

VIDEO PROGRAM 1

***“A Place Called Wisconsin”***

**Focus Question**

What makes Wisconsin unique among the places on Earth?

**Synopsis**

This introduction to the series takes a fresh look at Wisconsin geography. Series host Liz Chobanian Richeson and the Wis Kids locate Wisconsin in the universe, find their own home towns within the state, and begin to explore the places created by the work of people and nature in this part of the world. As students learn about Wisconsin’s unique physical characteristics, they will begin to gain an appreciation of their own sense of place in the world.

The program considers some of the key questions explored throughout the series: How does location affect the way people live? What can maps and other geography tools reveal about creating a better home? What geographical features make Wisconsin a unique place to live?

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 1 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change

**Vocabulary**

absolute location

Central Sand Plain

Eastern Ridges and Lowlands

explore

glacier

home

Lake Superior Lowland

landscape

latitude

longitude

Northern Highland

place

regions

relative location

rural

unglaciaded (driftless) area

urban

Western Upland

VIDEO PROGRAM 2

***“Your Land and Mine”***

**Focus Question**

How does the interaction of landscape and people affect daily life in Wisconsin? In what ways does it affect how land use decisions are made?

**Synopsis**

Land has both public and private uses. However, since all land is interrelated, land use decisions affect all citizens. This program studies how land use decisions are made.

Wisconsin’s diverse regions provide the state with a variety of landscapes and environments. There are many different and often conflicting uses for land, and people must discuss, debate, and decide the best possible use for this limited resource.

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 2 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change

**Vocabulary**

city

city planner

conflict

home

land use

oak savanna

place

prairie

space

VIDEO PROGRAM 3

***“Interacting with Our Environment”***

**Focus Question**

How do people change the landscape? How does the landscape change people?

**Synopsis**

The interaction between people and the environment is the focus of this program. It will show the fragility of both humans and the environment, how people use the environment to sustain life, and the mutually dependent relationship between people and the land.

Over time, the Wisconsin environment has undergone many changes. Once, most environmental changes were caused by natural phenomena. Today, most are caused by people. This program will help students become aware of the influence and power they have over the natural landscape as well as understand that knowledge, skills, and action are needed to maintain a healthy environment.

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 3 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth

**Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth**

Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change

**Vocabulary**

cutover

environment

fragile

landfill

landforms

long-term goals

natural resources

planet

population

precious

sewage

short-term goals

wilderness

VIDEO PROGRAM 4

***“Where We Came From”***

**Focus Question**

Why are people attracted to Wisconsin? How do settlement patterns affect the landscape?

**Synopsis**

People have immigrated to Wisconsin for many reasons. Some are “pushed” from their homes because of famines, wars, or poverty. Some are “pulled” to new areas because of greater opportunities, availability of land, and freedom from oppression. Although many Native American citizens’ roots may extend through more than two centuries of Wisconsin’s history, most of the people who settled Wisconsin were influenced by these push-pull factors.

Immigration cycles create ethnic pockets of settlement, which gradually disperse as assimilation takes place. This program explores some of the reasons why people came to Wisconsin, where they settled, why they stayed, and the lasting impressions immigration continues to have on the state.

*Note:* Guiding students through cultural and family history activities requires sensitivity. Although most anthropologists believe the first people in North America arrived via the land bridge, many Native American cultures have different beliefs, and some students may believe that their ancestors have always lived in Wisconsin.

African-American students may trace their origins to Africa, but not to a specific country; these students can be guided to choose a country to study. Be sure not to treat Africa as a single country. Care also should be practiced with regard to students of Asian origin who may need to research the geography of different areas in Asia to determine where their families once lived. Avoid setting limits or conditions when assigning family history projects; students should be encouraged to include adoptive relatives, step-relatives, blended-family relatives, and foster relatives.

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 4 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

**Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics**

**Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth**

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

**Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change**

**Vocabulary**

ancestor	migrant worker
culture	pull factor
domestic	push factor
emigration	refugee
immigration	settlement

VIDEO PROGRAM 5

***“Wisconsin’s Cities and Towns”***

***Focus Question***

Why do we have cities and towns? How do they interact with the surrounding countryside and with each other? Why are cities and towns located where they are?

**Synopsis**

There are reasons cities developed when and where they did. This program will explore how Wisconsin’s cities and towns have changed and continue to change. These changes affect both urban and rural dwellers, as cities and towns are parts of much broader and more complex systems.

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 5 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change

**Vocabulary**

civilization

countryside

neighborhood

population

pyramid

rural

urban

VIDEO PROGRAM 6

***“We All Work”***

**Focus Question**

How does Wisconsin’s varied landscape affect employment?

**Synopsis**

Wisconsin’s landscape has always affected the types of work available to its citizens. Conversely, the work people engage in affects the landscape and the people who live there.

As technology advances and people can exchange ideas more rapidly, geographical boundaries become less significant, creating more changes in the workplace. This program explores the dynamic relationship among geographical resources, technology, and work, showing students the many choices they can make as they grow up in an ever-changing Wisconsin economy.

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 6 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change

**Vocabulary**

ingot

ore

smelting

technology

work

VIDEO PROGRAM 7

***“What We Grow and Where It Goes”***

**Focus Question**

What crops are grown in Wisconsin? How do crops connect farms with the rest of the state, the country, and the world?

**Synopsis**

Wisconsin’s climate and soils provide prime conditions for agriculture. These natural factors, combined with land use decisions, make agriculture one of the state’s most important businesses. The diverse crops produced in Wisconsin connect the state to the global agricultural economy and continually affect the way people in Wisconsin live, work, and use the landscape. This program discusses agriculture’s prominent place in Wisconsin’s economy, spotlights several important crops, and helps students understand the agricultural connections between Wisconsin and the rest of the world.

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 7 content.)

**Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface**

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

**Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth**

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

**Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change**

**Vocabulary**

abundance

agribusiness

agriculture

alfalfa

bog

cash crop

climate

harvest

petroleum

processed, processing

variety

VIDEO PROGRAM 8

***“America’s Dairyland”***

**Focus Question**

Why is Wisconsin called “America’s Dairyland”?

**Synopsis**

Wisconsin’s dairy industry is an integral part of the state’s interrelated and interdependent economy. In addition to the dairy farmer, who provides the raw milk needed to produce dairy products, this industry involves all the people who process, transport, market, and advertise these products. This program examines the development of the dairy industry, and explores the complex connections between dairy farming and other aspects of life in Wisconsin and the world.

*Note:* The America’s Dairyland program reports that Wisconsin has almost two million dairy cows and more than 30,000 dairy farms. These statistics were based on 1993 figures. By 1995, when this series first aired, those numbers had dropped to about 1.5 million dairy cows and 27,000 farms. To obtain current numbers, contact your [county Extension office](#) or the [Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board](#). You also may find dairy statistics at Web sites in Agriculture section of the [WisKids Library](#).

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 8 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

**Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth**

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change

**Vocabulary**

Ayrshire	milking parlor
Brown Swiss	Milking Shorthorn
butterfat	pasteurized
cud	processed
curds, whey	silage
enzymes	silo
Guernsey	technologies
Holstein	udder
Jersey	

VIDEO PROGRAM 9

***“It’s More Than Schools”***

**Focus Question**

Where, why, and in what ways does learning take place?

**Synopsis**

It takes the efforts of an entire society to provide an educational system to its citizens. This program helps children understand that learning is a lifelong process and involves much more than the hours spent in school. Wisconsin and its communities make commitments, channel resources, and set aside places for learning to ensure that educational opportunities are available to everyone. In the process, learners can acquire a sense of citizenship and stewardship.

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 9 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change

**Vocabulary**

community

explore

learning

tradition

VIDEO PROGRAM 10

***“Seasons of Recreation”***

**Focus Question**

How do Wisconsin’s landscape and climate affect the recreational opportunities available in Wisconsin?

**Synopsis**

Wisconsin’s geographical features and its humid-continental climate provide people with an abundance of recreational activities. This abundance has affected land use decisions throughout the state, turning recreation and tourism into one of Wisconsin’s largest industries. “Seasons of Recreation” explores the interaction between Wisconsinites and their environment in diverse leisure time activities, the relationship between play and work, and the recreation industry.

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 10 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change

**Vocabulary**

humid-continental climate

landscape

natural resources

recreation

rural

seasons

weather

VIDEO PROGRAM 11

***“Wisconsin Is Special”***

**Focus Question**

What people, places, things, and ideas make Wisconsin special?

**Synopsis**

Wisconsin is a state of great physical and cultural diversity. Throughout the state’s history, interaction among people settling in Wisconsin’s varied geographical regions has led to a balance and harmony that is manifested in Wisconsin’s economy, landforms, and cultures. “Wisconsin Is Special” discusses this balance. It also examines the state symbols that represent Wisconsinites’ pride in place, showing how these symbols reflect the unique and special place called Wisconsin.

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 11 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change

**Vocabulary**

cornucopia

domestic

economy

immigrants

ingots

latitude

longitude

pride

quarries

suburb

symbol

VIDEO PROGRAM 12

***“Wisconsin and Around the World”***

**Focus Question**

How are Wisconsin’s ideas, processes, resources, and people connected with the rest of the world?

**Synopsis**

Wisconsin is part of the Great Lakes region, the Midwest, the United States, and the world. Wisconsinites cooperate and work with people all around the globe. Products move in and out of the state, as do people, culture, and ideas. This participation in the global network contributes to making Wisconsin the unique place that it is.

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 12 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

**Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth**

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change

**Vocabulary**

aviation

connected, connections

cooperation

exchange

fixtures

global

global wind currents

import, export

products

surface water

tradition

tropics

World Cup

VIDEO PROGRAM 13

***“Maps: Our Windows on the World”***

**Focus Question**

How are Wisconsin’s ideas, processes, resources, and people connected with the rest of the world?

**Synopsis**

Wisconsin is part of the Great Lakes region, the Midwest, the United States, and the world. Wisconsinites cooperate and work with people all around the globe. Products move in and out of the state, as do people, culture, and ideas. This participation in the global network contributes to making Wisconsin the unique place that it is.

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 13 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change

**Vocabulary**

atlas

bird's-eye view map

cartographer

contour lines

diagram

Internet

landmark

mental map

meteorologist

navigate

satellite

topographic map

VIDEO PROGRAM 14

***“Inspired by Wisconsin”***

**Focus Question**

How does the Wisconsin landscape inspire people?

**Synopsis**

People get ideas, thoughts, feelings, and urges to take action or create something from the world around them. Throughout Wisconsin’s history, people have responded to the state’s environment in a multitude of ways. The state’s diverse landscapes have inspired people to pursue both practical and creative endeavors. The Wisconsin landscape has motivated people to become farmers, take political action, write music, create works of art, build cities, and establish wilderness areas.

**Geographic Themes** (Red type denotes themes central to Program 14 content.)

Location: Position on the Earth’s Surface

Place: Physical and Cultural Characteristics

Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth

Human-Environment Interactions: Changing the Face of the Earth

Region: How Unifying Characteristics Form and Change

**Vocabulary**

architect

architecture

artistic

creative

impression

inspire, inspiration

landscape

landscape architecture

subtle