix) for it, prepare a shelf card with its name and write a one-page description of the product and company. Display all the products and information during Michigan Week. At the end of the week ask students to vote for the best products (categorize by type, e.g., food, auto, home). Place a blue ribbon or gold seal on the displays for the winning products. Information about Michigan public companies can be found on the Michigan Electronic Library (MEL) Web site at this URL: [mel.lib.mi.us/business/mi\\_companies.html](http://mel.lib.mi.us/business/mi_companies.html). To locate Michigan food companies and products, go to [www.mda.state.mi.us/selectmi/upcsearch.htm](http://www.mda.state.mi.us/selectmi/upcsearch.htm) (MI Dept. of Agriculture). On this search page you can type a word such as "cereal," "berries" or "corn" into the "Product" box to get a list of producers. (Some of these are listed because they have a facility in the state, but are not necessarily Michigan-based companies.)

## MORE RESOURCES

Michigan Week: [www.michigan.gov/hal](http://www.michigan.gov/hal)

Michigan Economic Development Commission (MEDC): [medc.michigan.org](http://medc.michigan.org)

Travel Michigan: [www.michigan.org](http://www.michigan.org)

*Michigan Manual 2001-2002:* [documents.michiganlegislature.org/mileg.asp?page=MM2001-2002](http://documents.michiganlegislature.org/mileg.asp?page=MM2001-2002)

## **Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 28.**

A concurrent resolution urging the people of Michigan to take part in the observance of Michigan Week, from May 2 to May 8, 1954.

Whereas, Michigan is the fifth greatest industrial state in the nation measured by employment and value added by manufacturing, although being only seventh in population, and has a great diversity of manufacturing, 364 out of a total of 451 industry groups recognized by the Bureau of the Census operating in the state, and ranks first in the nation in percentage of income derived from manufacturing, and is generally acknowledged to be the automobile center of the world; and

Whereas, Michigan has in its Upper Peninsula one of the world's greatest iron ore producing regions and leads the nation in the production of calcium magnesium chlorides, gypsum and salt, ranks high in the production of numerous other important minerals and has the world's largest supply of fresh water for industry; and

Whereas, Michigan's farmers have made our state the most self-sufficient food producer in the nation, placing Michigan in the top 15 states in production of 46 of the country's 50 major crops, giving Michigan an amazing diversification of quality agricultural products and an annual farm income of three quarters of a billion dollars; and

Whereas, Michigan produces the greatest amount of lumber of any major industrial state and consequently boasts such great wood-dependent industries as the paper and the furniture industries; and

Whereas, Michigan had the greatest percentage increase in buying power in 1953 of all 48 states, 13.4%; and

Whereas, Michigan, bordered by four of the five Great Lakes, has the country's longest shoreline, contains more than 11,000 inland lakes and more than 36,000 miles of streams, enjoys forests of unspoiled beauty, an unparalleled number of state parks and excellent resort facilities, offers visitors from other states and countries an ideal place for recreation and vacations; and

Whereas, Michigan residents are blessed with unusual opportunities to enjoy a vigorous cultural, intellectual and religious life, with thousands of fine churches, schools, colleges and libraries located within the state; and

Whereas, Michigan possesses a long and illustrious history which began only 14 years after the landing of the Pilgrims; a history during which in both war and peace Michigan's agricultural and industrial might and the industriousness and ingenuity of its people have stood in the ready service of our country; a history marked by a strong tradition of courage, freedom of spirit and firm endeavor displayed by Michigan people throughout the ages; and

Whereas, Michigan's residents should know and appreciate their state's unlimited advantages and opportunities in industry, natural resources, agriculture, recreation and culture, as well as their fine historical background; now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the members of the Michigan Legislature urge all people of Michigan to take part in the observance of Michigan Week, May 2 to May 8, 1954, a period in which residents of our state may become better acquainted with the boundless opportunities present in Michigan, as well as all sides of Michigan's past and present greatness which may help bring about a deeper pride in our state's many accomplishments and an increased feeling of unity among its peoples.

SOURCE: *Journal of the House*, 1954

## 1959 Michigan Week Product Shelf Card

Fold →



### Some Familiar Michigan Companies

Company	Products	Web Site
Chelsea Milling Co.	"Jiffy" mix baking mixes	<a href="http://www.jiffymix.com">www.jiffymix.com</a>
Dow Chemical	Chemicals and pharmaceuticals including Styrofoam and Saran	<a href="http://www.dow.com">www.dow.com</a>
Ford Motor Company	Automobiles, trucks	<a href="http://www.ford.com">www.ford.com</a>
General Motors Company	Automobiles, trucks	<a href="http://www.gm.com">www.gm.com</a>
Herman Miller	Office furniture	<a href="http://www.hermanmiller.com">www.hermanmiller.com</a>
Howard Miller	Clocks and cabinets	<a href="http://www.howardmiller.com">www.howardmiller.com</a>
Holland American Wafer Co.	Cereals and snack foods	<a href="http://www.hawco.com">www.hawco.com</a>
Kellogg Corp.	Breakfast foods and snacks	<a href="http://www.kelloggs.com">www.kelloggs.com</a>
La-Z Boy	Furniture	<a href="http://www.lazboy.com">www.lazboy.com</a>
Masco Corp	Cabinets, including KraftMaid and Merillat	<a href="http://www.masco.com">www.masco.com</a>
Star of the West Milling Co.	Flour, edible beans	<a href="http://www.starofthewest.com">www.starofthewest.com</a>
Steelcase	Office furniture	<a href="http://www.steelcase.com">www.steelcase.com</a>
Whirlpool	Appliances	<a href="http://www.whirlpoolcorp.com">www.whirlpoolcorp.com</a>
Wolverine World Wide	Shoes, including Hush Puppies	<a href="http://www.wolverineworldwide.com">www.wolverineworldwide.com</a>

Note: The companies on this list were selected because their products may be familiar to students. To find more companies, consult the Web sites mentioned on page 2. The *Michigan Manufacturers Directory 2003* lists more than 16,600 companies from makers of cars, concrete and tortillas to newspaper publishers. Not all are headquartered in Michigan.