



Lakes

A lake is a big area of water, enclosed by land. Lakes form when water flows into a hollow or crater faster than it can escape.



A Earth has a tremendous variety of lakes, from small fish ponds to the largest freshwater lake if all - Lake Superior, in North America.

Crater Lakes

Exploded volcanoes leave holes called craters behind.

If the base of an inactive volcano's crater is solid, the water cannot escape. As a result, lots of water collects and a crater lake is formed.





The Great Lakes



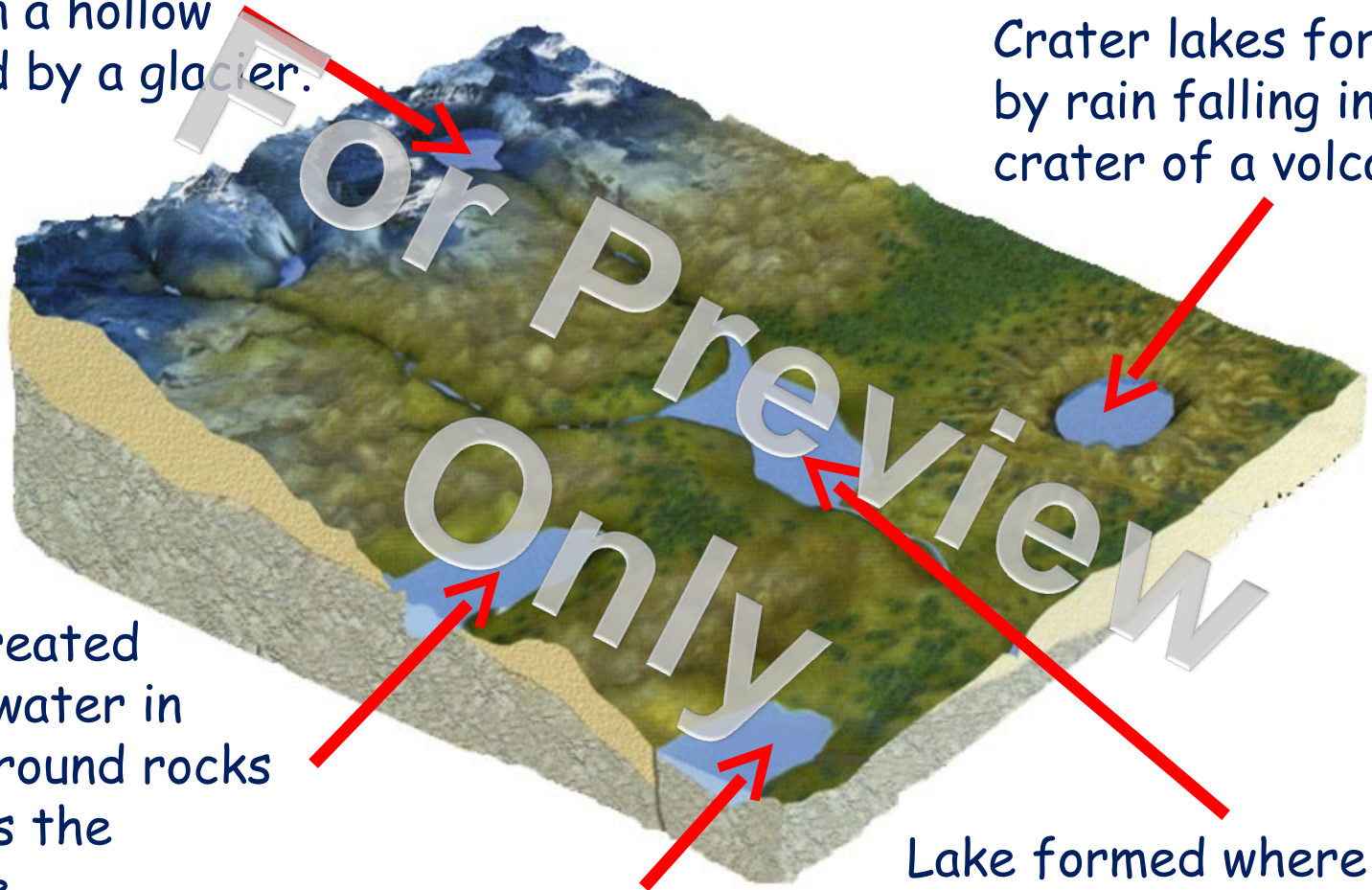
In North America, Lake Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario, plus their connecting channels, form the largest area of freshwater lakes on the surface of our planet. These five enormous lakes are visible from the moon.



Different Types of Lakes

Lake in a hollow eroded by a glacier.

Crater lakes formed by rain falling into the crater of a volcano.



Lake created where water in underground rocks reaches the surface.

Lake in hollow created by rocks slipping down below the surrounding level.

Lake formed where water flows into a natural hollow in the landscape.



Man Made Lakes

A reservoir is a man-made lake, which is formed when a dam is built on a river.

The river water backs up behind the dam to create the reservoir. Reservoirs are often used as a water supply for nearby towns.





The Dead Sea

The water in the Dead Sea in the Middle East is six times saltier than the oceans.



Salt lakes form when water dissolves salts from the rocks on the lake bed. The Dead Sea gets its name because its water is too salty for wildlife to survive. The salt makes the water very dense so that bathers float easily without swimming.

Lake Facts

Lake Baikal, in Russia, is the world's deepest lake. It holds more water than all of the Great Lakes put together.

The Great Lakes, in the USA, hold one fifth of the world's fresh water supply.

The largest lake in England is Lake Windermere, which is 10.5 miles long.

The water in Loch Ness, in Scotland, is always cold. The average temperature is only 5.5°C

