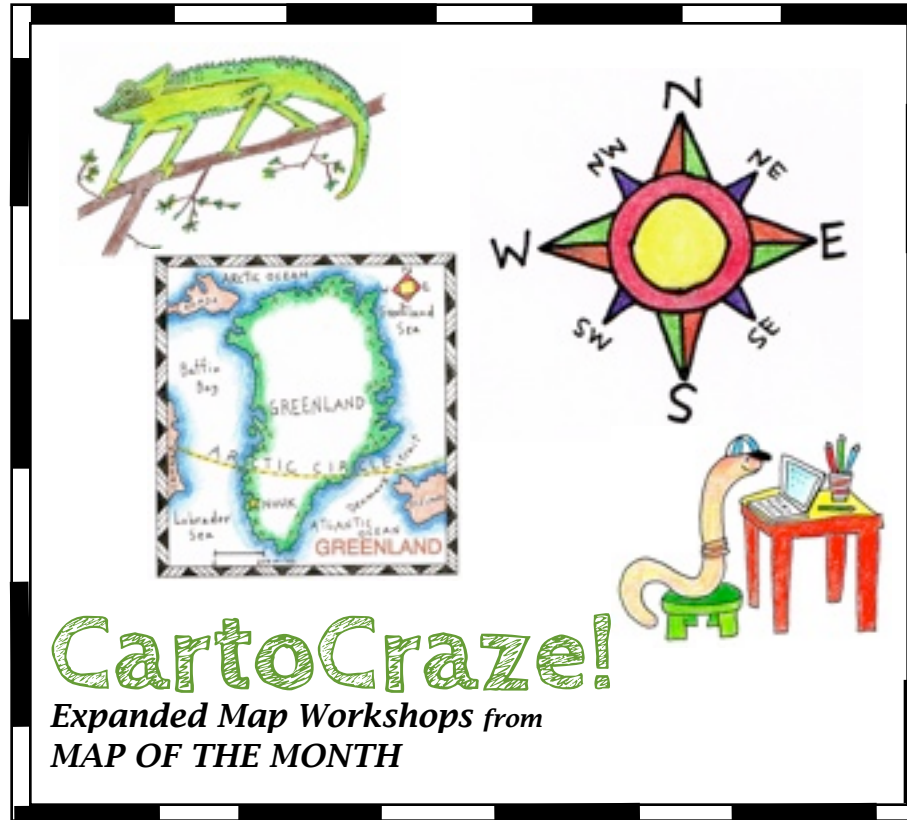


NILE RIVER



CartoCraze!

*Expanded Map Workshops from
MAP OF THE MONTH*

CartoCraze!

Expanded Map Workshops

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www.mapsfortheclassroom.com

RIVERS

Throughout human time, rivers have offered the essential water that man requires for life itself, as well as a source of food. Rivers have made transportation of humans and goods possible as well as provided a source of power. With their great natural beauty, rivers have inspired writers and artists throughout time. Average people have always found peace and recreation along the banks and in the water of rivers.

Since the earliest times, humans have lived by rivers and the great civilizations have grown up around river banks. The ancient people of Egypt owed their life to the Nile, as did the generations of people who lived in Mesopotamia in the Middle East.

Today the great cities of the world are also known by their neighboring rivers. For example, Manhattan, the great North American city is flanked by two rivers: the Hudson and the East River. Paris, a city in Europe which has seen much history, sits on either side of the Seine River. In South America, the vast area of the Amazon enhances settlements of all sizes in its huge watershed.



Photo: Ansel Adams. *The Tetons and the Snake River* (1942) Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming. National Archives and Records Administration, Records of the National Park Service. (79-AAG-1)

In the wilderness, rivers are no less important: they support and create ecosystems for all kinds of animals, insects and plant life.

Some rivers and the environments around them have suffered in the modern age, with industrial deposits of waste and other kinds of pollution. Sometimes the attempts to dam and redirect water has made surrounding wildlife suffer. Today environmentalists are working to restore affected areas to a cleaner and more habitable state for both humans and wildlife.

RIVER TERMS AND THEIR DEFINITIONS

It is impossible to talk about rivers, or learn about them, without knowing some terms that relate to rivers.

Here are just a few terms! Can you come up with other terms?

RIVER A natural flowing stream, most often fresh water, that moves towards a sea, a lake, and ocean or another river.

SOURCE The furthest point of a river away from its mouth, at its origin or beginning. Also sometimes called "Headwater".

MOUTH The part of a river that flows into another body of water.

WATERSHED or DRAINAGE BASIN An area of land where all the surface water drains into a larger body of water. Smaller streams join larger ones that eventually lead to a lake or ocean.

ESTUARY An area of water where a river joins the ocean. Here there is brackish water: a mix of freshwater and saline, or salty, seawater.

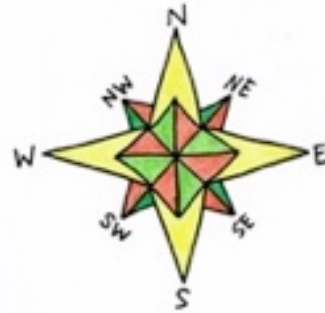
FLOODING This occurs when excess water causes a river to overflow its banks. Snow melt or extreme precipitation can cause flooding.

DELTA A landform that is caused by the gradual build up of sediment carried by a river where the river flows into another large body of water, like an estuary, the ocean, sea or reservoir.

The following presentation is an introduction to the **NILE RIVER**, one of Earth's great rivers, with some information about mapping, geography, people and animals of its surrounding area.



NILE RIVER



NILE RIVER

The Nile River is the longest river in the world. Measuring 4,258 miles long, it is much longer than the US is wide! Located in the continent of AFRICA, the Nile flows from south to north, emptying into the Mediterranean Sea.

The Nile has two tributaries. The Blue Nile in the east is shorter than the White Nile, which is connected to the river's source. On most maps, the source of the Nile appears to be at the huge Lake Victoria, but several large rivers feed this lake.

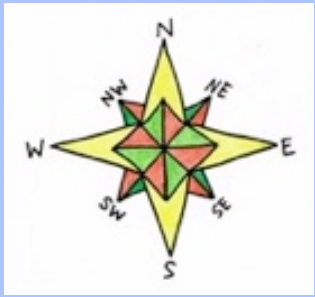
Since prehistoric time, people have lived along the banks of the Nile and benefited from the rich delta land.

The Nile River supported the development of the ancient cultures. The river helped maintain livestock and animals, provide fish for food, and was used for transport people and goods by boat. The ancient Egyptians farmed in the rich lands that were the result of the river overflowing every year. They also believed that the river was the means of traveling to the afterlife after death.

Make a compass rose for your map by following the directions [HERE!](#)



Left map: Hel-Hama, [Creative Commons](#)

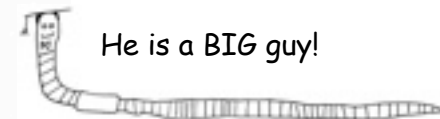
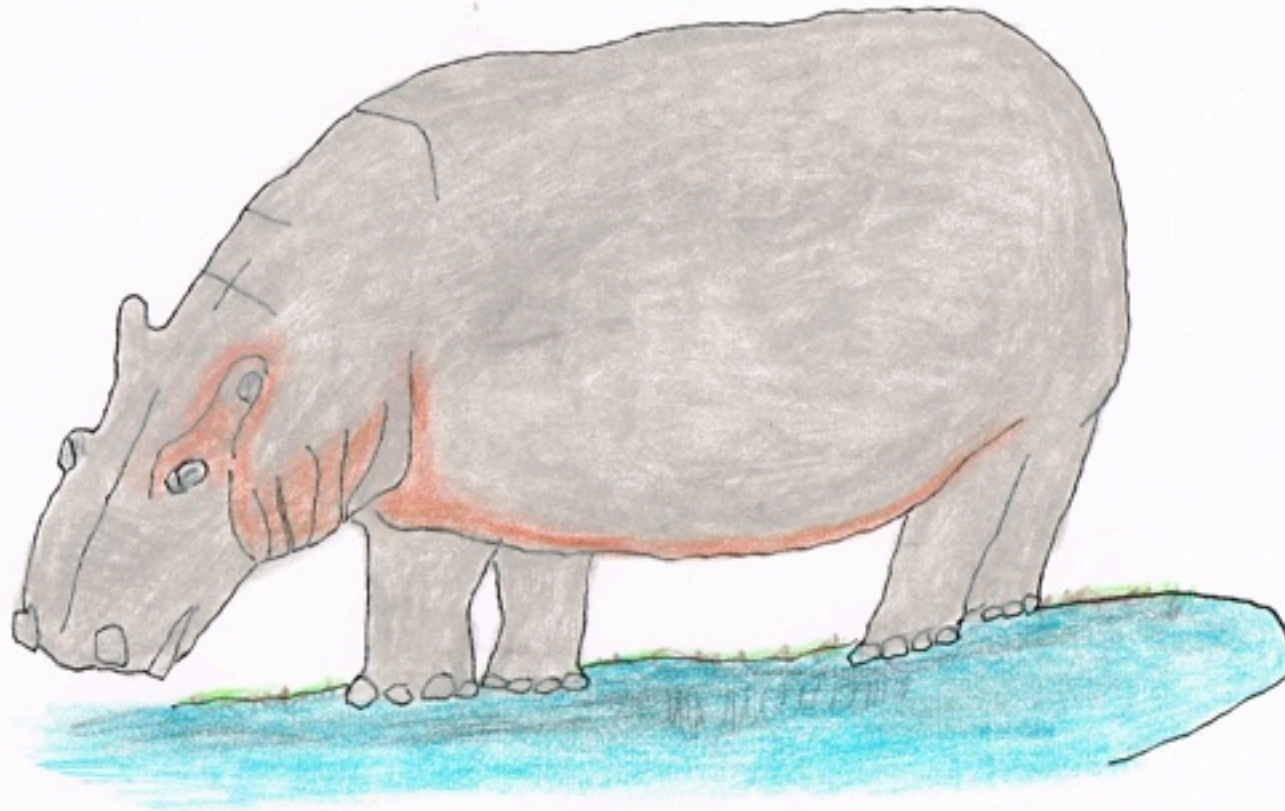


ON THE MAP!

The NILE RIVER passes through or alongside eleven countries. It is the major source of water for the countries of Sudan and Egypt.



Can you see what fairly recent development changed the face of this part of AFRICA? One of these maps shows a new country!



He is a BIG guy!

Nile River Hippopotamus

The Nile River Hippopotamus can be found in Africa around the Nile River. These giant mammals are amphibious creatures, meaning that they live both on land and in the water. The large animals grow up to be up to 6 feet long and can be anywhere from 5,000 to 8,000 pounds. In their hot African habitat, they submerge themselves in the river to keep themselves cool. Interestingly hippos have nostrils on the top of their heads which help them to breathe while almost totally under water.

As another way of protecting themselves from the hot African sun, they secrete an oily substance that prevents their skin from burning.

Despite their massive size, they are able to run at a speed of 30 miles per hour when threatened. Hippos graze on the banks of the river eating mostly grasses. Even though they are herbivores, these creatures are surprisingly aggressive. They have been known to attack humans without any provocation.

NILE RIVER



NILE RIVER

PRINT THIS PAGE:
COLOR AND LABEL THE MAP, BOTH LANDFORMS
AND WATER.

ADD A [COMPASS ROSE](#)
TO YOUR MAP! DO THE ACTIVITIES AND COLOR
THE HIPPOPOTAMUS

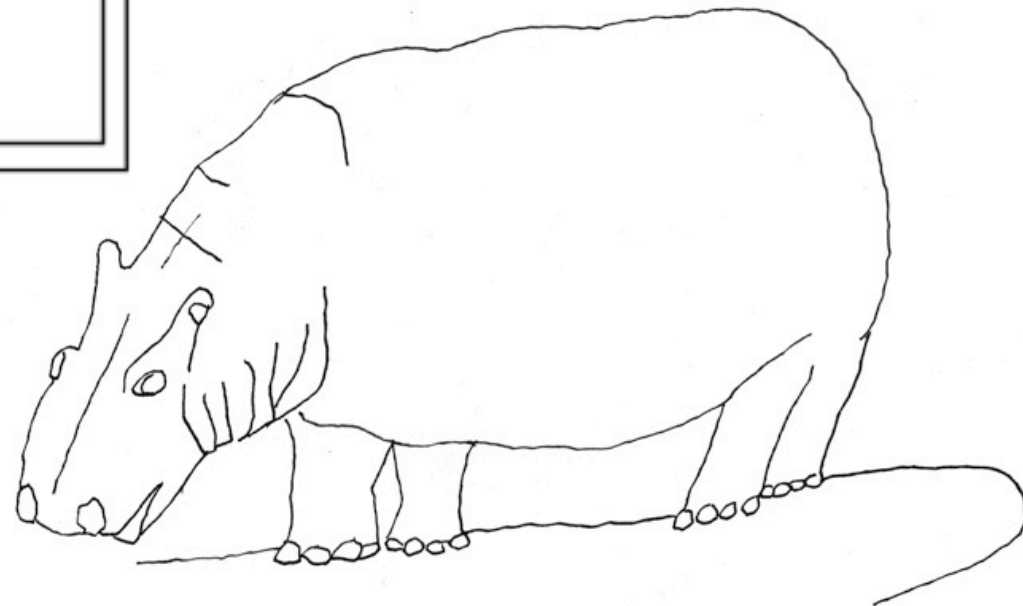
SPELLING WORDS

enormous
aggressive
hairless
graceful
nostrils
bulky
aquatic

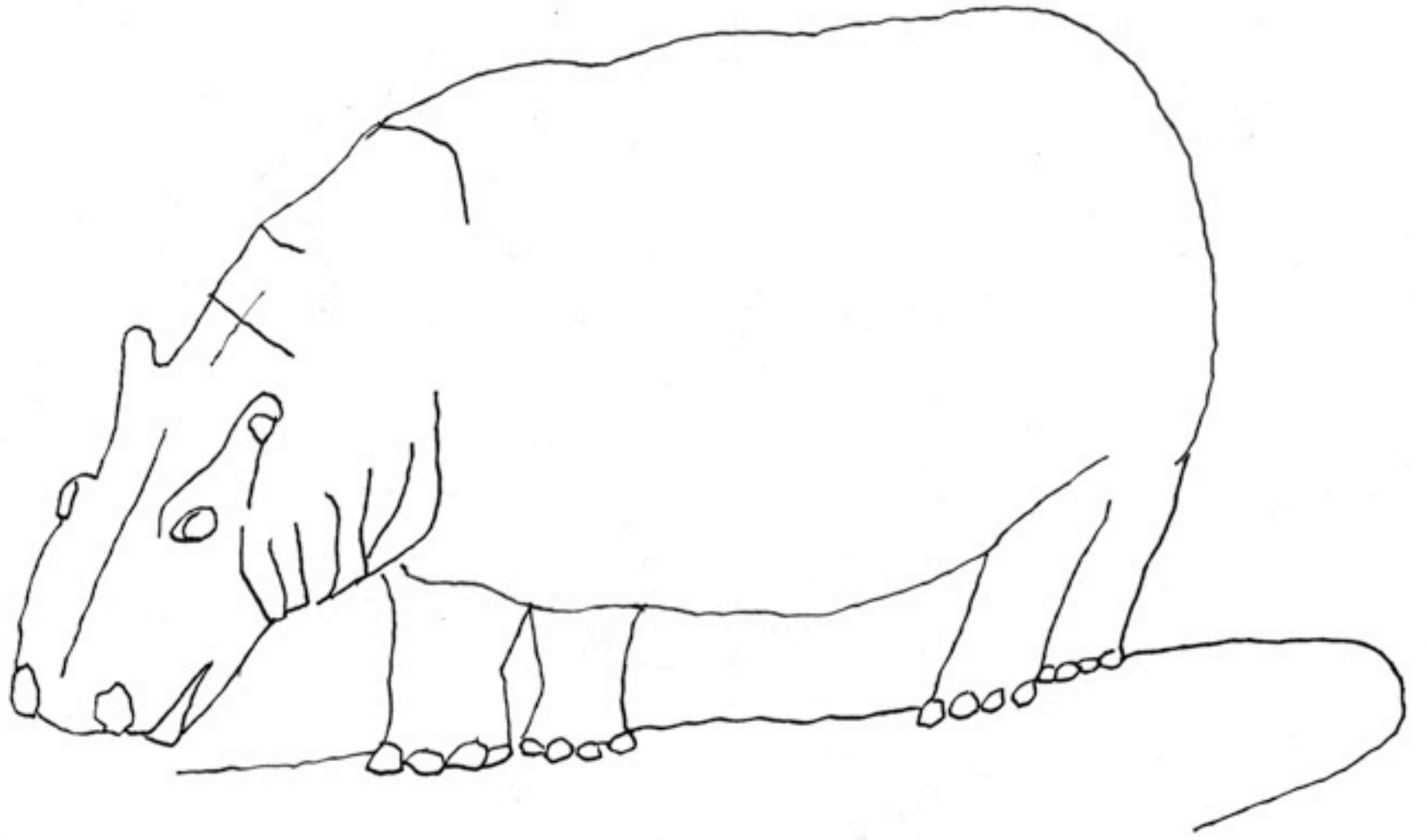
VOCABULARY WORDS

Turn your map over and
define these words!

massive
amphibious
submerged
forage
graze
mammal
herbivore
tributary



Nile River Hippopotamus



Nile River Hippopotamus



A FELUCCA is a wooden sailing vessel that travels in the waters of the eastern Mediterranean, the Red Sea, Iraq, the Sudan and also along the Nile River.

A felucca is a traditional boat that has two triangular sails and can hold about ten passengers.

In the past, feluccas were used for shipping and day to day transportation. Today people use ferries and motorboats that are faster.

Today a ride in a felucca is popular with tourists who can take a leisurely tour along the Nile to visit the ancient sites in cities like Luxor and Aswan.

Have you ever ridden in a BOAT? If so, what kind of boat, what waterway, and what was your purpose or journey?

If you have not ever had a boat ride, describe a voyage or boat journey that you would like to take -- where, why and when?



NEAR THE NILE, IN THE SAND!

The Nile River passes through the land that holds the great remnants of the Egyptian civilizations of the past. At right we can see the huge cluster of the Great Pyramids at Giza.



Photo Ricardo Liberati, [Creative Commons](#)

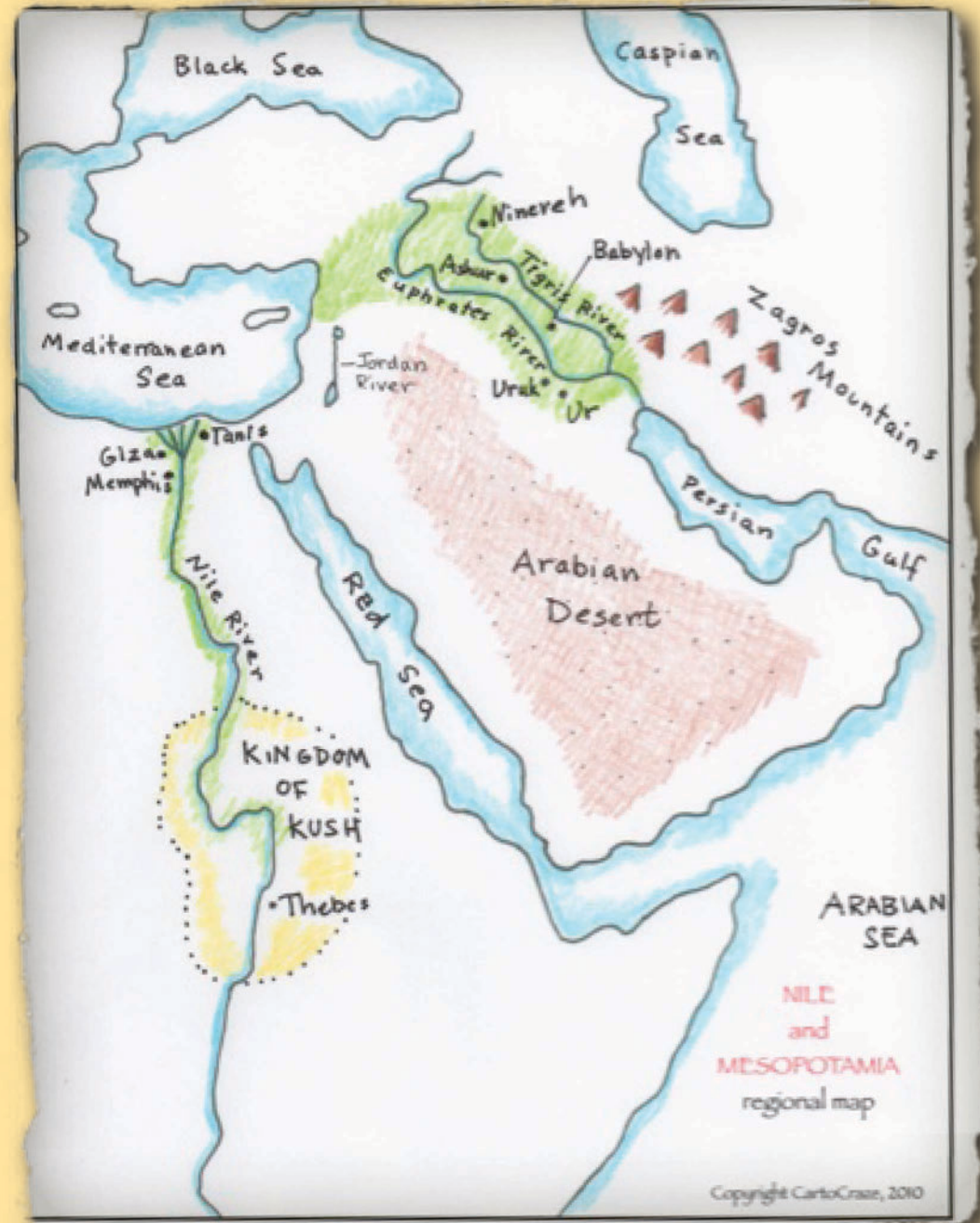


The massive sculpture of the reclining SPHINX is located near the pyramids at Giza.



What is a Sphinx? Who was the face of the Sphinx at Giza supposed to represent? What is so special about the group of pyramids at Giza?

ANCIENT CITIES!



ABOVE ARE SOME OF THE ANCIENT CITIES THAT WERE LOCATED ALONG THE NILE IN ANCIENT TIMES. At right, you can also see the ancient cities of the Mesopotamia area.



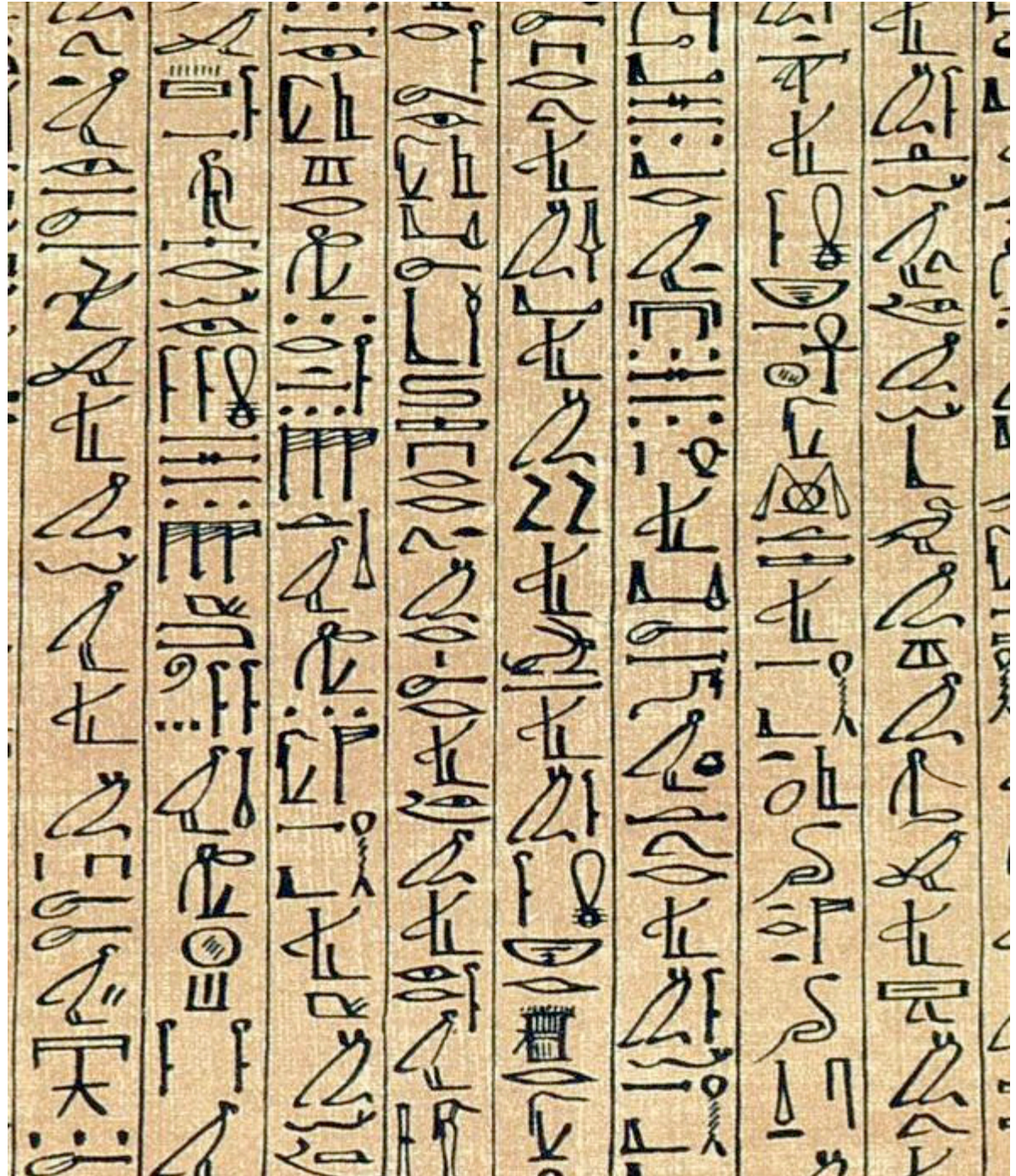
THE ABOVE IMAGES
REPRESENT THE NAME:

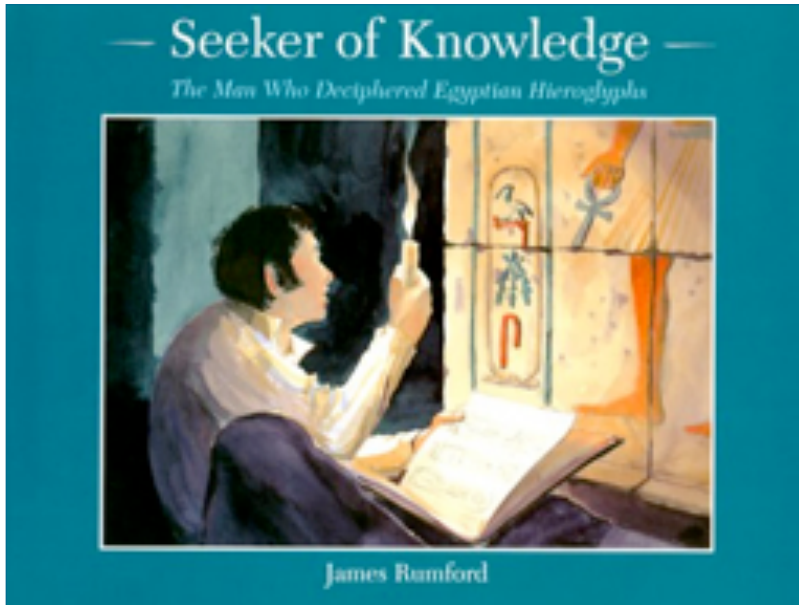
Nile River

IN
EGYPTIAN
HIEROGLYPHICS



TRY WRITING THE NAME OF
THE RIVER YOURSELF, AS WELL
AS SOME OF THE
HIEROGLYPHICS AT RIGHT.





**SEEKER OF KNOWLEDGE:
THE MAN WHO DECIPHERED EGYPTIAN
HIEROGLYPHS**

by James Rumford

A simple, and inspiring story of how a child, who also as a grown man, was determined to solve one of the world's great puzzles, the story of the discovery of hieroglyphics.

WHO DECIPHERED HIEROGLYPHICS?



Read this book and/or others about the discovery of hieroglyphics!

How was the written language of the ancient Egyptians different from ours?

How did scholars learn to decipher the symbols?

Give an example of what some hieroglyphics had to say, translated to English.

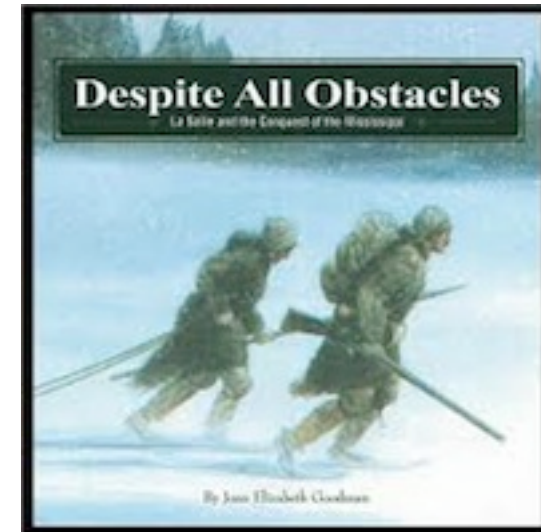
Does anyone use this language today?



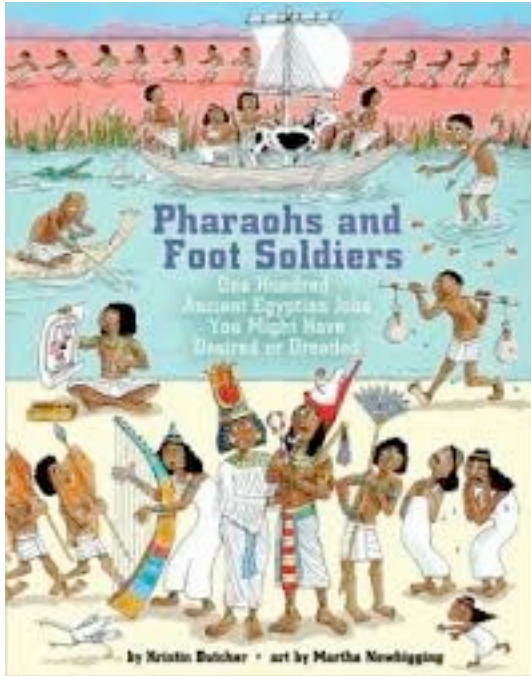
RIVER READING!

BOOKS ABOUT RIVER EXPEDITIONS ARE INSPIRING!

**DESPITE ALL OBSTACLES:
LASALLE AND THE CONQUEST OF THE
MISSISSIPPI**
by Joan Elizabeth Goodman



La Salle made his way from Eastern Canada to the Great Lakes traveling by canoe down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico. This vast unexplored wilderness was controlled by the fierce Iroquois. Through one setback after another, La Salle kept on going. Part adventure, part biography, this book is the fascinating story of this stubborn and courageous man !



**PHARAOHS AND FOOT SOLDIERS: ONE
HUNDRED ANCIENT EGYPTIAN JOBS
YOU MIGHT HAVE DESIRED OR
DREADED**

Complete with a fact-filled introduction, a comprehensive timeline and playful illustrations, this book will inspire readers to imagine how they may have lived and worked in of one of history's most fascinating civilizations.



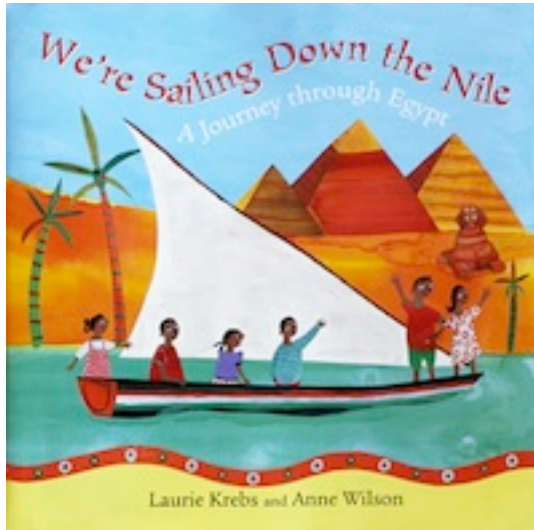
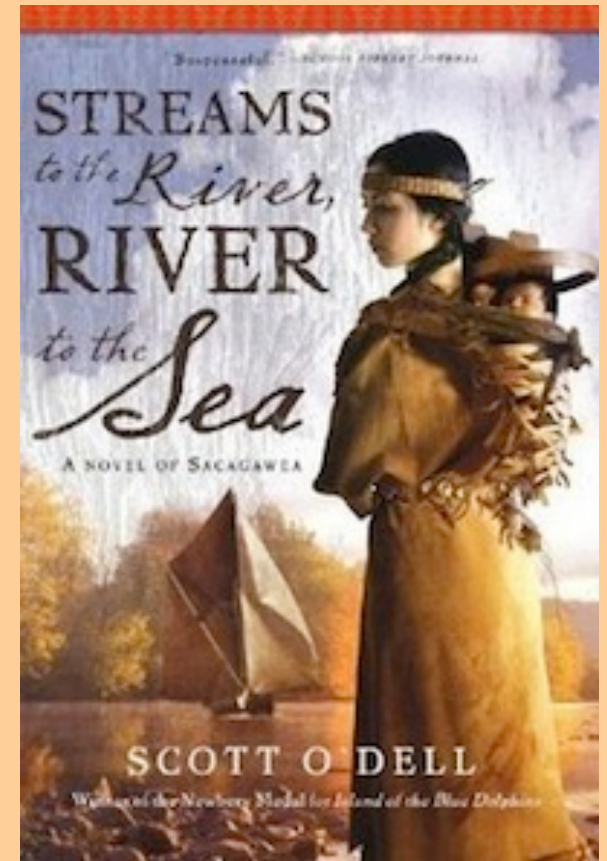
**THE LAST RIVER: JOHN WESLEY
POWELL & THE COLORADO RIVER
EXPLORING EXPEDITION**
by Stuart Waldman

This book is an inspiring adventure that brings history to life. Major John Wesley Powell was a small, bookish, one-armed geology professor. Powell's twin passions -- adventure and scientific exploration -- drew him to the Colorado River. Excerpts from journals of crew members personalize the gripping text. Original paintings and a fold-out map allows the reader to simultaneously follow the expedition's route and its adventures.

Streams to the River, River to the sea: a novel of Sacagawea

by Scott O'Dell

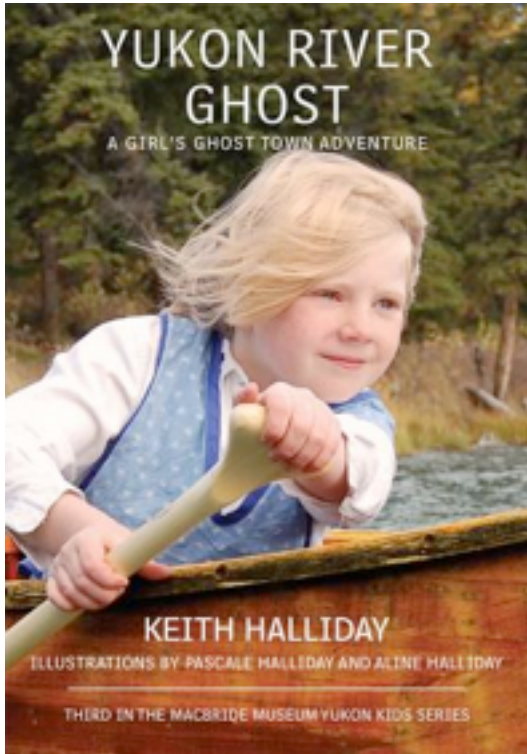
A young Indian woman, accompanied by her infant and cruel husband, experiences joy and heartbreak when she joins the Lewis and Clark Expedition seeking a way to the Pacific.



We're Sailing Down the Nile

We're Roaming in the Rainforest: An Amazon Adventure

both by Laurie Krebs



Yukon River Ghost: A Girl's Ghost Town Adventure

by Keith Halliday

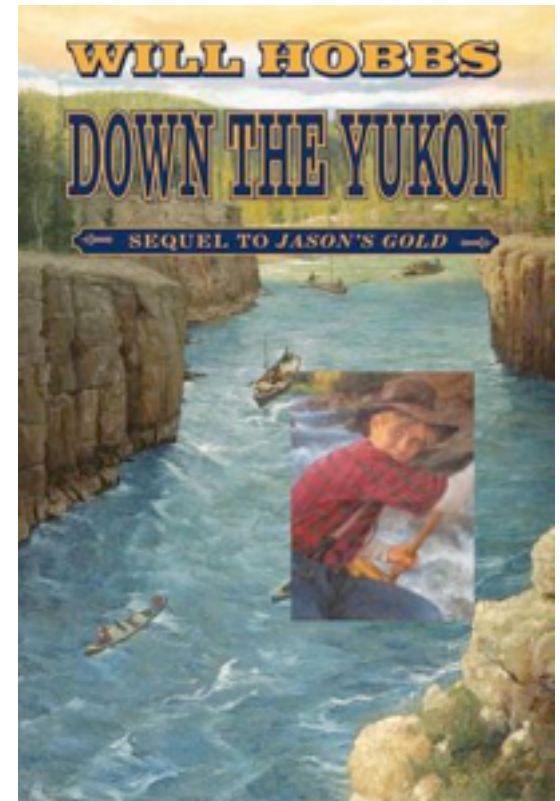
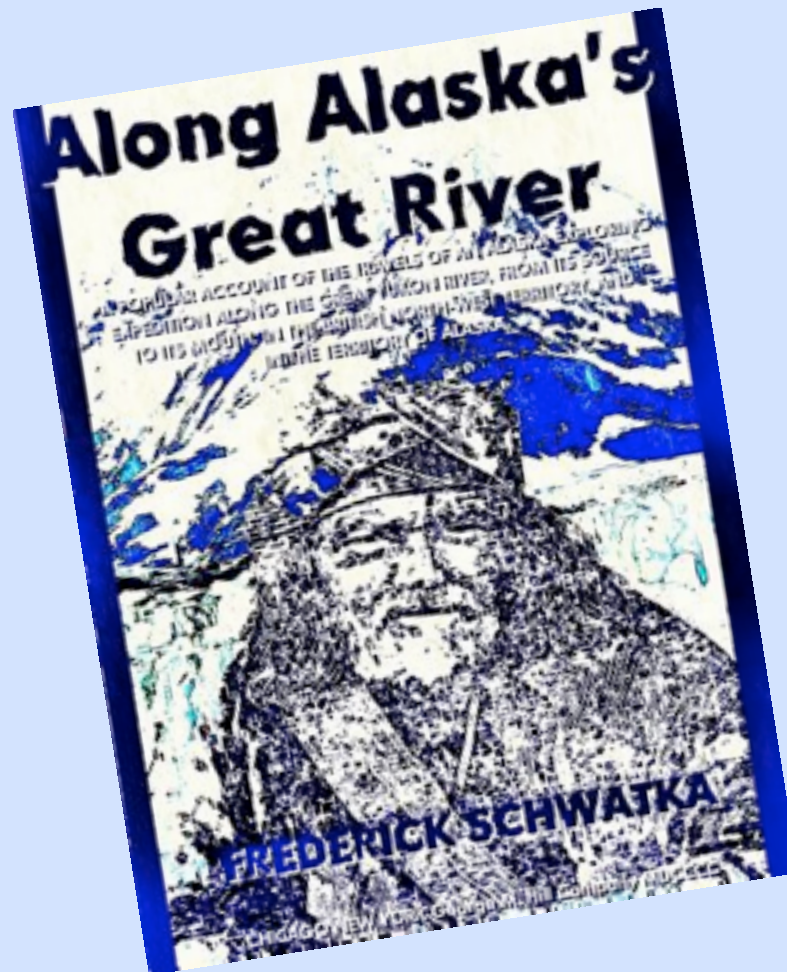
An idyllic Yukon River trip turns into a mysterious adventure as the kids discover a gold rush ghost town that seems to have a ghost!

Along Alaska's Great River

by

Frederick Scwhatka

A great river expedition.....



DOWN THE YUKON

by Will Hobbs

The great race across Alaska! As Dawson City goes up in flames, Jason Hawthorn itches to join the new rush for gold in Nome, 1,700 miles away.

ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

The ancient history of man spanned thousands of years, beginning with the earliest Stone Age man around 10,000 BCE, continuing to the fall of the Roman Empire. Many civilizations occurred at the same time in different parts of the globe (including North and South America, not shown on this map).

This map shows areas of Europe, Asia and Africa. Use it to locate and label where different cultures were and note how geography affected their growth. For instance, ancient peoples often settled near rivers for agriculture as well as transportation. Caravans traveled far and wide over rivers and seas. Traders brought and sold over water routes as well. On the other hand, mountains and deserts were often barriers to movement and travel.

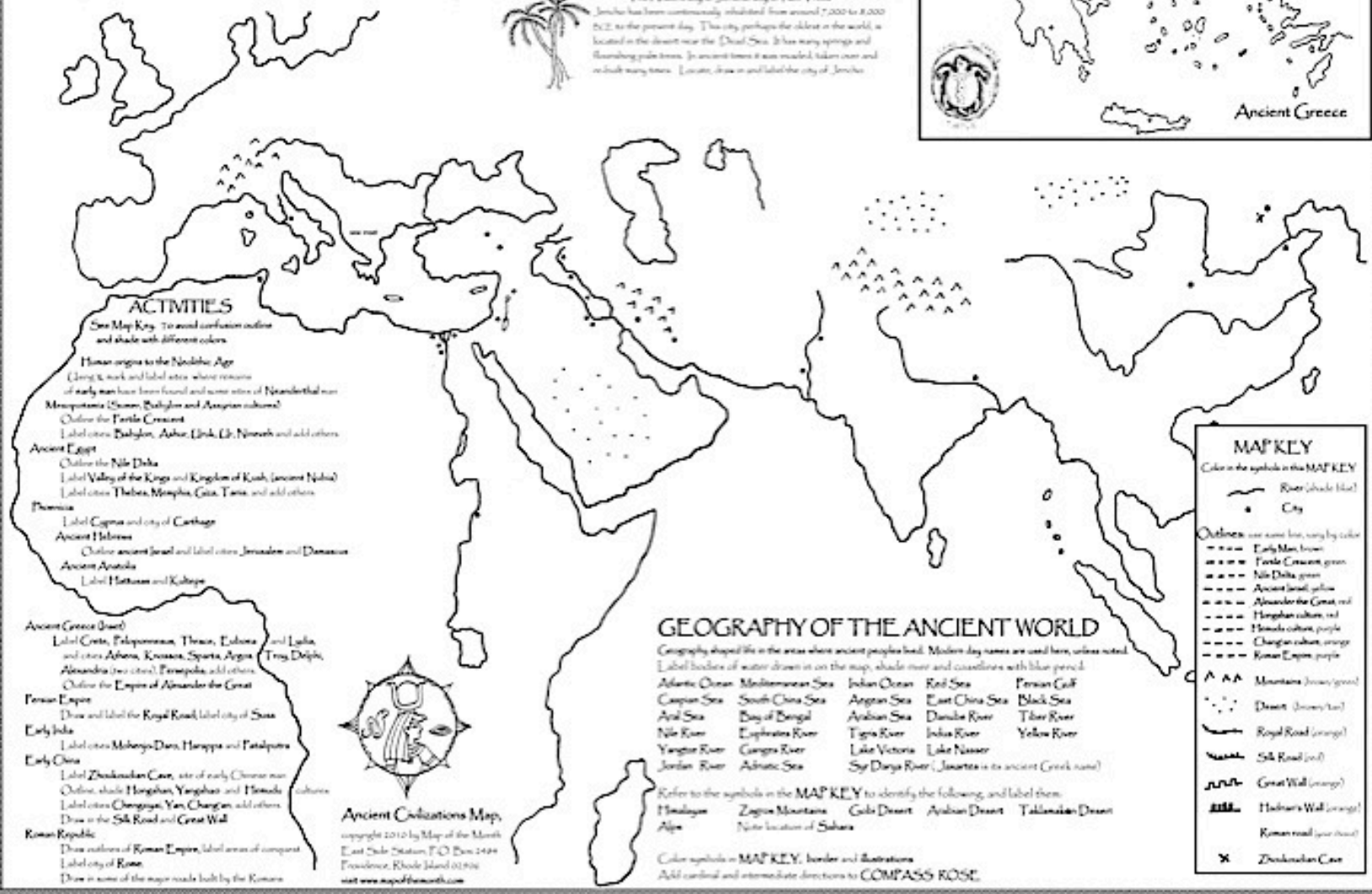
Below are some suggested activities for using this map. Some details are already drawn in and need labeling. Other details can be added. The inset at right shows some land and islands of Greece in greater detail than on the larger map.



Ancient Greece



The Ancient city of Jericho, city of Pale Times
Jericho has been continuously inhabited from around 7,000 to 8,000 BCE to the present day. This city, perhaps the oldest in the world, is located in the desert near the Dead Sea. It has many springs and flourishing palm trees. In ancient times it was walled, later over and rebuilt many times. Locate, draw in and label the city of Jericho.



ACTIVITIES

See Map Key. To avoid confusion outline and shade with different colors.

Human origins to the Neolithic Age
Using a mark and label areas where remains of early man have been found and some sites of Neolithic man.

Mesopotamia (Sumer, Babylon and Assyrian cultures)
Outline the Tigris Euphrates.

Label cities: Babylon, Ashur, Uruk, U. Nimrah and add others.

Ancient Egypt
Outline the Nile Delta.

Label Valley of the Kings and Kingdom of Kush (ancient Nubia).

Label cities: Thebes, Memphis, Giza, Tanis, and add others.

Phoenicia
Label Cyprus and city of Carthage.

Ancient Hebrews
Outline ancient Israel and label cities: Jerusalem and Damascus.

Ancient Anatolia
Label Hattusa and Kultepe.

Ancient Greece (Greece)
Label Crete, Peloponnese, Thessaly, Euboea and Lybia.

Label cities: Athens, Korinthos, Sparta, Argos, Troy, Delphi.

Alexandria (two cities), Ptolemais, add others.

Outline the Empire of Alexander the Great.

Roman Empire
Draw and label the Royal Road, label city of Rome.

Early India
Label cities: Mohenjo-Daro, Harappa and Pataliputra.

Early China
Label Zhoukoudian Cave, site of early Chinese man.

Outline, shade, Hwangshan, Yangshuo and Hsiangshu.

Label cities: Chengyang, Yan, Chang'an, add others.

Draw in the Silk Road and Great Wall.

Roman Republic
Draw outlines of Roman Empire, label areas of conquest.

Label city of Rome.

Draw in some of the major roads built by the Romans.



Ancient Civilizations Map
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GEOGRAPHY OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

Geography shaped life in the areas where ancient peoples lived. Modern day names are used here, unless noted.

Label bodies of water drawn in on the map, shade river and coastlines with blue pencil.

- | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|--|----------------|--------------|
| Atlantic Ocean | Mediterranean Sea | Indian Ocean | Red Sea | Persian Gulf |
| Caspian Sea | South China Sea | Aragan Sea | East China Sea | Black Sea |
| Arab Sea | Bay of Bengal | Andian Sea | Danube River | Tiber River |
| Nile River | Euphrates River | Tigris River | Indus River | Yellow River |
| Yangtze River | Ganges River | Lake Victoria | Lake Nassar | |
| Jordan River | Adriatic Sea | Syr Darya River (Jaxartes is its ancient Greek name) | | |

Refer to the symbols in the MAP KEY to identify the following, and label them:
Himalayas Zagros Mountains Gobi Desert Arabian Desert Taidanlian Desert
Alps Note location of Sahara

Color symbols in MAP KEY, border and illustrations.
Add cardinal and intermediate directions to COMPASS ROSE.

MAP KEY
Color in the symbols in the MAP KEY

— River (shaded blue)
• City

Outlines use same line, vary by color

- Early Man, brown
- Tigris Euphrates, green
- Nile Delta, green
- Ancient Israel, yellow
- Alexander the Great, red
- Hwangshan culture, red
- Hsiangshu culture, purple
- Chang'an culture, orange
- Roman Empire, purple

▲▲▲ Mountains (green/pink)

••• Desert (brown/yellow)

— Royal Road (orange)

— Silk Road (red)

— Great Wall (orange)

— Hadrian's Wall (orange)

— Roman road (purple)

✕ Zhoukoudian Cave

AFRICA

Places and Geographic Features

Welcome to Africa! Africa is the second largest continent on Earth. It is about three times the size of the United States. Africa has mostly tropical climate, with some variations. There are enormous deserts, huge lakes, thick tropical forests, the longest river in the world, and even snow-capped mountains.

This map shows the boundaries of countries on the continent. The capitals of each country are labeled, as well as the bodies of water that surround Africa. The bold lines divide Africa into its five major regions. Refer to the activities alongside the map to create a more detailed map of Africa.



MAP KEY

- Capital
- City (red or black)
- ▲▲ Mountains (brown or green)
- /// Desert (light brown)
- 🌳 Forest (green)
- 🌊 River (blue)

Earthworm's Cartographic Activities

Your job as cartographer is to fill in some details not shown on this map. Refer to an atlas or encyclopedia. Be neat when labeling and drawing in details. Colored pencils work best. Shade very lightly so you don't obscure other features. Refer to the map key for symbols and suggested colors.

1. **Countries:** Fill in the remaining letters for each country name.
 2. **Capitals:** Highlight each capital name with a yellow pencil.
 3. **Cities:** Locate and label two other cities in each country.
 4. **Oceans:** With blue, shade along dotted coastline areas.
 5. **Large lakes:** Label and shade the large lakes with blue.
 6. **Major rivers:** Locate and draw in the Nile, the Congo, the Zambesi and the Orange Rivers. Add other rivers too.
 7. **Suez Canal:** Locate and label this man-made waterway.
 8. **Desert:** Shade and label the Sahara, Kalahari and Namib Deserts.
 9. **Latitude lines:** With a sharp pencil, draw the lines for the Equator, Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn.
 10. **Major regions:** Label the North, East, West, Central and Southern regions separated on this map by bold lines.
 11. **Mountains:** Locate and draw in Mt. Kenya, Mt. Kilimanjaro and the Atlas mountain range.
 12. **Compass Rose:** This feature indicates direction.
- On this map, the cardinal directions are already marked. Label the intermediate directions: NW, NE, SW, and SE.
13. **Decoration:** Color the AFRICA title, Earthworm and the Compass Rose.

Many unique animals live in Africa. They live in and around the deserts, savannahs and tropical rain forests.

Many animals are finding it very hard to survive. Illegal hunting reduces their numbers. Also, human populations are increasing. People need land for crops, livestock and firewood. This makes animal habitats smaller and smaller. Scientists and environmentalists are trying to find a way to protect the animals of Africa.

MAP of the MONTH

CONTINENTS OF THE WORLD

And Other Geographic Features!

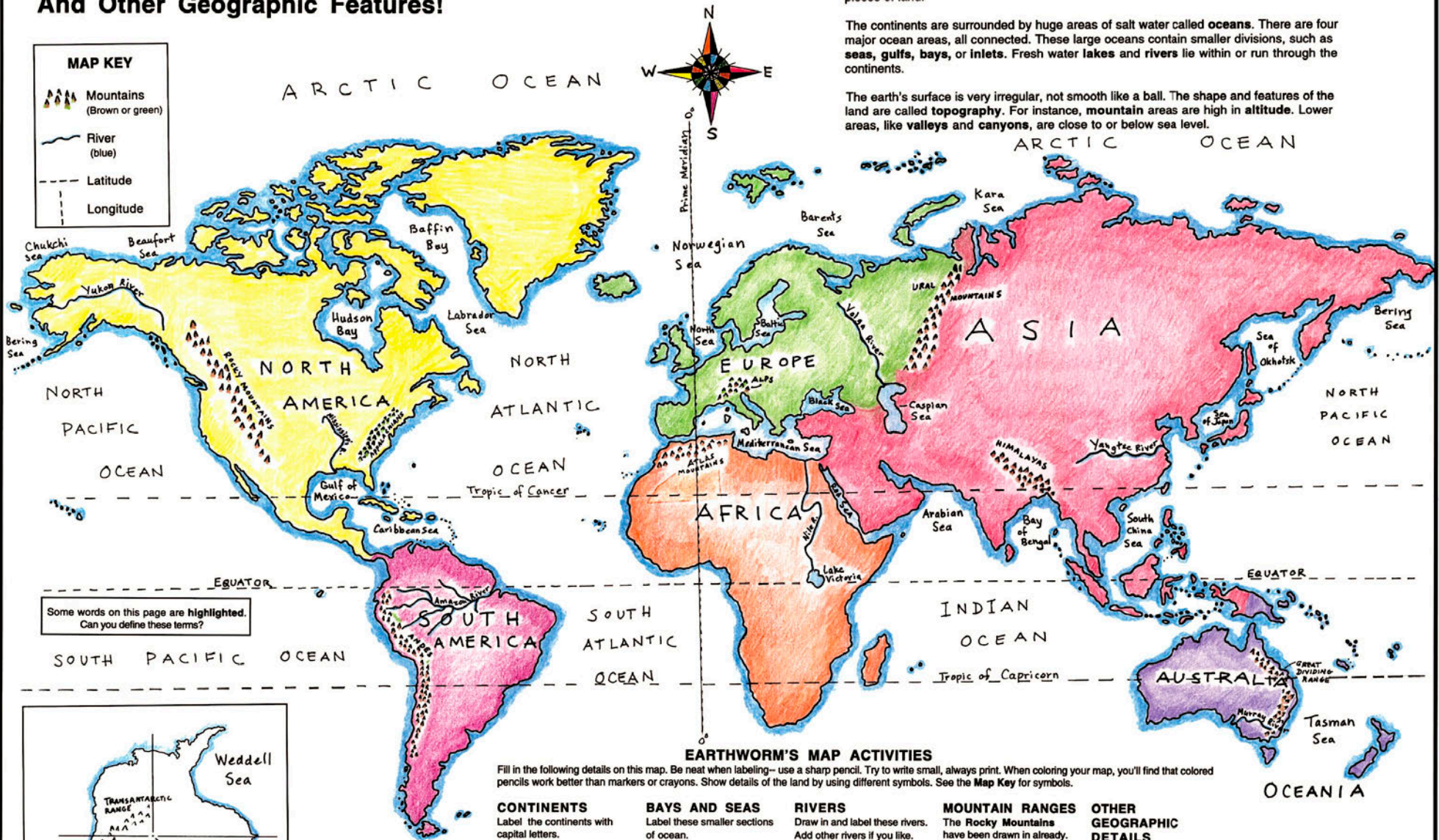
Welcome to the World! This simple map shows the outlines of the seven continents. The continents are all large masses of land, some **connected**, some **isolated**. For instance, **Asia** and **Europe** share one large mass of land. **Australia** and **Antarctica** are isolated pieces of land.

The continents are surrounded by huge areas of salt water called **oceans**. There are four major ocean areas, all connected. These large oceans contain smaller divisions, such as **seas**, **gulfs**, **bays**, or **inlets**. Fresh water lakes and rivers lie within or run through the continents.

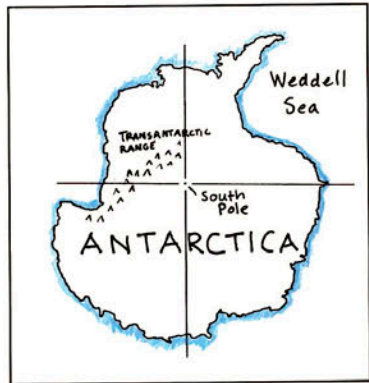
The earth's surface is very irregular, not smooth like a ball. The shape and features of the land are called **topography**. For instance, **mountain** areas are high in **altitude**. Lower areas, like **valleys** and **canyons**, are close to or below sea level.

MAP KEY

- Mountains (Brown or green)
- River (blue)
- Latitude
- Longitude



Some words on this page are highlighted. Can you define these terms?



Antarctica is located at the **South Pole**. It is very difficult to show it on a flat map along with the rest of the continents. Antarctica is often shown in an **inset**, like this, as if you were looking at it from directly above.

EARTHWORM'S MAP ACTIVITIES

Fill in the following details on this map. Be neat when labeling—use a sharp pencil. Try to write small, always print. When coloring your map, you'll find that colored pencils work better than markers or crayons. Show details of the land by using different symbols. See the **Map Key** for symbols.

CONTINENTS

Label the continents with capital letters.
NORTH AMERICA
SOUTH AMERICA
AFRICA
EUROPE
ASIA
AUSTRALIA/Oceania
ANTARCTICA

OCEANS

Label the oceans with capital letters. Shade along coastlines with blue pencil.

ATLANTIC
PACIFIC
ARCTIC
INDIAN

BAYS AND SEAS

Label these smaller sections of ocean.
Hudson Bay
Gulf of Mexico
North Sea
Arabian Sea
Bay of Bengal
South China Sea
Tasman Sea
Weddell Sea
Red Sea
Caribbean Sea

RIVERS

Draw in and label these rivers. Add other rivers if you like.
Mississippi
Amazon
Nile
Volga
Yangtze
Murray
Yukon

MOUNTAIN RANGES

The **Rocky Mountains** have been drawn in already. Draw in and label these other mountain ranges.
Appalachians
Andes
Atlas
Alps
Himalayas
Ural
Great Dividing Range
Transantarctic

OTHER GEOGRAPHIC DETAILS

Draw in and label the following.
Equator
Tropic of Cancer
Tropic of Capricorn
Prime Meridian
South Pole

DECORATION

To add a decorative touch to your map, color the following.
Continent title
Earthworm (our mascot!)
Compass Rose
 Add North, South, East and West to the points of the Compass Rose.

Visit us at www.mapofthemoth.com

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