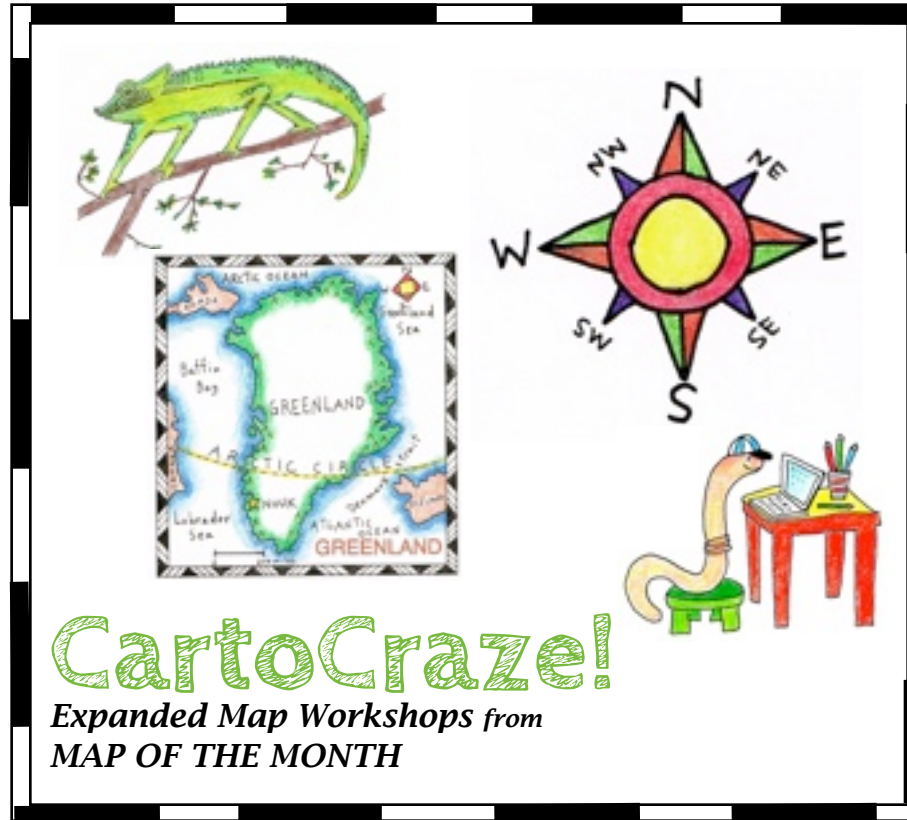


YUKON RIVER



CartoCraze!

Expanded Map Workshops

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www.mapsforthe classroom.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 rivers 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.

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 YUKON RIVER, one of Earth's great rivers, with some information about mapping, geography, people and animals of its surrounding area.



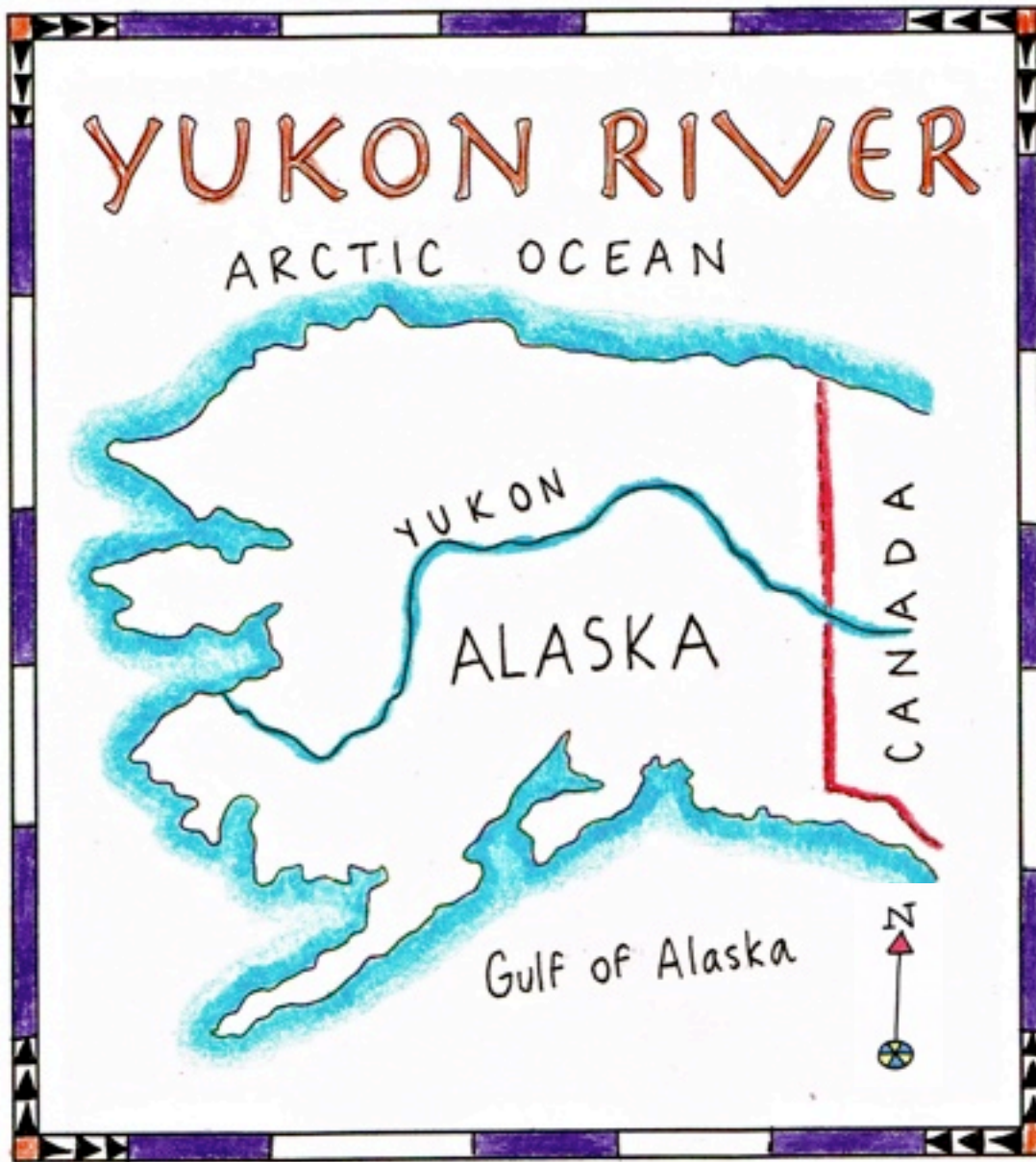
YUKON RIVER

The Yukon River flows through two countries: the United States and Canada. The state of Alaska has a long stretch of this river: over 1400 miles. The remaining 500 miles is in Canada. The source of the river lies in British Columbia in Canada.

The Yukon River is known to be one of the longest salmon runs on earth. Salmon live most of their lives in the ocean then migrate over a thousand miles back to clean fresh spawning areas in the river to lay eggs. The fish depend on unpolluted waters for their survival.

Salmon is a much desired fish since it is high in Omega oils and nutrients. The fish, especially the Chinook salmon, have large reserves of fat to make their long trip to the spawning grounds possible.

Gold was discovered in the Klondike area in 1896 and at that point people traveled quickly to try to take advantage of their possibilities. Many prospectors from all areas would take trails through the mountains and then sail on the Yukon to the sites of the gold.

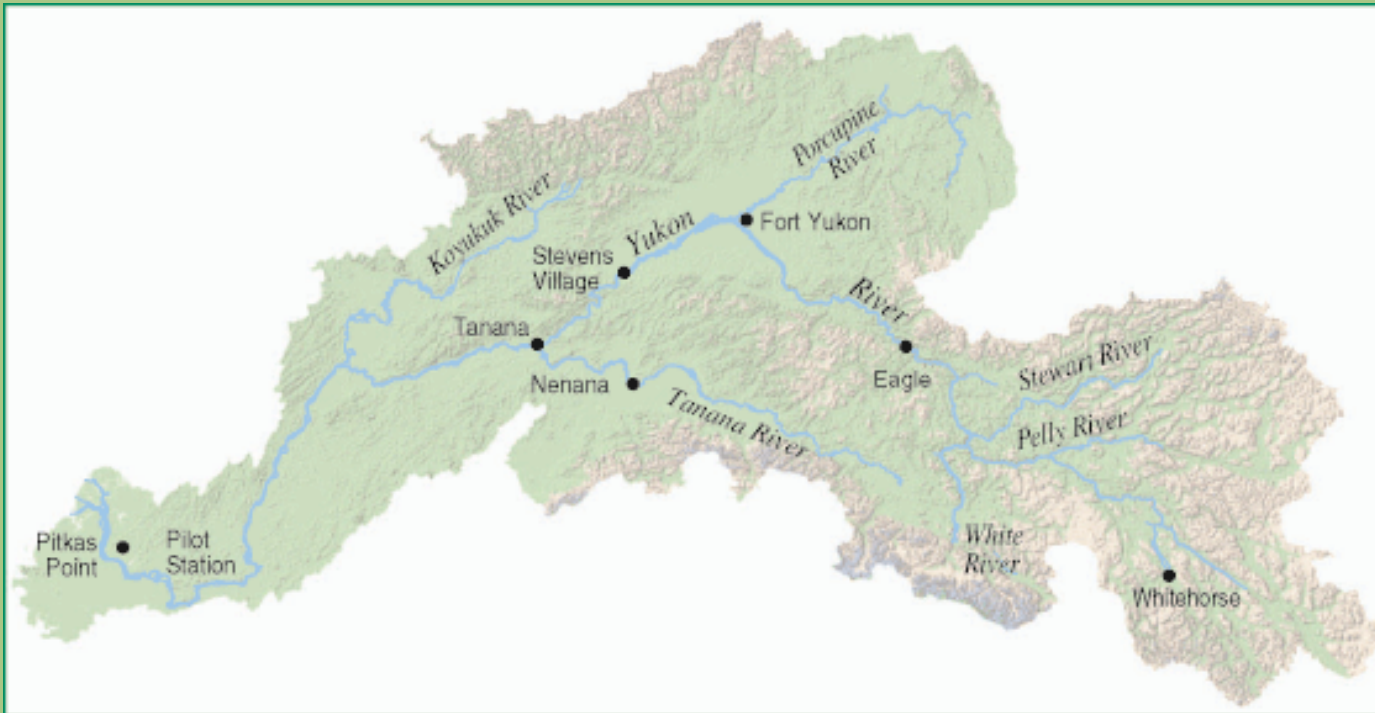


Professor Earthworm



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

ON THE MAP!



Map courtesy of Wikipedia Commons, from the United States Geological Services

Many other major rivers flow into the Yukon River.

These are called tributaries of the Yukon.

Each tributary of the Yukon has its own unique characteristics. For instance, early in the history of the Gold Rush, the Stewart River was not a prime destination for prospectors, but after 1914 large lodes of gold and silver were found along this river. The White River is a glacier fed river and is full of sediment.

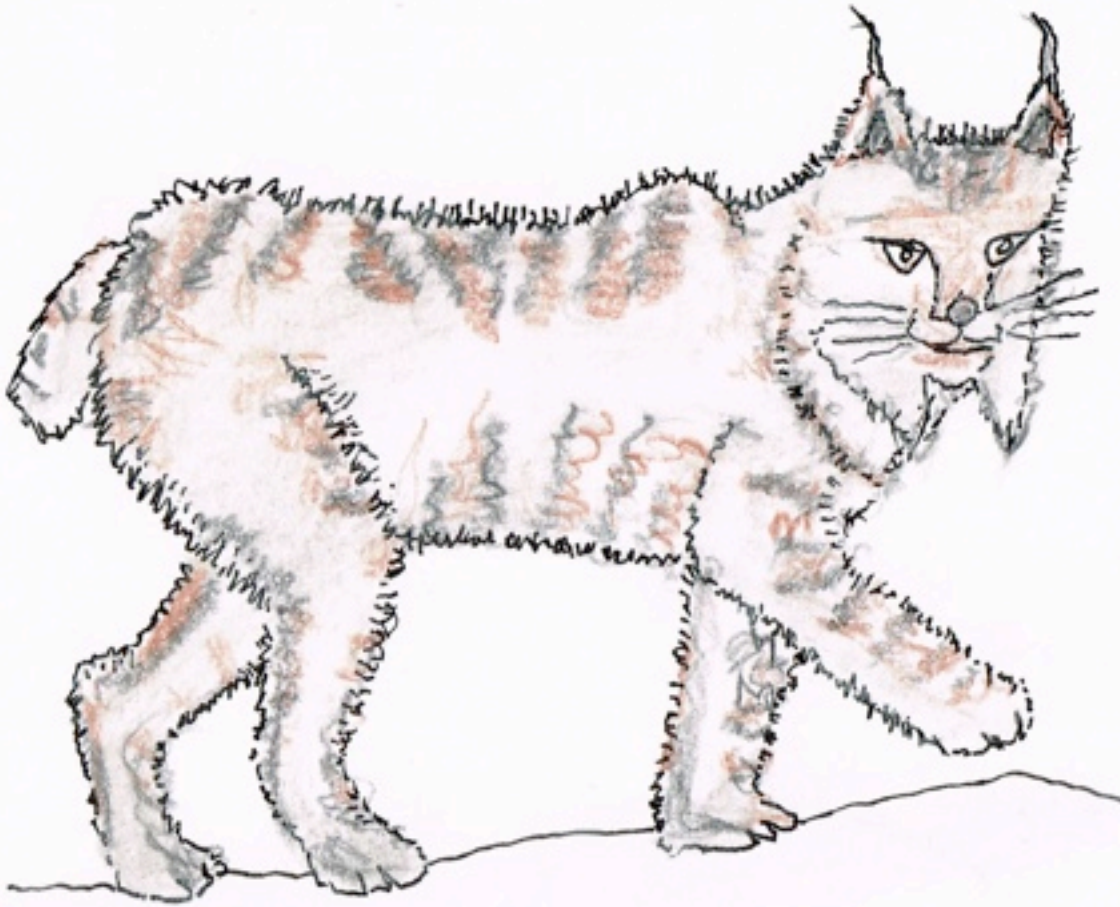
Can you research and find characteristics for each of the major tributaries of the Yukon? Write a little piece about what makes each these Yukon River tributaries unique.



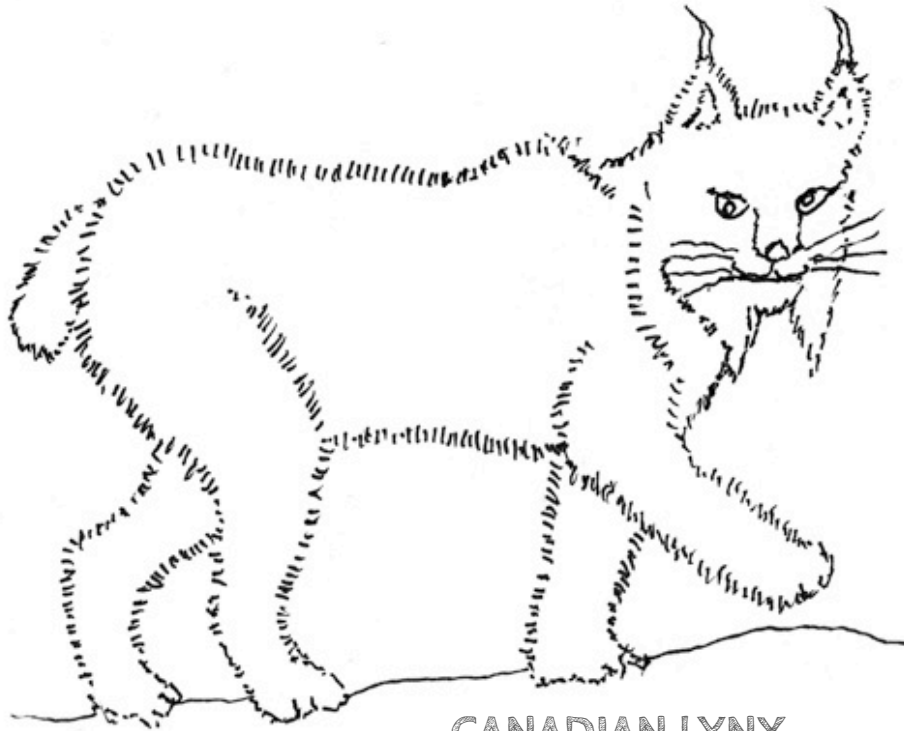
CANADIAN LYNX

Canadian Lynx are found around the Yukon River in northern Canada and Alaska. Compared to other large carnivorous cats like lions and tigers, Canadian lynx are smaller. These medium-sized muscular cats have a coat of thick dense fur. This fur allows them to withstand the cold and snowy climate of their area. Their large paws enable them to walk easily on ice and thick snow banks. They are recognizable by their triangle shaped ears with distinctive black tufts of fur which help enhance the hearing of the animal. Along with a keen sense of hearing, they have advanced eyesight that makes it possible for them to spot prey from afar.

The Canadian Lynx is a specialist predator which means that it feeds mainly on a single species of prey. The Canadian lynx hunts mainly the showshoe hare, but also eats mice, squirrels and other small mammals. These solitary nocturnal animals tend to hunt in forests where they can easily find their prey.



I need a coat like that in winter!



CANADIAN LYNX

SPELLING WORDS

pollution
prey
forelimbs
secretive
territory
nocturnal

VOCABULARY WORDS

Turn your map over and define these words!

endurance
habitat
scavenger
predator
roam
tufted

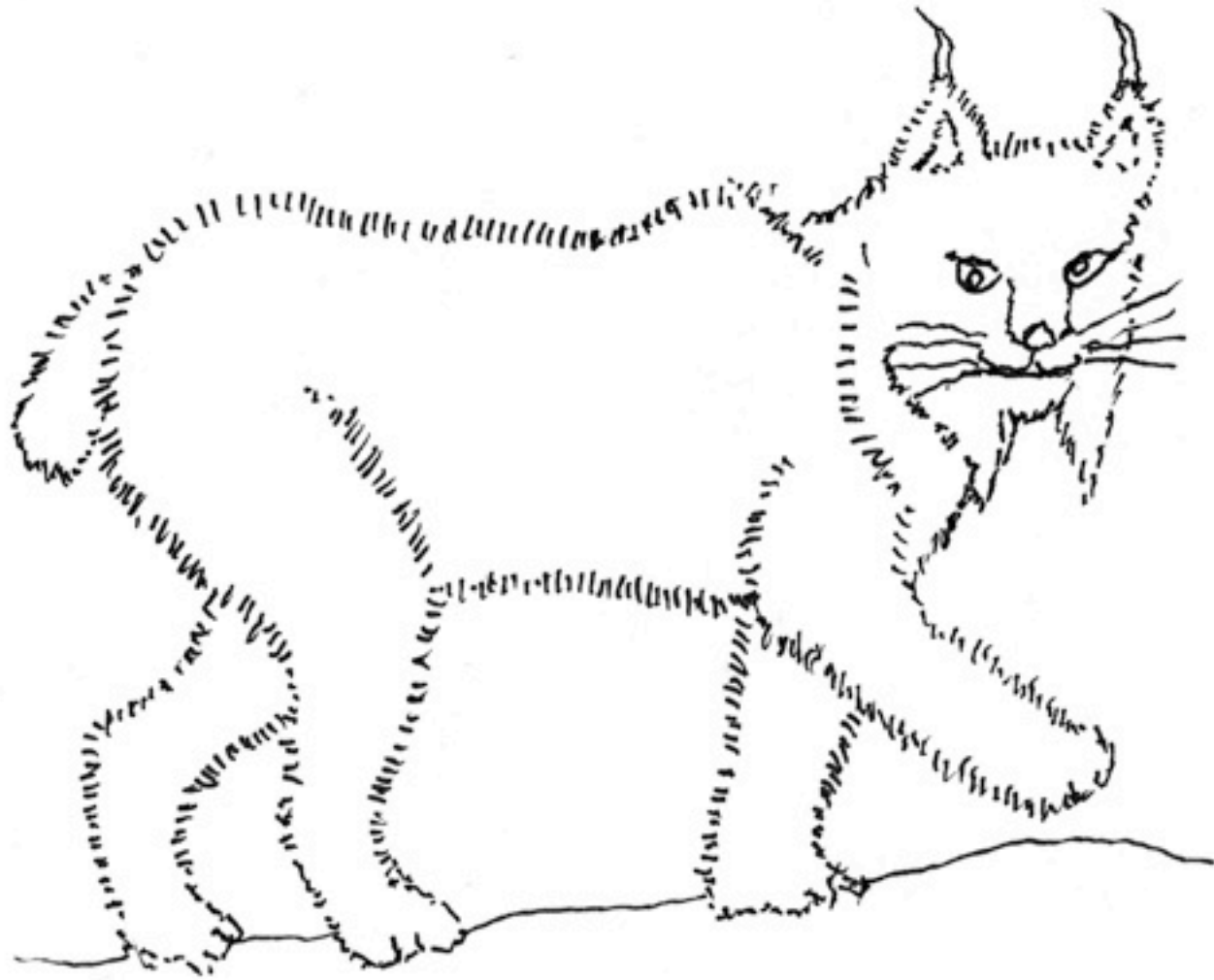
YUKON RIVER



YUKON 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 CANADIAN LYNX



CANADIAN LYNX

Aerial view of the Yukon River!



Define these
river related
terms:

Meandering

Floodplain

Estuary

Sediment

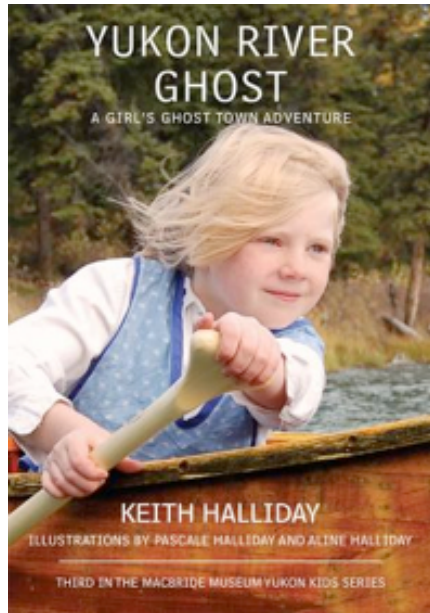
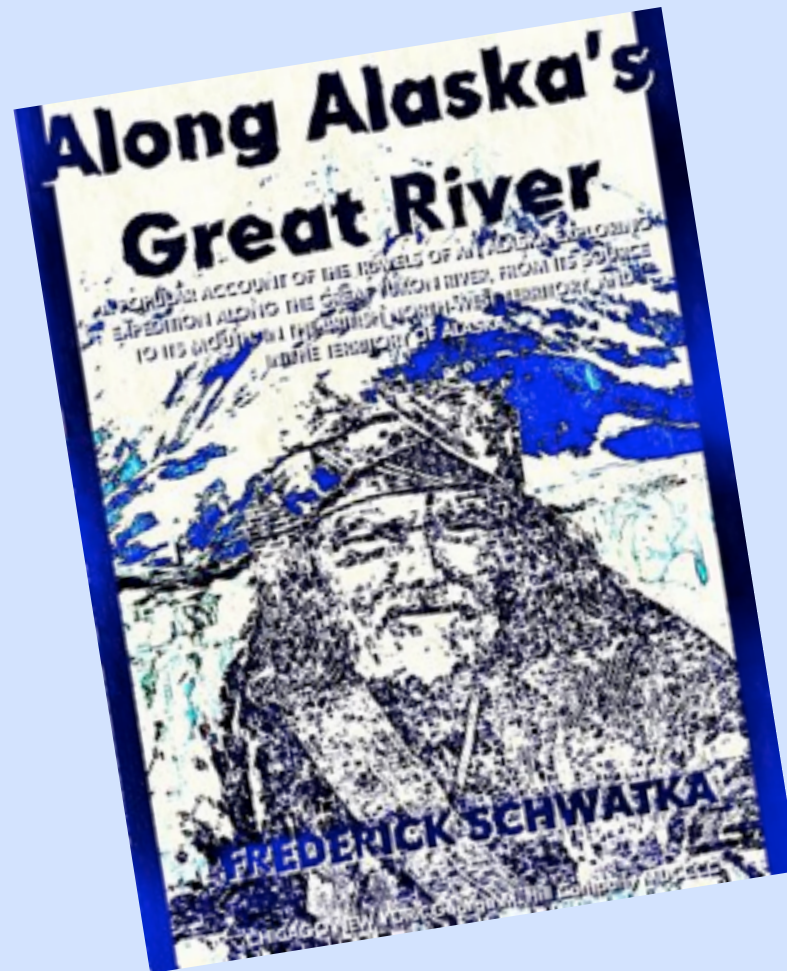


RIVER READING!

BOOKS ABOUT RIVER EXPEDITIONS ARE INSPIRING!

Along Alaska's Great River

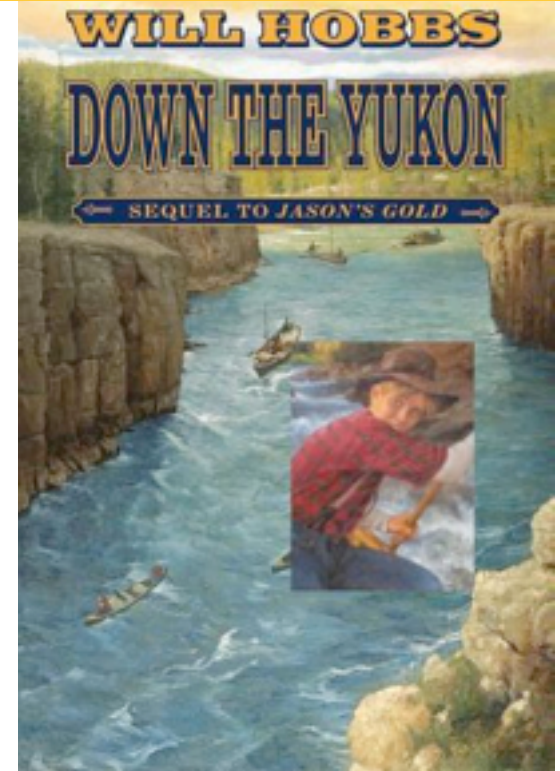
by
Frederick Scwhatka
A great river expedition.....



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!



DOWN THE YUKON

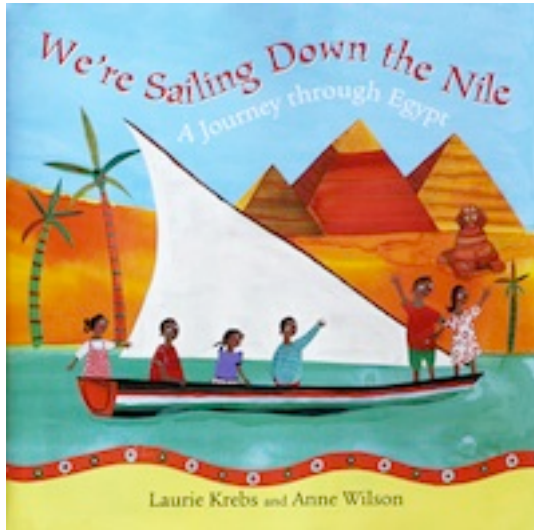
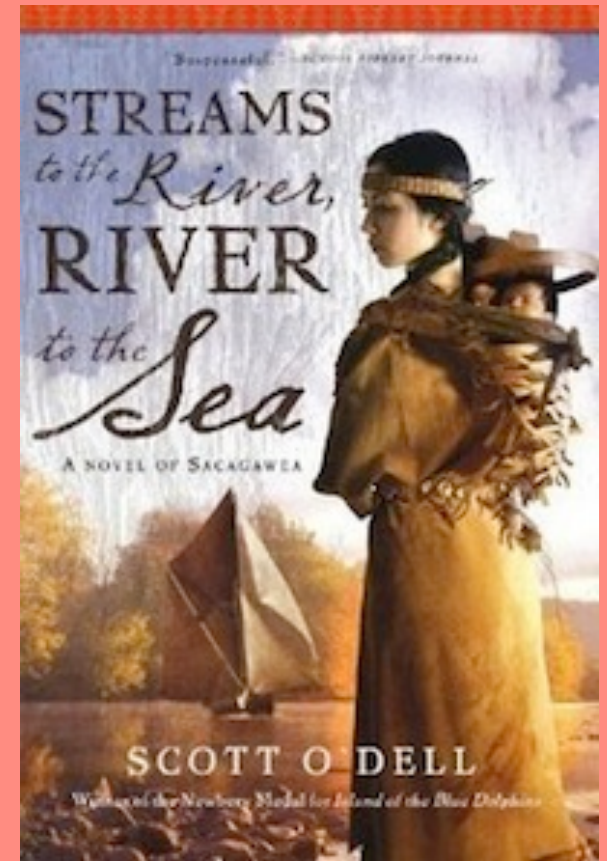
by Will Hobbs

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.

**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

Paddle- to-the-Sea

Holling Clancy Holling

PADDLE TO THE SEA

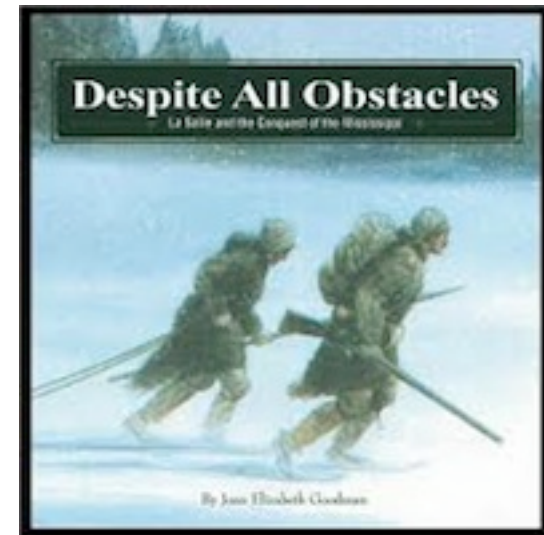
by HOLLING CLANCY HOLLING

This prize winning book follows the progress of a little wooden Indian in a canoe on its journey through all five Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River, finally arriving at the Atlantic Ocean.

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!



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.

Map of the Month

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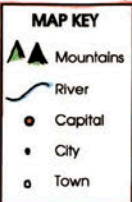
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Boundary Lines:
Why are they drawn differently?
A solid line shows a coast or shoreline.
Political boundaries between states
and countries are usually shown with
broken lines. A long line with three
slashes shows the border between the
USA (Alaska) and Canada and the USA
and Russia.

Vocabulary

Look up these words and
terms in a dictionary or
encyclopedia. They may
become part of your
discussions about the
geography, history,
native culture and
resources of Alaska.

Seward's Folly
Midnight Sun
Denali
Iditarod Trail
Eskimos
Aleuts
panhandle
strait
time zone
glacier
fiord
permafrost
tundra
bay
peninsula
basin
plateau
climate
hot springs
oil reserve
petroleum
fishery
mining
agriculture
forestry
statehood



Because of a lack of space, the full extension of the Aleutian Islands cannot be shown. Refer to a larger map to see how these islands extend to the west from the Alaska Peninsula into the Bering Sea.

Alaska: Largest State in the USA

Welcome to Alaska! Alaska is the state with the most land area in the United States. Located in the northwestern corner of North America, Alaska shares its eastern boundary with the country of Canada. The Arctic Ocean lies to the north, the Pacific Ocean to the south. The country of Russia is only fifty-one miles from Alaska to the west, across the Bering Strait.

TOPOGRAPHICAL REGIONS: Within Alaska there are four major areas with very different characteristics. Here is a description of them, from north to south.

Arctic Slope Area: North of the Brooks Mountain range, within the Arctic Circle. This area is barren and sparsely populated, extremely cold during the long sunless winter months. Vast oil and natural gas reserves are located beneath the surface of this region.

Brooks Mountain Range: Massive mountain range running west to east, just north of the Arctic Circle. These mountains divide the Arctic Slope area from the Central region.

Central Region: Flatter and lower than the two mountain ranges to the north and south. There are many hills and valleys, with forests, lakes and wetlands. Although very cold, parts of this region are well populated. The long Yukon River, flowing from Canada into the Bering Sea, divides this region.

Pacific Mountain Area: Mountainous southern area extends from the eastern panhandle to the western Aleutian Islands. There are high coastal mountains in the panhandle area. The Alaska Range at the center includes the highest point in North America, Mount McKinley. The lower Aleutian Range lies to the west, covering the Alaska Peninsula.

Cartographic Activities

This map shows the political boundaries and coastline of Alaska. Some details have already been drawn and labelled on the map. There are many more details that you, as a cartographer, can add. Refer to an atlas or encyclopedia. Use colored pencils and be as neat as possible.

- Coastline:** Shade a 1/4 inch to 1/2 inch strip of blue along the coastline, including the islands.
- Mountain Ranges:** The Alaska Range has already been drawn in and labelled. Draw and label these other mountains and ranges:
 - Brooks Range
 - Alutian Range (partial)
 - Alaska Range
 - Mount McKinley
 - Yukon River: Label, then shade this major river of Alaska with a blue pencil. Add other rivers.
 - Bodies of Water: Many seas, bays and inlets indent the coast of Alaska. Mark the following:
 - Beaufort Sea
 - Chukchi Sea
 - Kuskokwim Bay
 - Bering Sea
 - Gulf of Alaska
 - Cook Inlet
 - Prince William Sound
 - Kuskokwim Mountains
 - Mountains on panhandle
 - Norton Sound
 - Chukchi Sound
 - Kotzebue Sound
 - Bristol Bay
 - Shelikof Strait
 - Dixon Entrance
 - Cities: Dots on the map locate some of the major Alaskan cities. Locate and label the following:
 - Anchorage
 - Fairbanks
 - Valdez
 - Juneau
 - Kenai
 - Ketchikan
 - Sitka
 - Nome
 - Barrow
 - Seward
 - Kodiak
 - Alaskan Pipeline:** Oil flows through the Pipeline from Prudhoe Bay in the north to Valdez in the south. Using a red pencil, draw the path of the pipeline.

EARTHWORM SAYS:
THIS AREA IS
KNOWN AS
THE PANHANDLE

FORGET-ME-NOT
State flower

CANADA Neighbor to the North

Welcome to **Canada!** Canada is part of the North American continent. Canada shares its southern boundary with the country of the **United States of America**. Bodies of water surround most of the rest of Canada. To the east lies the **Atlantic Ocean** and other bays and waterways. To the north is the **Arctic Ocean** and to the west lies the **Pacific Ocean**.

Canada is divided into thirteen **provinces**. In April of 1999, the province called **Northwest Territories** was divided into two provinces. The eastern section is now known as **Nunavut**. The western section continues to be called **Northwest Territories**.

Canada has many different **land types**. There are mountains and high elevations throughout much of the country. There are many **islands**, as well as **lowlands** in the **Great Lakes** region. The **Great Plains** of the United States extend up into Canada to form an area of flat **prairie**. If you were to travel along the 4,800 miles of the **Trans-Canada Highway** you would see a broad range of these land types. This highway crosses ten different provinces, connecting St. John's in **Newfoundland** to the city of **Vancouver** in **British Columbia**.

In terms of **land area**, Canada is the second largest country in the world. Despite its large size, Canada has a **population** of only about 27,300,000 people, and most of these people live within 100 miles of the United States, leaving a large portion of Canada unpopulated.

Some words are highlighted.
Can you define these terms?

CARTOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES

By drawing physical features on this map, you'll begin to see the geography of Canada. See **Earthworm's Cartographic Tips** (at lower left) to help complete the map.

BORDERS
Label Canada's neighbors along their boundary lines:
United States
Alaska
Greenland

PROVINCES
Label the Canadian provinces:
Alberta
Quebec
British Columbia
New Brunswick
Newfoundland
Northwest Territories
Nova Scotia
Prince Edward Island
Saskatchewan
Yukon Territory
Nunavut

CAPITALS
Label the capital of each province marked on the map with the symbol in **Map Key**.
Edmonton
Victoria
Winnipeg
Fredericton
St. John's
Yellowknife
Halifax
Toronto
Quebec
Regina
Whitehorse
Charlottetown
Iqaluit
Ottawa (national)

CITIES
Label these other cities already marked on the map:
Calgary
Inuvik
Montreal
Prince Rupert
Chibougamau
Saskatoon
Add other cities and towns too.

BODIES OF WATER
Label these oceans and seas, and shade along coastlines:
Atlantic Ocean
Pacific Ocean
Bering Sea
Beaufort Sea
Labrador Sea

Hudson Bay
Baffin Bay
Ungava Bay
James Bay
Davis Strait
Bering Strait
Hudson Strait

LAKES
Label and shade these lakes:
Lake Winnipeg
Great Slave Lake
Great Bear Lake
Lake Athabasca
Lake Manitoba

Label and shade the Great Lakes:
Lake Huron
Lake Superior
Lake Erie
Lake Michigan
Lake Ontario

RIVERS
Label and shade these rivers:
Mackenzie River
St. Lawrence River
Ottawa River
Red River
Saskatchewan River
Fraser River
St. John River
Draw and label other rivers.

ISLANDS
Label these islands:
Vancouver Island
Victoria Island
Banks Islands
Ellesmere Island
Baffin Island
Cape Breton Island
Queen Charlotte Islands
Queen Elizabeth Islands

MOUNTAINS
Some of the Mackenzie Mountains are already drawn in on this map; complete this range and label, using symbol in **Map Key**.
Draw in and label these:
Rocky Mountains
Coast Mountains
Add other mountains, too.

DECORATION
To add a decorative touch to your map, color the following:
CANADA title
Earthworm (our mascot!)

TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY
Draw this highway in red.



Earthworm's Cartographic Tips

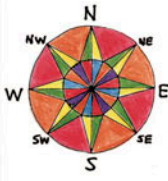
As Student Cartographer, you will be finishing this map of Canada. Here are some hints to help you along the way!

- Resources:** Refer to an atlas, encyclopedia or other books about Canada to help complete the map.
- Tools:** Colored pencils are better than crayons or markers when adding symbols and shading. Use a regular pencil with eraser for labeling place names.
- Lettering:** Different map features require different lettering. Use capital letters for large or important features like neighboring provinces, mountain ranges or capitals. Use lower case letters for city names and other geographic details like rivers, lakes, towns, etc. (the first letter should always be a capital letter).
- Symbols:** Small pictures or lines stand for different features on the map. For instance, a small triangle represents a mountain. Many triangles, grouped together, represent a mountain range. On this map, some of the Mackenzie Mountains have been drawn in as an example. See **Map Key** for symbols.
- Choosing Colors:** Colors help represent features of a map. Use blue for water. Use green for areas with vegetation, like forests or farmland. Brown and green together make mountains stand out.
- Shading:** This technique lends color without covering up details or lettering. After defining an area on the map, such as a mountain range, shade it in with a colored pencil that is not too sharp. Make short, light strokes. Shade along the coastlines with a narrow band of blue: 1/2 inch wide or less is enough. Shade over river lines and lakes.

Boundary Lines
A solid line shows a coast or shoreline. Political boundaries between provinces and countries are shown here with broken lines.

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NORTH AMERICA

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USA FEATURES
 Label states and outline the regions. Each state name has an abbreviation that you can use. You may want to label other details, such as state capitals, major cities, large lakes, etc.

- Northeastern states**
- CT Connecticut
 - DE Delaware
 - ME Maine
 - MD Maryland
 - MA Massachusetts
 - NH New Hampshire
 - NJ New Jersey
 - NY New York
 - PA Pennsylvania
 - RI Rhode Island
 - VT Vermont
 - (DC District of Columbia)

- Southeastern states**
- AL Alabama
 - FL Florida
 - GA Georgia
 - KY Kentucky
 - NC North Carolina
 - SC South Carolina
 - TN Tennessee
 - VA Virginia
 - WV West Virginia

- South Central states**
- AR Arkansas
 - LA Louisiana
 - MS Mississippi
 - OK Oklahoma
 - TX Texas

- Midwestern states**
- KS Kansas
 - MN Minnesota
 - IA Iowa
 - MO Missouri
 - IL Illinois
 - WI Wisconsin
 - MI Michigan
 - OH Ohio
 - IN Indiana
 - ND North Dakota
 - SD South Dakota
 - NE Nebraska

- Northwestern states**
- AK Alaska
 - ID Idaho
 - MT Montana
 - OR Oregon
 - WA Washington
 - WY Wyoming

- Southwestern states**
- AZ Arizona
 - CA California
 - CO Colorado
 - NV Nevada
 - NM New Mexico
 - UT Utah

- Pacific state**
- HI Hawaii



North America is the third largest continent in terms of land area. It is located in the northern and western hemispheres. The Atlantic Ocean lies to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west. To the north is the Arctic Ocean. The Caribbean Sea is to the southeast.

North America has three large countries: Canada, the United States and Mexico. In addition, the area known as Central America is made up of seven smaller countries. There are many small islands in the Caribbean; some are independent countries, others are territories of the US or European countries. The largest island in the world, Greenland, is a territory of the Scandinavian country of Denmark. Most geographers agree that the most southern point of the North American continent occurs at the isthmus of Panama.

Within this continent, the climate varies from the northern arctic regions to the deserts of the American Southwest to the tropical areas of the American Southeast and the Caribbean.

There are many notable geographic features in North America. Many mountain ranges extend along the western areas from Alaska to Panama. In the east, the land tends to be lower in elevation. Here the most significant ranges are part of the Appalachian Mountains. There are also highlands in Labrador and the Baffin Islands.

There are many large lakes and rivers in North America. The most obvious on the map are the Great Lakes, which are clustered around the northern border of the United States.

ACTIVITIES
 Label the physical and political features of North America.
 Color the countries, states and provinces with different colors.
 Color the bodies of water, including the oceans, a light blue.

- COUNTRIES and TERRITORIES**
- CANADA
 - USA
 - MEXICO
 - BELIZE
 - GUATEMALA
 - EL SALVADOR
 - HONDURAS
 - NICARAGUA
 - COSTA RICA
 - PANAMA
 - BAHAMAS
 - CUBA
 - JAMAICA
 - HAITI
 - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
 - PUERTO RICO
 - GREENLAND
- The following islands are so small it may not be easy to label them!
 Try your best!
- VIRGIN ISLANDS
 - ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
 - GUADALUPE
 - MARTINIQUE
 - MONTSERRAT
 - DOMINICA
 - ST. LUCIA
 - BARBADOS
 - ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
 - GRENADA
 - TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
 - ARUBA
 - NETHERLANDS ANTILLES
 - ST. KITTS AND NEVIS

- BODIES OF WATER**
- Arctic Ocean
 - Atlantic Ocean
 - Pacific Ocean
 - Gulf of Mexico
 - Hudson Bay
 - Labrador Sea
 - Baffin Bay
 - Beaufort Sea
 - Gulf of Alaska
 - Caribbean Sea
 - Gulf of California

- Lakes**
- Lake Huron
 - Lake Ontario
 - Lake Michigan
 - Lake Erie
 - Lake Superior
 - Great Bear Lake
 - Great Slave Lake
 - Lake Winnipeg

- Rivers**
 Draw in and label these major rivers:
 many run along state boundaries.
- Ohio River
 - Mississippi River
 - Missouri River
 - Yukon River

MOUNTAINS
 Using the triangular symbol shown here, draw in and label these major ranges.

- CANADIAN PROVINCES**
 Label these provinces.
- Prince Edward Island
 - New Brunswick
 - Newfoundland and Labrador
 - Quebec
 - Ontario
 - Manitoba
 - Nunavut
 - Northwest Territories
 - Yukon Territory
 - British Columbia
 - Alberta
 - Saskatchewan
 - Nova Scotia

MAP KEY

- Capital
- City
- ▲▲▲ Mountains
- River (blue)
- ☉ Desert



Every state has official symbols, such as a state bird or state tree. Research the symbols for your state and draw them here.

DECORATIVE FEATURES
 Color the Compass Rose and the Title.