

Chicago**History**Museum

Chicago Waterways

READ:

For thousands of years Lake Michigan and the Chicago River have been sources of water, food, transportation, and fun for people living in the Chicago area. The Chicago River and Lake Michigan also connect us to larger bodies of water like the Illinois & Mississippi Rivers, the Gulf of Mexico, other Great Lakes, and even the Atlantic Ocean!

DO:

How have Chicago's waterways changed over time?

- **Play** I-spy using the pictures of the Chicago's waterways.
- **Imagine** you are in one of the pictures what would you see, hear, smell, or touch?
- **Draw** what you think Chicago's waterways will look like in 2060.
- **Write** a song about the things you see in the image to the tune of "Row, Row, Row, Your Boat!"
- **Record** your song using a camera or phone!

Approx. Time: 30—45 minutes

Materials:

- ⇒ Drawing materials
- ⇒ Paper/pen for writing lyrics
- ⇒ Optional: camera to record songs

SHARE:

- **Sing** your song for other family members!
- **Post** a video of your song or just a photo of your lyrics on Twitter or Instagram with the hashtag #CHMatHomeFamilies to see what others have created.



Looking west to Chicago's skyline at sunset, CHM Education Dept, August 2019



View of ships at the junction of the Chicago River, circa 1860. Drawing by Jevne & Almini. ICHI-062075



View of water traffic on the Chicago River at the Wabash Street Bridge, with Michigan Avenue Bridge in the background, circa 1960. ICHI-039433

“Row, Row, Row, Your Boat” Remix

Use some of your thoughts and ideas to create a remixed version of the song
Row, row, row your boat.

Original Words:

Row, row, row, your boat,
Gently down the stream
Merrily, merrily, merrily,
Life is but a dream:

For the new song replace the “Merrily” part with:

Rowing down the Chicago River,

I See: _____

I Hear: _____

I Smell: _____

I Touch: _____

Make as many verses as you want!

Sing!