ACTIVITY 2: READ ABOUT LIGHTHOUSE LIVING

This activity aims to provide students an understanding of what it's like to live in a lighthouse—and what lighthouse keepers have experienced throughout the history of active lighthouses in the Great Lakes.

They will read about Fairport Harbor West Breakwater Lighthouse in southern Lake Erie. They can also take a visual tour of the lighthouse in this video version of the story from Great Lakes Today.

As student groups share out their most important point, record their ideas on the board and have students copy the list of student ideas down into their notebooks.

After the shareout is complete, ask students to return to their groups and discuss one last question based on the article:

How do you think living in a lighthouse has changed from the mid-19th century (as described of the Spectacle Reef Lighthouse in the Great Lakes Now episode) as compared to modern times (as described of Fairport Harbor West Breakwater Lighthouse in the story of Sheila Consaul?)

After giving the groups some time to discuss this question, invite conversation from the entire class to compare living conditions in a lighthouse then and now.

*This article is available as an audio podcast, and also a video, both linked on the article webpage. Students could listen or watch as a class while they follow the text along in the article on their own.

Further Reading on the Subject:
An additional article further discussing the challenges lighthouses face from climate change is available from Great Lakes Now for students to read and discuss with one another, again, using the Think Pair Square Protocol.

Teaching Tip: Use the Student Handouts to help students organize their thinking in writing around each of the lesson protocols.