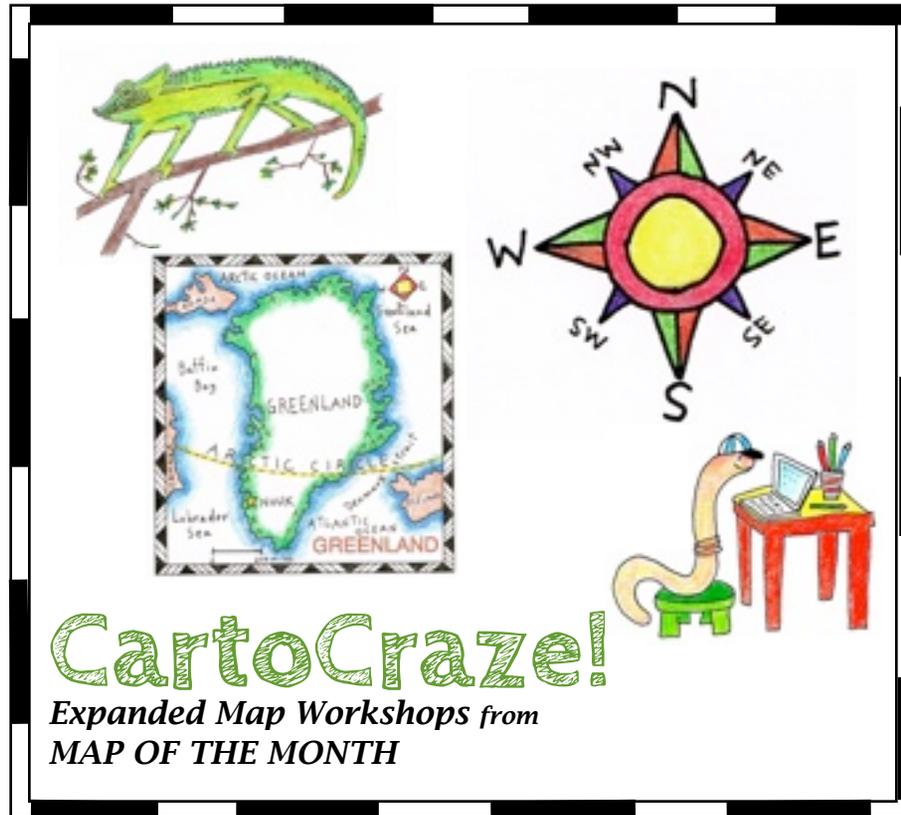


MISSISSIPPI RIVER



CartoCraze!

Expanded Map Workshops

This PDF file of the MISSISSIPPI RIVER is

© Copyright 2015, Map of the Month

P. O. Box 2484

Providence, RI 02906

888 876 6277

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.

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

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

The Mississippi River is the second longest river in North America by length and measures roughly 2,300 miles in length. The headwaters are at Lake Itaska in north central Minnesota. This major river of North America passes by or through ten different states as it flows to the south. It empties into the Gulf of Mexico.

Over the last 7,000 years, a large delta was formed where the Mississippi River meets the Gulf of Mexico. This delta formed when the river carried sediment (clay, sand and silt) along its length. Even today, as the Mississippi reaches the Gulf of Mexico, the river drops sediment along the banks. When the river meets the Gulf, which has less movement, the sediment drops and gradually forms barriers that rise in shape and size.

Over a long period of time, the river diverted to avoid these sediment barriers. When the river breaks into separate strands at the delta they are called distributaries. This makes what is called a "bird-foot" shaped triangular area of wetlands and marshes. This land is often unstable and can shift easily with storms or further movement of the river itself.



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



Professor Earthworm



Map:
DEMIS Mapserver,
[Wikipedia](#)
[Commons](#)



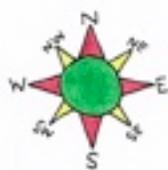
ON
THE
MAP!

This map shows the WATERSHED of the Mississippi River. All of these adjacent rivers to the Mississippi are TRIBUTARIES. Each river in the watershed has its own source and drains into the Mississippi River.



This old map is from the era of exploration. It was made in the year 1718 by the French mapmaker Guillaume de L'Isle who lived in Paris.

It is interesting to see an old map that was not as accurate as maps we use today. The outlines of the coastline of the land and the path of the Mississippi River was a depiction of what explorers knew at the time.



HOW THEY SAW IT!



His feathers are so colorful and shiny!

WOOD DUCK

The coloration of the Wood Duck makes it one of the most striking of the waterfowl in North America. These ducks can be found along the Mississippi River. The Wood Duck has iridescent green, blue and red plumage that creates its distinctive look. They are also unique because, unlike other ducks, they perch on tree limbs and are comfortable flying in and around wooded areas. They even build nests in tree cavities, setting them apart from other kinds of ducks. They are omnivorous, and feed mostly on aquatic organisms, including leeches, crayfish, lilies and algae. When food is not available in the water, they will take to dry land to eat seeds and plants.

They are timid creatures and have a large number of predators, so they choose to stay hidden most of the day. They find cover in and among many varieties of water plants and shrubs.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER



MISSISSIPPI 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 WOOD DUCK

SPELLING WORDS

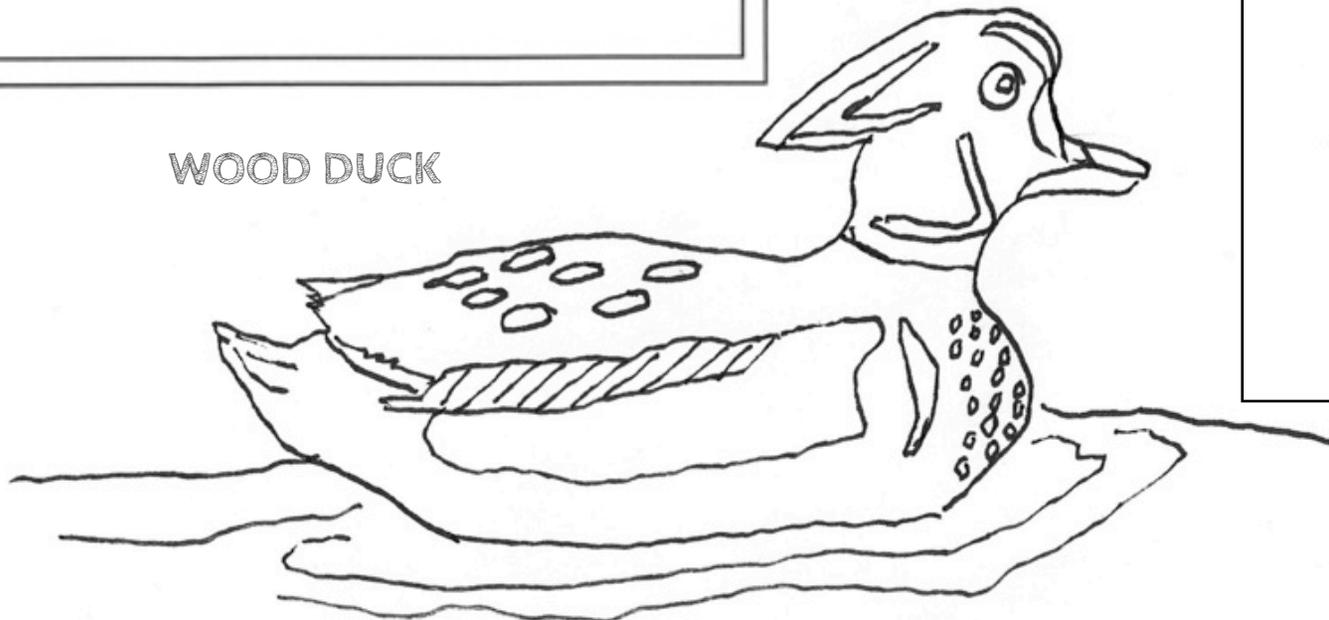
colorful
waterfowl
population
incubate
brood
habitat

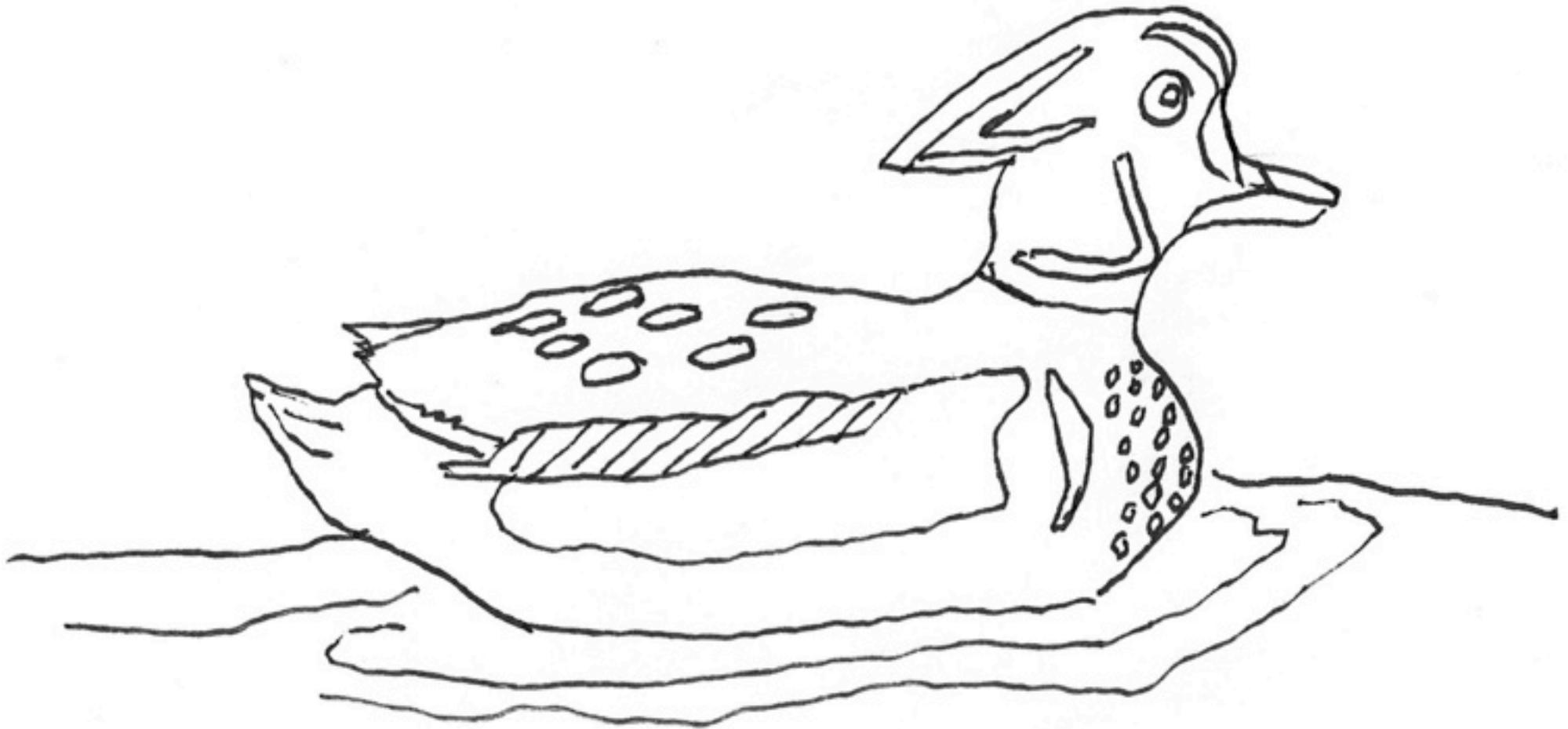
VOCABULARY WORDS

Turn your map over and
define these words!

omnivore
plumage
iridescent
migratory
nest
crested
wetland

WOOD DUCK





THE WOOD DUCK

STEAMBOATS ON THE MISSISSIPPI

Photo: Library of Congress

Steamboats were designed for inland use on rivers. In the 19th and into the 20th century many went both upstream and downstream on the Mississippi.

People rode the boats to get to places along the river. Material goods were shipped as well. When trains started to be established, these river boats became less important. Trains went in many directions that the river boats did not go!

This old photo from 1906 shows two steamboats in Memphis, Tennessee. You can see that there was no formal dock in place. Boats were able to pull into shallow water and ramps were put in place for loading and unloading of people and goods.



Do some research..... and write an essay by answering these questions:
These old river boats were powered by steam: how did steam make the boats move?
What were the positive elements and what were the drawbacks of river boats?
What major cities on the Mississippi were ports for steam boats?





This painting depicts a famous race in 1870 on the Mississippi River.

Samuel Clemens was the author of many books, including **TOM SAWYER** and **HUCKLEBERRY FINN**. He used a navigational term, **MARK TWAIN**, as his pen name. He had been a steamboat pilot and said this about his years on the boats:

"I am so indolent, & all forms of study are so hateful to me, that although I was several years constantly on steamboats, I never learned all the parts of the steamboat. Names of parts were in my ear daily whose office & locality I was ignorant of, & I never inquired the meaning of those names. For instance, I think I never saw the day that I could describe the marks on a lead line. I never knew what "in the run" meant--I couldn't find the run in a boat to-day, & be sure I was right."

From Notebook #20, reprinted in *Mark Twains Notebooks & Journals, Vol. II (1877-1883)*

A paddle steamboat from 1850.



STEAM AND PADDLES!

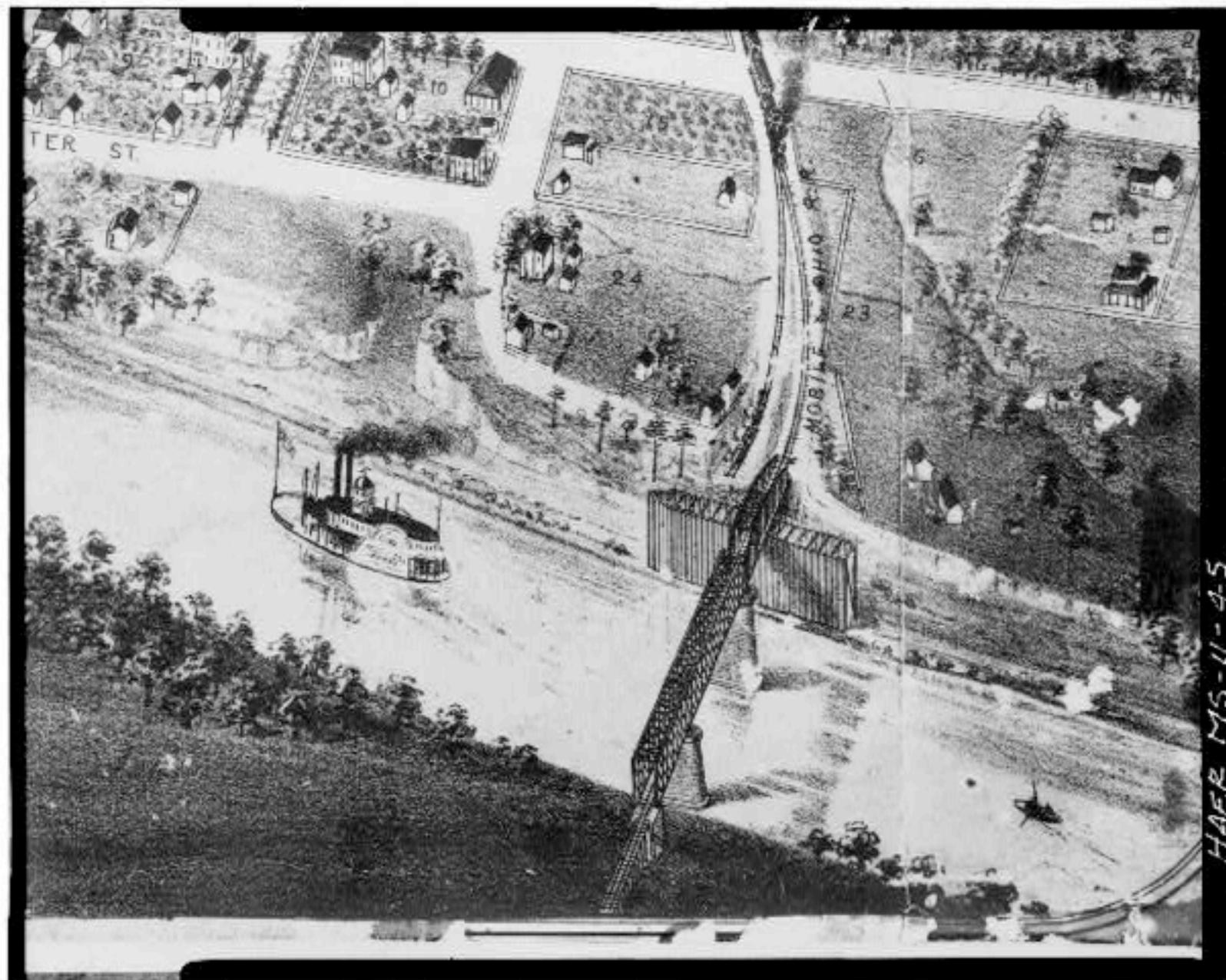
Inspired by the quote at right, can you learn what Mark Twain admits he never did? Make a list of the parts of a steamboat! Draw a picture of a steamboat and label its parts! Here are a couple of terms to start you off:



Smokestacks
Pilothouse

RIVER MEETS RAILROAD!

This old image from the Library of Congress shows a time when the railroads and riverboats were working at the same time.



In the mid-1870s, the elevated M&O Railroad Bridge was built in Columbus, Mississippi, across the Mississippi River.

As you can see, the bridge had to be built high enough for a steamboat to pass underneath.



Crawfish Crayfish Crawdads Mudbugs!

A favorite food of the Mississippi delta area, especially in Louisiana, is a small crustacean that takes many different names!

This small lobster-like creature is used steamed or used for soups and stews. Most of the edible part of the crawfish is in the tail.

Crawfish are also used for bait and sometimes kept as pets!



What are some other food favorites of the Mississippi River delta area?
What are CAJUN foods?

Photo: Giovanni Handal, Wikipedia Commons

A crawfish grows to an average length of 6 to 7 inches.

The shell of a crawfish changes color when cooked.



THE FOLLOWING TEN MAPS SHOW THOSE STATE THAT ARE CALLED

“THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER STATES.”



STUDY EACH OF THE FOLLOWING STATE MAPS
AND SEE WHERE THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER
FLOWS IN RELATION TO EACH OF THEM.

WHERE IS THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER A
BOUNDARY BETWEEN STATES?

IS THE RIVER NEAR THE CAPITAL
OF ANY OF THE STATES?

WHAT OTHER RIVERS AND TRIBUTARIES
MEET THE MISSISSIPPI IN EACH STATE?



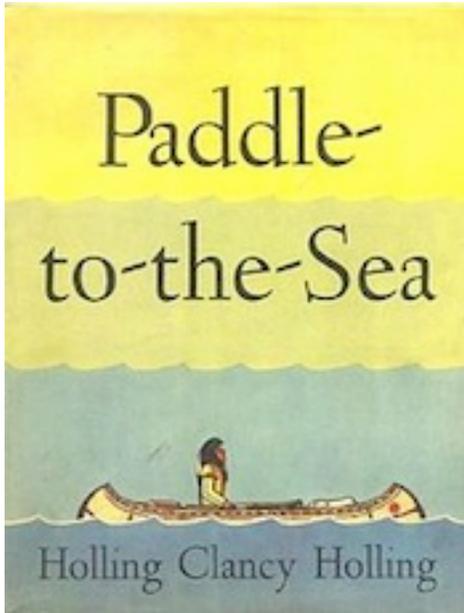
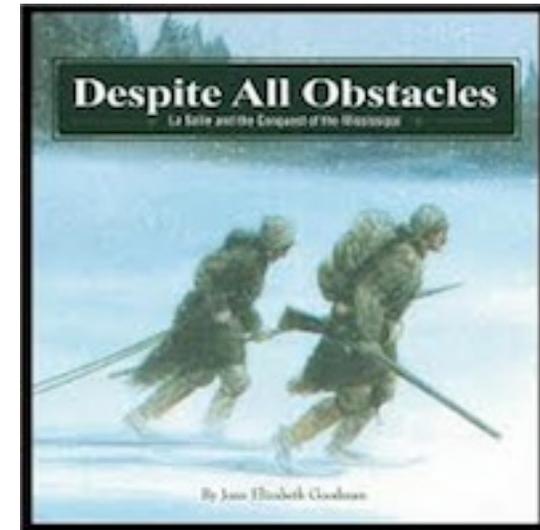
RIVER READING!

BOOKS ABOUT RIVER EXPEDITIONS ARE INSPIRING!

DESPITE ALL OBSTACLES: LASALLE AND THE CONQUEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI

by Joan Elizabeth Goodman

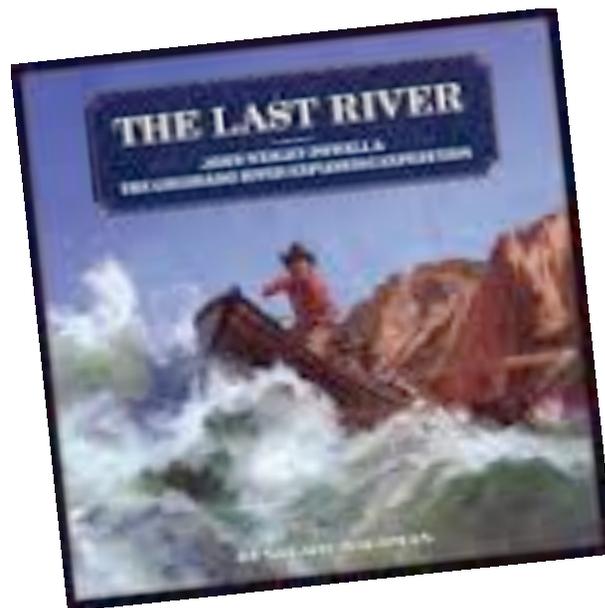
La Salle made his way from Eastern Canada to the Great Lakes traveling by canoe down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico. This vast unexplored wilderness was controlled by the fierce Iroquois. Through one setback after another, La Salle kept on going. Part adventure, part biography, this book is the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



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.



THE LAST RIVER: JOHN WESLEY POWELL & THE COLORADO RIVER EXPLORING EXPEDITION

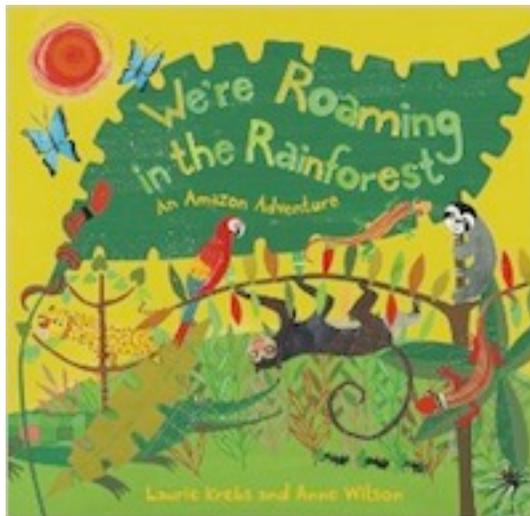
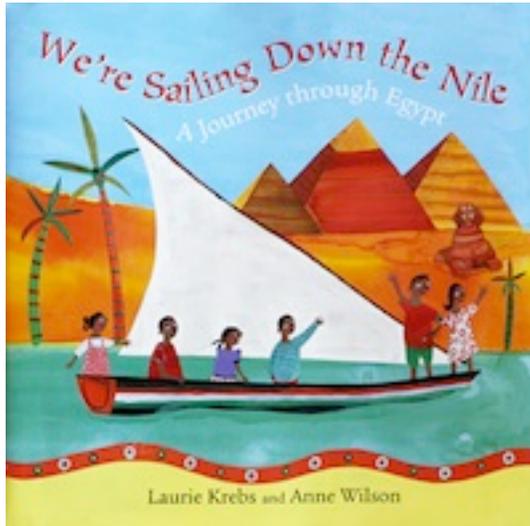
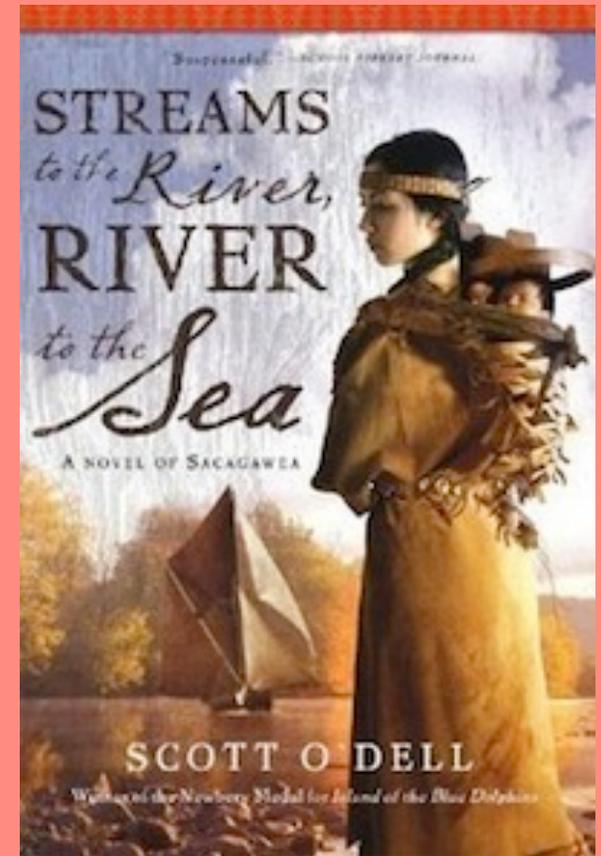
by Stuart Waldman

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

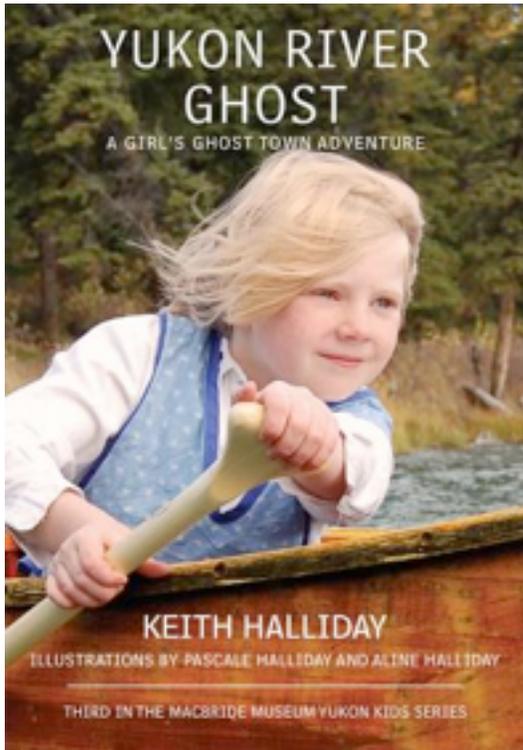
A young Indian woman,
accompanied by her infant and cruel
husband,
experiences joy and
heartbreak when she
joins the Lewis and
Clark Expedition
seeking a way to the
Pacific



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

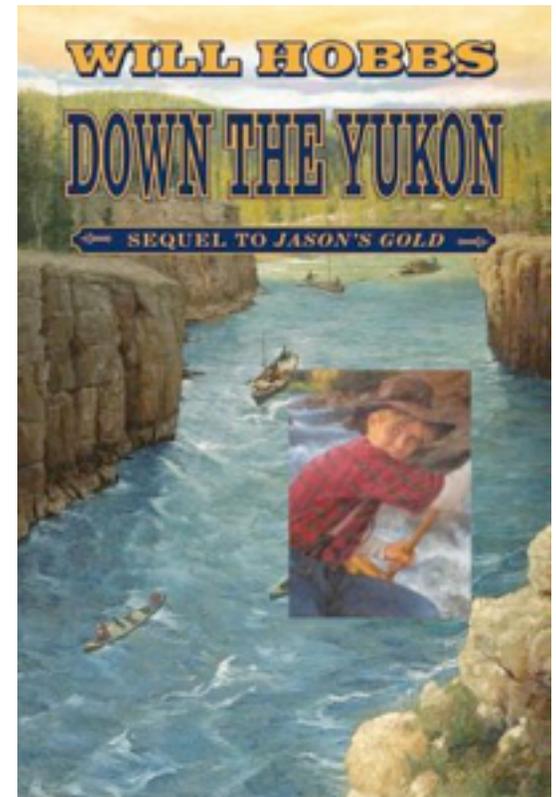
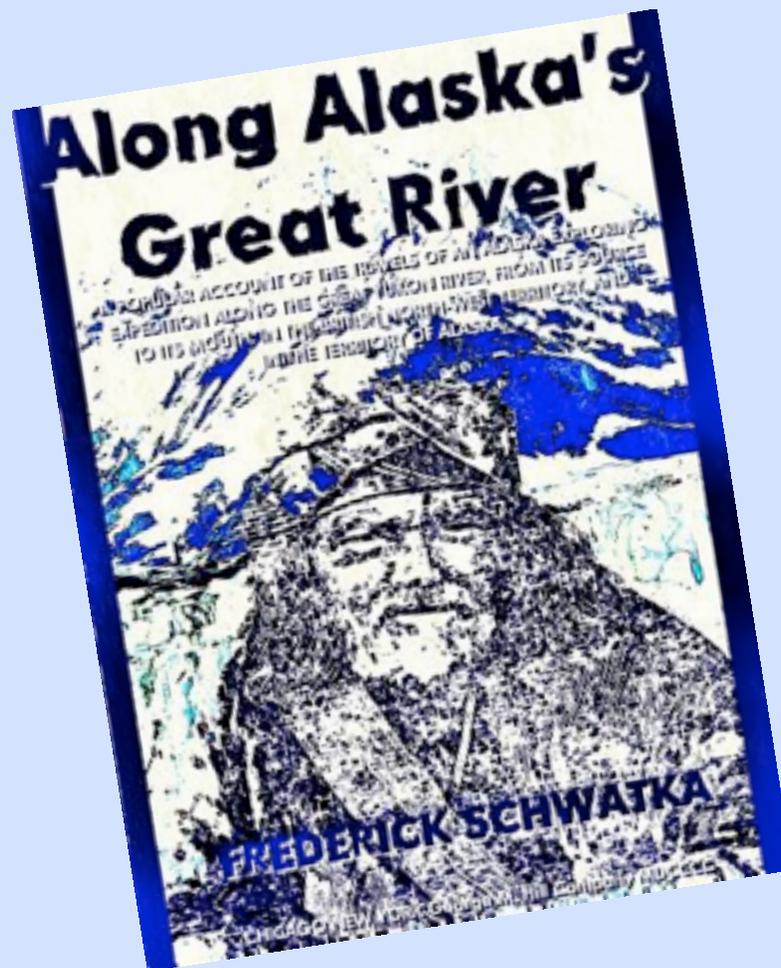
An idyllic Yukon River trip turns into a mysterious adventure as the kids discover a gold rush ghost town that seems to have a ghost!

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.

MINNESOTA

Land of Ten Thousand Lakes

Some words are highlighted.
Can you define these words?

Boundary Lines:
Why are they drawn differently?
A solid line shows a coast. Political boundaries between states and countries are often shown with broken lines. On this map, a line with two dashes shows state boundaries. A line with three dashes divides the USA and Canada.

MAP KEY

- Capital
- City
- Town
- River
- National Forest
- Mountains
- Hills
- Highway
- Railroad
- Airport
- Swamp
- Indian Reservation (outline)

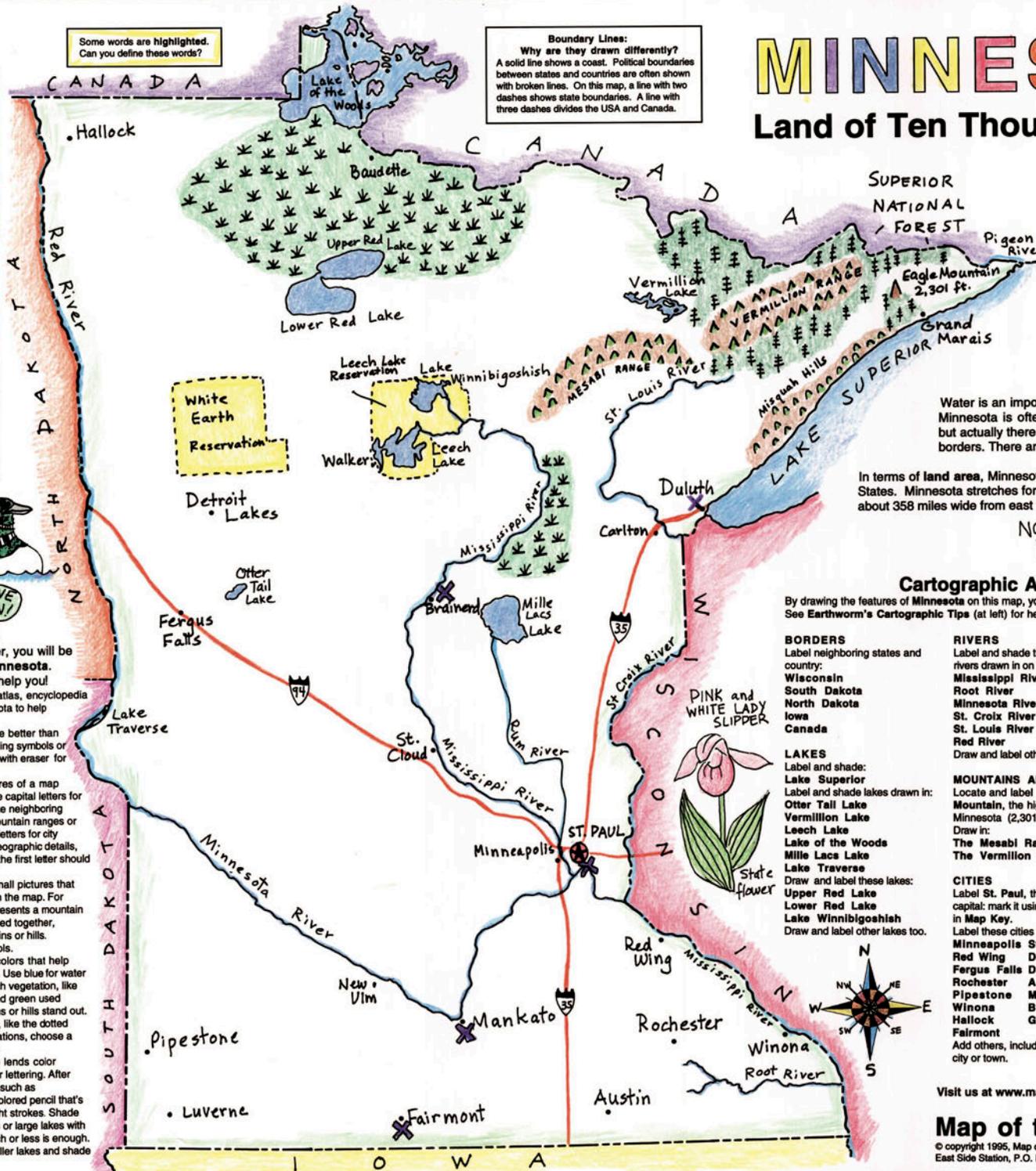
State Bird
COMMON LOON



Earthworm's Cartographic Tips

As Student Cartographer, you will be finishing this map of **Minnesota**. Here are some hints to help you!

- Resources:** Refer to an atlas, encyclopedia or other books about Minnesota to help complete the map.
- Tools:** Colored pencils are better than crayons or markers when adding symbols or shading. Use a regular pencil with eraser for place names.
- Lettering:** Different features of a map require different lettering. Use capital letters for large or important features like neighboring countries, states, oceans, mountain ranges or state capital. Use lower case letters for city names and less prominent geographic details, like rivers lakes, towns, etc. (the first letter should always be a capital letter).
- Symbols:** Symbols are small pictures that stand for different features on the map. For instance, a small triangle represents a mountain or hill. Many triangles, grouped together, represent a range of mountains or hills. See the **Map Key** for symbols.
- Choosing colors:** Use colors that help represent features of a map. Use blue for water and green for areas with much vegetation, like forests or swamps. Brown and green used together help make mountains or hills stand out. To highlight important areas, like the dotted lines outlining Indian Reservations, choose a bold color like red or orange.
- Shading:** This technique lends color without covering up details or lettering. After defining an area on the map, such as swampland, shade it with a colored pencil that's not too sharp. Make short light strokes. Shade along the coastline of oceans or large lakes with a narrow band of blue: 1/2 inch or less is enough. Completely shade in the smaller lakes and shade over river lines.



Welcome to **Minnesota!** The state of Minnesota is located in the **North Central region** of the **continental United States**. Minnesota is bordered to the north by the country of **Canada**, to the east by the state of **Wisconsin** and **Lake Superior**. To the west are the states of **South Dakota** and **North Dakota**. Minnesota shares its southern boundary with the state of **Iowa**.

Water is an important feature of Minnesota's **topography**. Minnesota is often called the **Land of 10,000 Lakes**, but actually there are more than 15,000 lakes within its borders. There are also many rivers and streams.

In terms of **land area**, Minnesota is the **twelfth largest state** in the United States. Minnesota stretches for about 406 miles from north to south and about 358 miles wide from east to west, at its widest point.



Cartographic Activities

By drawing the features of **Minnesota** on this map, you will begin to see the geography of the state. See **Earthworm's Cartographic Tips** (at left) for help in completing this map.

BORDERS
Label neighboring states and country:
Wisconsin
South Dakota
North Dakota
Iowa
Canada

LAKES
Label and shade:
Lake Superior
Label and shade lakes drawn in:
Otter Tail Lake
Vermillion Lake
Leech Lake
Lake of the Woods
Mille Lacs Lake
Lake Traverse
Draw and label these lakes:
Upper Red Lake
Lower Red Lake
Lake Winnibigoshish
Draw and label other lakes too.

RIVERS
Label and shade these large rivers drawn in on the map:
Mississippi River
Root River
Minnesota River
St. Croix River
St. Louis River
Red River
Draw and label other rivers.

MOUNTAINS AND HILLS
Locate and label **Eagle Mountain**, the highest point in Minnesota (2,301 ft.).
Draw in:
The **Mesabi Range**
The **Vermillion Range**

CITIES
Label **St. Paul**, the state capital; mark it using the symbol in **Map Key**.
Label these cities on the map:
Minneapolis
St. Cloud
Red Wing
Detroit Lakes
Fergus Falls
Duluth
Rochester
Austin
Pipestone
Mankato
Winona
Hallock
Brainerd
Grand Marais
Fairmont
Add others, including your own city or town.

SWAMPLAND
Using the **Map Key** symbol, draw the swamp areas in the northern part of the state.

FOREST
Using the **Map Key** symbol, locate and draw:
Superior National Forest

INDIAN RESERVATIONS
Using the line in the **Map Key**, draw the boundaries for:
White Earth Reservation
Leech Lake Reservation

INFRASTRUCTURE
Some man-made physical structures such as airports, railroads and highways can be added to the map. See **Map Key** for symbols.

DECORATION
To add a decorative touch to your map, color the following:
MINNESOTA title
Earthworm (our mascot)
Border (around map)
Compass Rose: mark north, south, east and west.

Visit us at www.mapofthemoth.com

Map of the Month

© copyright 1995, Map of the Month
East Side Station, P.O. Box 2484, Providence, RI 02906-0484

WISCONSIN

The Badger State

CARTOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES

By drawing physical features on this map, you'll begin to see the geography of the state of Wisconsin.

See **Earthworm's Cartographic Tips** (at right) to help complete the map.

STATE BORDERS

Label the neighboring states along their boundary lines:

Minnesota Iowa
Illinois Michigan

BODIES OF WATER

Label and shade coastlines:

Lake Superior
Lake Michigan
Green Bay

Label and shade these lakes:

Lake Winnebago
Lake Poygan
Castle Rock Lake
Petenwell Lake
Lake Wisconsin
Mohawksin Lake
Big Eau Pleine Reservoir

Shade and label along these rivers:

Wisconsin River
Fox River
Mississippi River
St. Croix River
Chippewa River
Black River

Draw in, shade and label other rivers.

CITIES

Using the symbol in the **Map Key**, mark and label **Madison**, the capital.

Label these cities marked on the map:

Superior Ashland
Rice Lake Eau Claire
Marshfield Wausau
Rhineland Black River Falls
Janesville Racine
Beloit Oakshosh
Two Rivers Green Bay
Sheboygan Viroqua
Platteville Sturgeon Bay

Add others, including your city or town.

HIGH ELEVATIONS

Locate, draw and label **Tim's Hill**, using the symbol in the **Map Key**. This highest point in Wisconsin: 1,953 feet above sea level.

Locate **Rib Mountain**: using the mountain symbol, draw and label it.

FORESTS

With a dotted line, outline the areas of the following forests. Use the symbol in the **Map Key** to fill in, then shade with green:

Nicolet National Forest
Chequamegon National Forest

INFRASTRUCTURE

Add some man-made physical structures such as airports, railroads and highways. See **Map Key** for symbols.

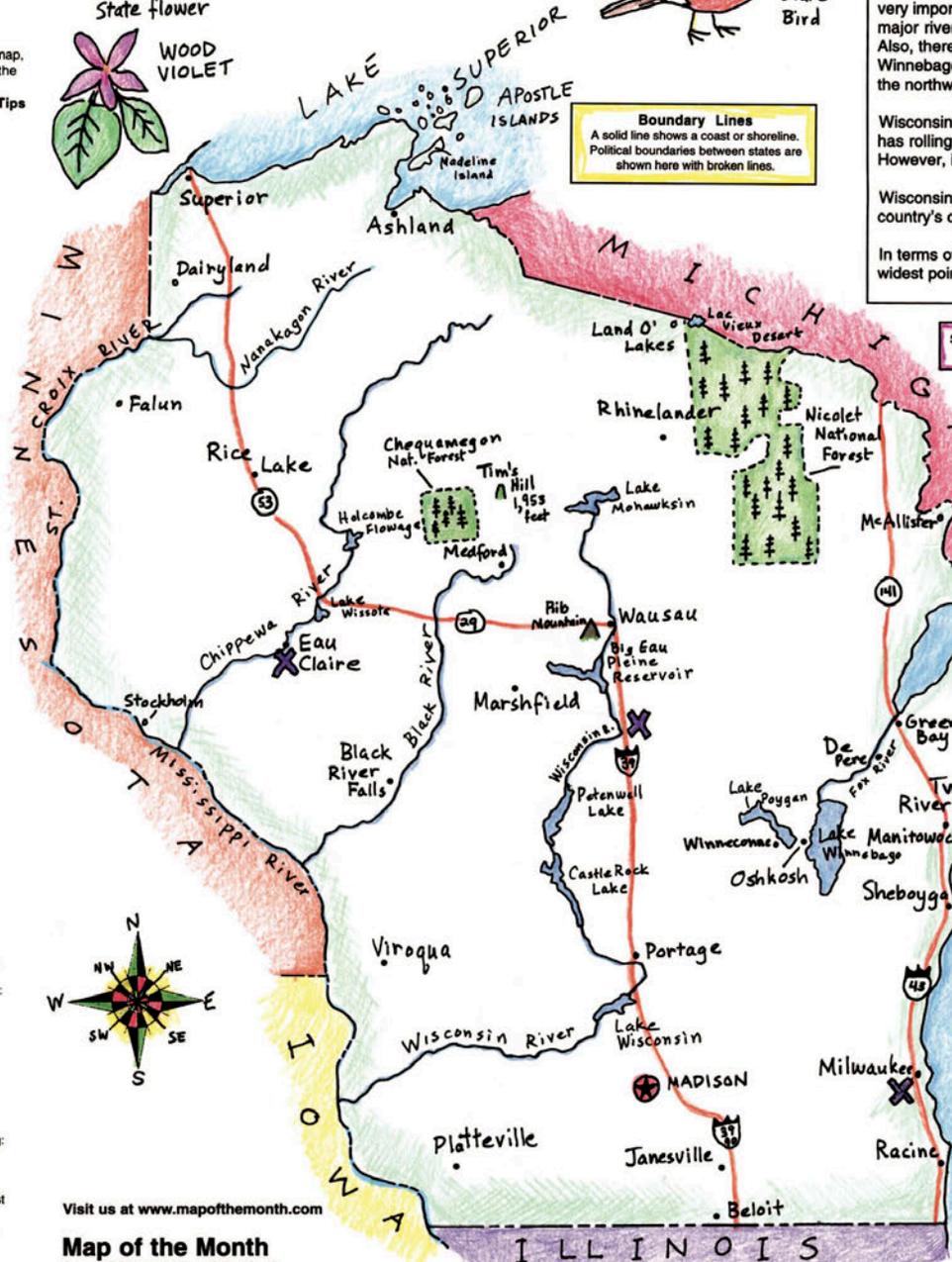
DECORATION

For a decorative touch, color the following:

WISCONSIN title
Earthworm (our mascot!)
Border (around map)
Compass Rose: mark north, south, east and west.

If you can find room on your finished map, draw and color the following:

State bird: Robin
State flower: Wood Violet



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

Some words are highlighted.
Can you define these terms?

MAP KEY	
	Mountain
	Hill
	River
	Capital
	City
	Town
	Forest
	Highway
	Railroad
	Airport

After the most recent 1990 census, Wisconsin was home to almost 5 million people. When the results of the 2000 census become available, check to see if the population has increased or decreased.



Earthworm's Cartographic Tips

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

- Resources: Refer to an atlas, encyclopedia or other books about Wisconsin 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 states, mountain ranges or state capital. 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: Symbols are small pictures or lines that stand for different features on the map. For instance, a star within a circle is used to show a capital. A small triangle can represent a mountain. Many triangles, grouped together, represent a mountain range. See **Map Key** for other symbols.
- Choosing Colors: Colors help represent features of a map. Use blue for water. Use green for areas with vegetation, like forests or farmland.
- 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. Use 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.

Visit us at www.mapofthemoth.com

Map of the Month
© copyright 2000, Map of the Month,
East Side Station, P.O. Box 2484
Providence, RI 02906-0484

Welcome to **Wisconsin!** The state of Wisconsin is located in the **Midwestern** region of the **United States of America**. It is sometimes called one of the **Great Lakes States**. Wisconsin meets the waters of two of the Great Lakes: Lake Superior to the north and Lake Michigan to the east. Wisconsin is bordered by the states of Minnesota and Iowa in the west. To the northeast, Wisconsin shares a **boundary** with the state of Michigan. The state of Illinois lies to the south.

The name Wisconsin is from an Indian word meaning "gathering of the waters"—and water is a very important feature of the state. First of all, much of the state is surrounded by water. Two major rivers outline the state in the west: the **Mississippi River** and the **St Croix River**. Also, there are over eight thousand lakes in the states and ten thousand streams. Lake Winnebago is the state's largest lake. Of the hundreds of waterfalls, the highest (165 feet) is in the northwest of the state: the Big Manitou Falls in Pattison State Park.

Wisconsin is a state of moderate elevation compared to the other fifty states. Much of the land has rolling hills and gentle valleys. There are many small lakes, with large areas of swampland. However, in contrast, the southwestern part of the state has rocky, rugged terrain.

Wisconsin is known as America's Dairyland because its millions of cows provide much of the country's cheese and milk. It is also known for industry, farming, and brewing.

In terms of **land area**, Wisconsin is the twenty-sixth largest state in the United States. At its widest points, the state is almost 295 miles from east to west, and 320 miles from north to south.

IOWA The Hawkeye State

Welcome to Iowa! The state of Iowa is located in the **central area** or **Plains region** of the **United States of America**. Iowa is the only state bordered by two rivers that are **navigable**: the Mississippi and the Missouri Rivers. The Mississippi River forms the entire length of the eastern Iowa **border**. The Missouri River lies to the west, and meets the Big Sioux River at Sioux City. Together they form the western **boundary** of the state. Six different states surround Iowa. Wisconsin and Illinois lie to the east. Minnesota forms most of the boundary to the north. To the west, Iowa is neighbor to South Dakota and Nebraska. In the south, Missouri meets Iowa along the boundary line.

The **topography** of Iowa varies very little across the state. The land is fairly flat, but the state slopes slightly from the highest point in the northwest of the state to the lowest area in the southwest of the state. Iowa's land is very **fertile**. A rich **topsoil** mixture was left after the **glaciers** of the **Pleistocene Age**. In the following centuries the land was covered with native grasses. Today, ninety percent of Iowa is farmland. The state produces four major **commodities**: corn, soybeans, cattle and hogs.

Iowa is also known as the **Corn State**. In terms of **land area**, Iowa is the twenty-fifth largest state in the United States. At its widest point from east to west, Iowa is 332 miles wide. After the most recent 1990 **census**, Iowa had a **population** of almost three million people.

Some words are highlighted. Can you define these terms?



MAP KEY

- River
- Capital
- City
- Town
- Forest
- Highest Elevation
- Highway
- Railroad
- Airport

Earthworm's Cartographic Tips
As Student Cartographer, you will be finishing this map of Iowa. Here are some hints to help you along the way!

- Resources:** Refer to an atlas, encyclopedia or other books about Iowa 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 states, mountain ranges or state capital. 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:** Symbols are small pictures or lines that stand for different features on the map. For instance, a star within a circle is used to represent the capital of a state. A small triangle represents a mountain. Many triangles, grouped together, represent a mountain range. See **Map Key** for other symbols.
- Choosing Colors:** Colors help represent features of a map. Use blue for water, like rivers and lakes. Use green for areas with vegetation, like forests or farmland.
- Shading:** This technique lends color without covering up details or lettering. After defining an area on the map, such as a forest, shade it in with a colored pencil. Use 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.



State tree
Oak

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

BORDERS
Label the neighboring states along their boundary lines:

Minnesota	South Dakota
Nebraska	Missouri
Illinois	Wisconsin

BODIES OF WATER
Label and shade:

- Storm Lake
- Lake Panorama
- Lake Icaria
- Rathbun Lake
- Red Rock Reservoir
- Clear Lake
- Spirit Lake

Shade and label these rivers that form the natural boundaries of Iowa:

- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Big Sioux

Shade and label these rivers:

- Des Moines
- Cedar
- Little Sioux

Iowa Boyer Thompson
Draw in and label other lakes and rivers.

HIGHEST ELEVATION
Locate the **Ocheyedan Mound** already drawn in on the map in the northwest corner of the state, in **Osceola County**. See the symbol in the **Map Key**. Label this point as the highest elevation in Iowa, 1,670 feet above sea level.

CITIES
Using the symbol in the **Map Key**, mark and label **Des Moines**, the capital of Iowa. Label these other cities marked on the map:

Cedar Rapids	Waterloo
Council Bluffs	Fort Dodge
Sioux City	Mason City
Estherville	Newton
Davenport	Ottumwa
Muscatine	Burlington
Charles City	Spencer
Storm Lake	Winterset
Sheldon	Harlan

Add others, including your own city or town.

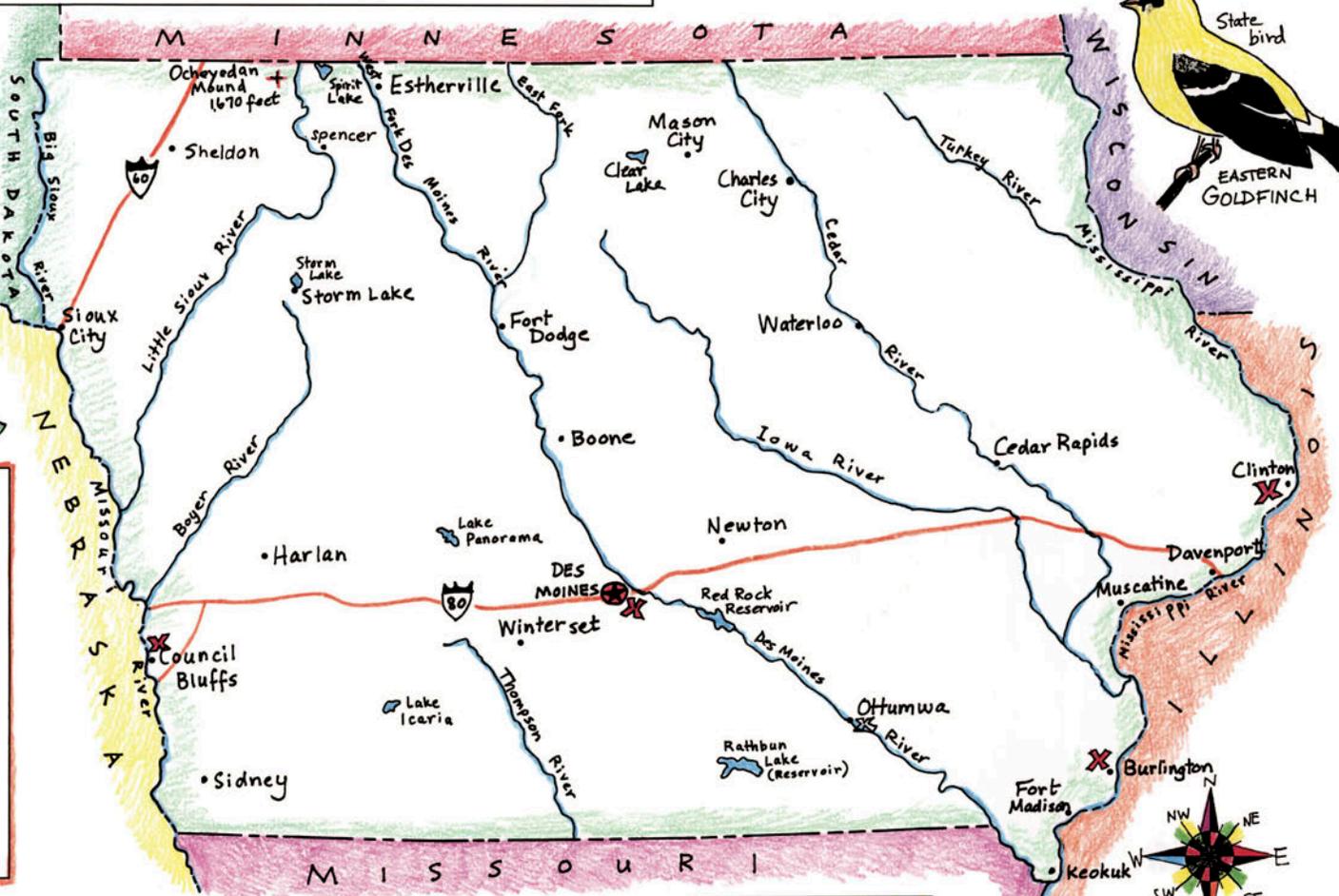
DECORATION
To add a decorative touch to your map, color the following:

- IOWA title
- Earthworm (our mascot)
- Border (around map)
- Compass Rose: mark north, south, east and west.

Find a spot on your finished map to draw in:

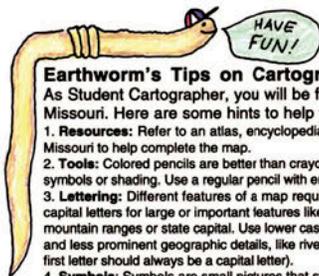
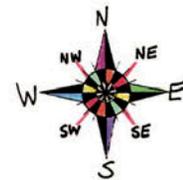
- State bird: Eastern Goldfinch
- State flower: Wild Rose

INFRASTRUCTURE
Some man-made physical structures such as airports, railroads and highways can be added to the map. See **Map Key** for symbols.



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

Some words are highlighted.
Can you define these words?



Earthworm's Tips on Cartography

- As Student Cartographer, you will be finishing this map of Missouri. Here are some hints to help you along the way!
- Resources:** Refer to an atlas, encyclopedia or other books about Missouri to help complete the map.
 - Tools:** Colored pencils are better than crayons or markers for symbols or shading. Use a regular pencil with eraser for place names.
 - Lettering:** Different features of a map require different lettering. Use capital letters for large or important features like neighboring states, mountain ranges or state capital. Use lower case letters for city names and less prominent geographic details, like rivers, lakes, towns, etc. (the first letter should always be a capital letter).
 - Symbols:** Symbols are small pictures that stand for different features on the map. For instance, a small triangle represents a mountain. For example, Taum Sauk Mountain is drawn in on the map. See the Map Key for additional symbols.
 - Choosing colors:** Use colors that help represent features of a map. Use blue for water. Use green for areas with much vegetation, like forests, farmland or swamps. Brown and green used together help 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 with a colored pencil that's not too sharp. Make short light strokes. With blue, shade the lakes and shade over the river lines.

Cartographic Activities

By drawing the features of Missouri on this map, you'll begin to see the geography of the state. See *Earthworm's Cartographic Tips* (above) for helpful hints.

BORDERS

Label the neighboring states:
Iowa Arkansas
Illinois Kentucky
Tennessee Oklahoma
Kansas Nebraska

RIVERS

Shade the Mississippi River, a boundary with neighboring states. Shade and label these other large rivers:
Missouri River
Osage River
Black River
Grand River
Current River
Draw in other rivers too.

LAKES

Label and shade these large lakes:
Lake of the Ozarks
Table Rock Lake
Pomme De Terre Lake
Clearwater Lake
Lake Wappapello.
Draw in other lakes too.

MOUNTAINS

Using the symbol in Map Key, draw and label the Ozark Range. Label Taum Sauk Mountain (1,772 ft.), highest point in state.

CITIES

Locate Jefferson City, the state capital: use the symbol in Map Key to mark it.

Label these cities already marked:

Kansas City	St. Louis
Kirkville	Trenton
Hannibal	Pineville
Chillicothe	Columbia
St. Charles	Mexico
Sedalia	Clinton
Rolla	Joplin
Springfield	Poplar Bluff
Ozark	West Plains
Cape Girardeau	Independence

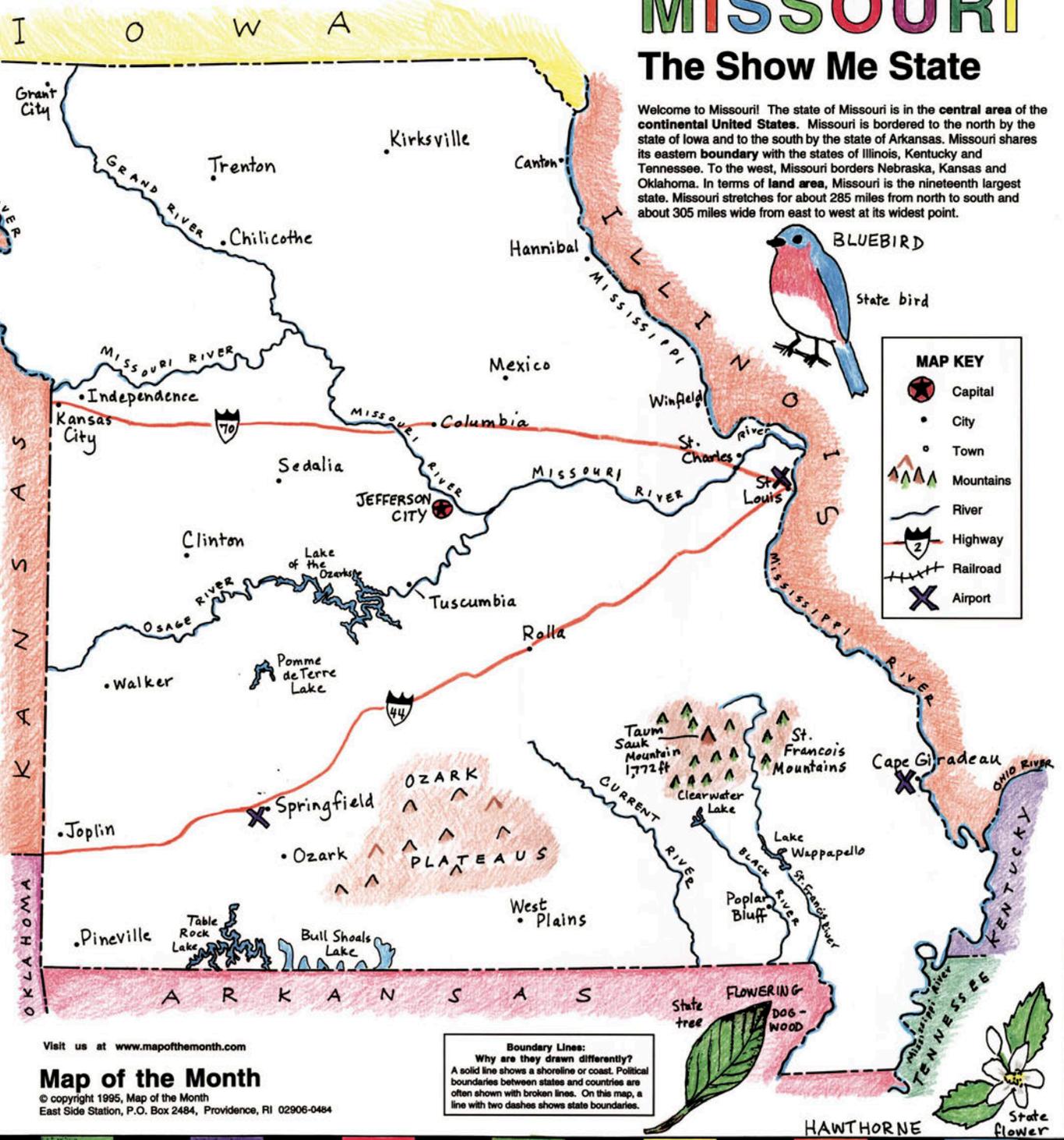
Add others, including your own city or town.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Some man-made physical structures such as airports, railroads and highways can be added to the map. See the Map Key for symbols.

DECORATION

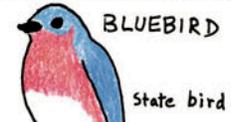
To add a decorative touch to your map, shade or color the following:
MISSOURI title
Earthworm (our mascot)
Border (around map)
Compass Rose: mark north, south, east and west.



MISSOURI

The Show Me State

Welcome to Missouri! The state of Missouri is in the central area of the continental United States. Missouri is bordered to the north by the state of Iowa and to the south by the state of Arkansas. Missouri shares its eastern boundary with the states of Illinois, Kentucky and Tennessee. To the west, Missouri borders Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. In terms of land area, Missouri is the nineteenth largest state. Missouri stretches for about 285 miles from north to south and about 305 miles wide from east to west at its widest point.



MAP KEY	
	Capital
	City
	Town
	Mountains
	River
	Highway
	Railroad
	Airport

Visit us at www.mapofthemoth.com

Map of the Month

© copyright 1995, Map of the Month
East Side Station, P.O. Box 2484, Providence, RI 02906-0484

Boundary Lines:
Why are they drawn differently?
A solid line shows a shoreline or coast. Political boundaries between states and countries are often shown with broken lines. On this map, a line with two dashes shows state boundaries.



Map of the Month

© copyright 1996, Map of the Month, East Side Station, P.O. Box 2484, Providence, RI 02908-0484 Visit us at www.mapofthemonth.com

Earthworm's Cartographic Tips

- As Student Cartographer, you will be finishing this map of Kentucky. Here are some hints to help you along the way!
- Resources:** Refer to an atlas, encyclopedia or other books 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 states, ranges of hills or state capital. 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:** Symbols are small pictures or lines that 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 Cumberland Mountains have been drawn in as an example. See the Map Key for other symbols.
 - Choosing Colors:** Colors help represent features of a map. Use blue for water. Use green for areas with vegetation, like forests. Brown and green together help make hills and mountains stand out.
 - Shading:** This lends color without covering up details or lettering. After defining an area, such as a range of mountains, shade it in with a colored pencil that is not too sharp. Make short, light strokes. Shade river lines and lakes with blue.

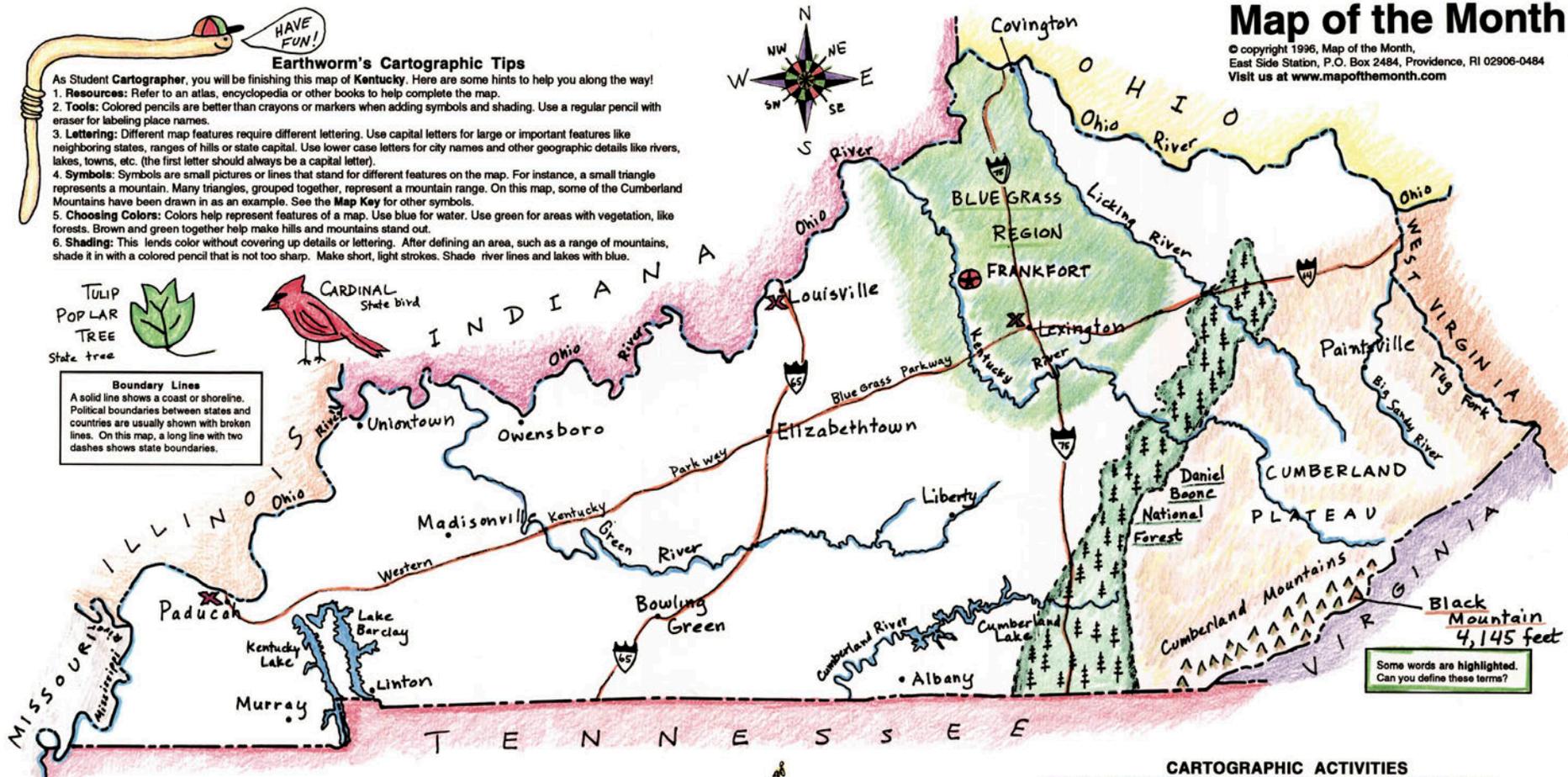


TULIP POPLAR TREE
State tree

CARDINAL
State bird

Boundary Lines

A solid line shows a coast or shoreline. Political boundaries between states and countries are usually shown with broken lines. On this map, a long line with two dashes shows state boundaries.



Some words are highlighted. Can you define these terms?

KENTUCKY

The Bluegrass State



Welcome to Kentucky! The state of Kentucky is located in the **south central region** of the **United States of America**. Kentucky is bordered to the north by the states of Indiana and Ohio and to the northwest by Illinois. To the west is the state of Missouri and to the east lie the states of West Virginia and Virginia. Kentucky shares its southern **boundary** with the state of Tennessee. The **Ohio River** forms a natural border along the state to the west, north and a portion of the east. The **Mississippi River** meets the state in the west.

In terms of **land area**, Kentucky is the thirty-seventh largest state in the United States. Kentucky stretches for 182 miles from north to south and about 425 miles wide at its widest point. After the most recent 1990 **census**, Kentucky had a **population** of about 3,685,000 people.

The **topography** varies from one area of Kentucky to another. The land has the highest **elevation** in the east of the state, in the **Cumberland Plateau**. The land gradually gets lower towards the western border, where it reaches the Mississippi River. In the central section of the state is the **Bluegrass Region**. This rich farmland, with grazing horses and tobacco farms, makes up about one-fifth of the state. In the spring, the beautiful grass of this region is covered with blue-grey flowers, giving the area its nickname.

MAP KEY

- Mountains
- River
- Capital
- City
- Town
- Forest
- Highway
- Railroad
- Airport

CARTOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES

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

BORDERS

Label the neighboring states along their boundary lines:
Missouri Illinois
Indiana Ohio
Virginia Tennessee
West Virginia

BODIES OF WATER

Label and shade:
Kentucky Lake
Lake Barclay
Lake Cumberland

Parts of three rivers form natural boundaries between Kentucky and neighboring states. Shade and label along these river borders:

Ohio River
Mississippi River
Big Sandy River

Locate, label and shade these other interior rivers:
Cumberland River
Green River
Kentucky River
Licking River
Draw in and label other rivers.

HIGH ELEVATIONS

Some of the **Cumberland Mountains**, in the southeastern part of the state, are already drawn in: complete this range and label it. These mountains are part of the **Appalachian Mountain Range**.

Draw and label the **Black Mountain** (4,145 ft.), the highest point in Kentucky.

CITIES

Label Frankfort, the capital; mark it using the symbol in the Map Key. Label these cities marked on the map:
Lexington Louisville
Owensboro Paducah
Paintsville Liberty
Covington Madisonville
Murray
Bowling Green
Elizabethtown
Add others, including your own city or town.

BLUEGRASS REGION

Define this region by shading it lightly with a blue pencil.

FORESTS

Using a dotted line, outline the boundaries of the **Daniel Boone National Forest**. Use the symbol in the Map Key to fill in this area.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Some man-made physical structures such as airports, railroads and highways can be added to the map. See Map Key for symbols.

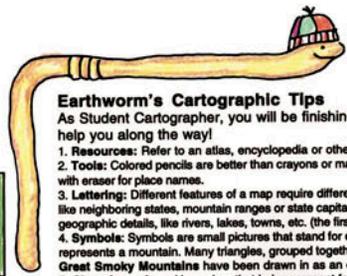
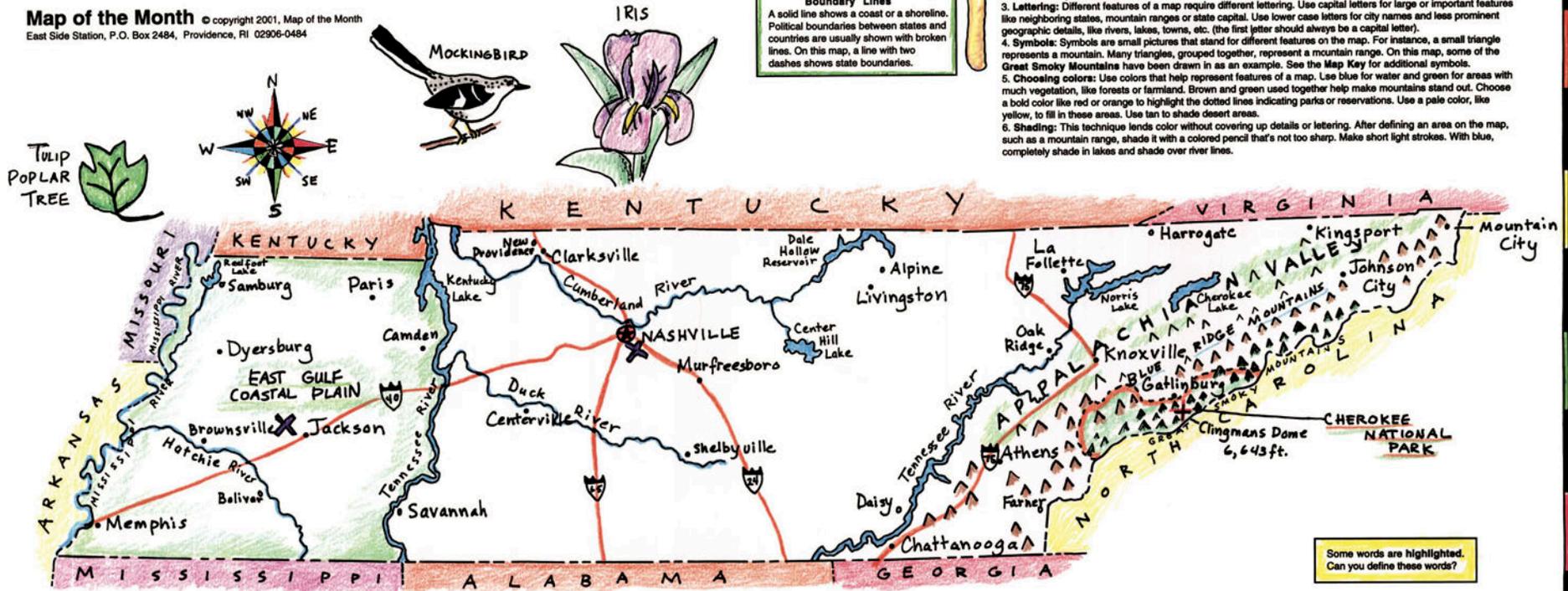
DECORATION

To add a decorative touch to your map, color the following:
KENTUCKY title
Earthworm (our mascot!)
Border (around map)
Compass Rose: mark north, south, east and west.

TENNESSEE

The Volunteer State

Map of the Month © copyright 2001, Map of the Month
East Side Station, P.O. Box 2484, Providence, RI 02906-0484



Earthworm's Cartographic Tips

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

- Resources:** Refer to an atlas, encyclopedia or other books about Tennessee to help complete the map.
- Tools:** Colored pencils are better than crayons or markers when adding symbols or shading. Use a regular pencil with eraser for place names.
- Lettering:** Different features of a map require different lettering. Use capital letters for large or important features like neighboring states, mountain ranges or state capital. Use lower case letters for city names and less prominent geographic details, like rivers, lakes, towns, etc. (the first letter should always be a capital letter).
- Symbols:** Symbols are small pictures that 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 Great Smoky Mountains have been drawn in as an example. See the Map Key for additional symbols.
- Choosing colors:** Use colors that help represent features of a map. Use blue for water and green for areas with much vegetation, like forests or farmland. Brown and green used together help make mountains stand out. Choose a bold color like red or orange to highlight the dotted lines indicating parks or reservations. Use a pale color, like yellow, to fill in these areas. Use tan to shade desert areas.
- 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 with a colored pencil that's not too sharp. Make short light strokes. With blue, completely shade in lakes and shade over river lines.

Boundary Lines
A solid line shows a coast or a shoreline. Political boundaries between states and countries are usually shown with broken lines. On this map, a line with two dashes shows state boundaries.

Some words are highlighted. Can you define these words?

Cartographic Activities By drawing the features of Tennessee on this map, you will begin to see the geography of the state. See Earthworm's Cartographic Tips (at upper right) for help in completing this map.

NEIGHBORING STATES

Label these borders:
Kentucky
North Carolina
Alabama
Arkansas

Virginia
Georgia
Mississippi
Missouri

BODIES OF WATER

The Mississippi River follows most of the western boundary of the state. Draw in and color this river-- be sure to show where it diverges from the state border.

The Tennessee River flows through the state in two different places. Label and shade these two different parts of this large river.

Label and shade these large rivers drawn on the map:
Hatchie River
Duck River
Cumberland River
Draw in and label other rivers too.

Shade and label these lakes:
Center Hill Lake
Reelfoot Lake
Cherokee Lake
Draw in and label other lakes, too.

CITIES

Locate Nashville, the state capital; mark it using the symbol in the Map Key. Label these cities already marked on the map:
Memphis
Clarksville
Athena
Kingsport
La Follette
Camden
Oak Ridge
Livingston
Centerville

Jackson
Chattanooga
Knoxville
Johnson City
Murfreesboro
Paris
Gatlinburg
Dyersburg

MOUNTAINS
On the map, some of the Great Smoky Mountains have been drawn in as an example. Using the symbols in the Map Key, complete this range.

Draw in and label:
Blue Ridge Mountains
Draw and label some of the other Appalachian Mountains in the east.

HIGHEST ELEVATION
Using the symbol in the Map Key, draw and label Clingmans Dome. At 6,643 feet above sea level, it is the state's highest point.

NATIONAL PARK
Using the line in the Map Key, outline the Cherokee National Park.

INFRASTRUCTURE
Some man-made physical structures such as airports, railroads and highways can be added to the map. See Map Key for symbols.

DECORATION
To add a decorative touch to your map, color the following:
TENNESSEE title
Earthworm (our mascot)
Border (around map)
Compass Rose: mark north, south, east and west.

Find room on your finished map to draw the following:
State Flower: Iris
State Bird: Mockingbird.

MAP KEY

- Mountains
- Highest elevation
- River
- Capital
- City
- Town
- Highway
- Railroad
- Airport
- National Park (outline)

Welcome to Tennessee! The state of Tennessee is located in the South central region of the continental United States. Tennessee is bordered to the north by the states of Kentucky and Virginia. Tennessee shares its eastern boundary with the state of North Carolina. The states of Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia lie to the south. To the west are the states of Missouri and Arkansas.

Two very different geographic features help to define the eastern and western borders of the state. The low-lying Mississippi River follows most of the western border of Tennessee. The high elevations of the Appalachian Mountain Range rise along the eastern edge of the state.

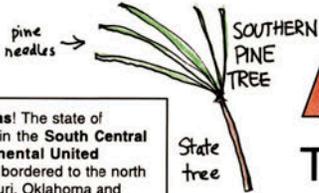
The large Tennessee River flows into the state, out of the state, and back into the state again. This unusual geographic feature divides the state into three distinct regions.

The eastern part of the state has the highest elevations, with rugged mountains. In the far east are the pine-covered Great Smoky Mountains and the Blue Ridge Mountains. Directly to the west in this part of the state is the Great Appalachian Valley.

Central Tennessee is an area of wide plateaus, which includes the large Cumberland Plateau. The Nashville Basin is a low elevation area that occurs in the center of this region of Tennessee. The Duck River and the Cumberland River traverse this middle part of the state between the two Tennessee River sections.

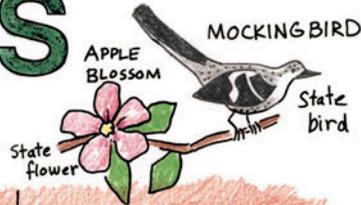
Western Tennessee is made up of the low-lying East Gulf Coastal Plain, also known as the Jackson Plain. At the western border of the state, cliffs and bluffs rise along the Mississippi River. These bluffs give the city of Memphis a unique topography.

In terms of land area, Tennessee is the thirty-fourth largest state in the United States. Tennessee stretches for about 110 miles from north to south and about 430 miles wide from east to west at its widest points. At the time of the 2000 census, Tennessee had 5,689,283 residents.



ARKANSAS

The Land of Opportunity State



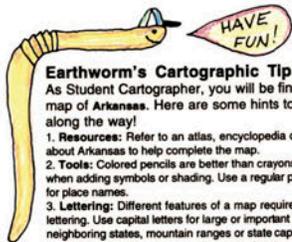
Map of the Month
 © copyright 2005, Map of the Month
 East Side Station, P.O. Box 2484
 Providence, RI 02906-0484
 Register at our web site
 www.mapofthemonth.com

Welcome to **Arkansas!** The state of Arkansas is located in the **South Central region** of the **continental United States**. Arkansas is bordered to the north by the state of Missouri. Oklahoma and Texas lie to the west. Arkansas shares its eastern **boundary** with the state of Mississippi and a small part of Tennessee. Louisiana and a small part of Texas lie to the south.

There are two major **topographical regions** within Arkansas. There are lowlands in the southern and eastern areas. The Mississippi Alluvial Plain lies to the west of the Mississippi River. The West Coastal Plain, also a large-low lying area, is in the south. From here, the state rises in **elevation** to the mountainous areas in the west and north. To the north of the western lowlands are the Ouachita Mountains. Above this range, the Arkansas River Valley joins the Ozark Plateau, where the Boston Mountains rise.

In terms of **land area**, Arkansas is ranked twenty-seventh of the fifty states. Arkansas stretches for about 240 miles from north to south and about 275 miles wide from east to west at its widest points. At the time of the 2000 United States **census**, Arkansas had 2,673,400 residents.

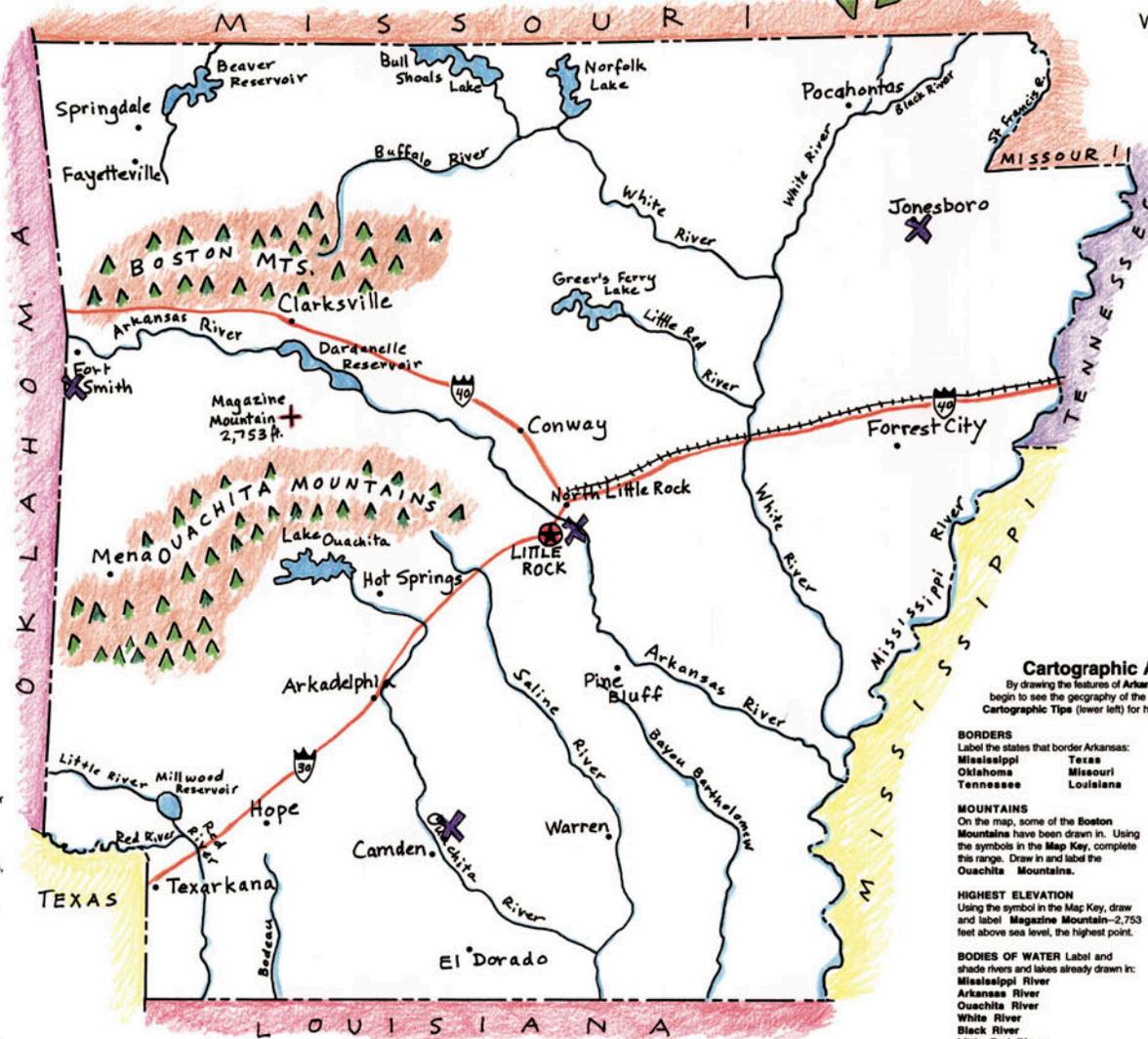
Some words are highlighted.
 Can you define these words?



Earthworm's Cartographic Tips

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

- Resources:** Refer to an atlas, encyclopedia or other books about Arkansas to help complete the map.
- Tools:** Colored pencils are better than crayons or markers when adding symbols or shading. Use a regular pencil with eraser for place names.
- Lettering:** Different features of a map require different lettering. Use capital letters for large or important features like neighboring states, mountain ranges or state capital. Use lower case letters for city names and less prominent geographic details, like rivers, lakes, towns, etc. (the first letter should always be a capital letter).
- Symbols:** Symbols are small pictures that 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 Ouachita Mountains have been drawn in as an example. See the Map Key for additional symbols.
- Choosing colors:** Use colors that help represent features of a map. Use blue for water and green for areas with much vegetation, like forests or farmland. Brown and green used together help make mountains stand out. Choose a bold color like red or orange to highlight the dotted lines indicating parks or reservations. Use a pale color, like yellow, to fill in areas. Use tan to shade desert areas.
- 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 with a colored pencil that's not too sharp. Make short light strokes. With blue, completely shade in lakes and shade over river lines.



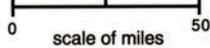
MAP KEY	
	Mountains
	Highest elevation
	River
	Capital
	City
	Town
	Highway
	Railroad
	Airport

Cartographic Activities

By drawing the features of Arkansas on this map, you will begin to see the geography of the state. See Earthworm's Cartographic Tips (lower left) for help in completing this map.

- BORDERS**
 Label the states that border Arkansas:
 Mississippi Texas
 Oklahoma Missouri
 Tennessee Louisiana
- MOUNTAINS**
 On the map, some of the Boston Mountains have been drawn in. Using the symbols in the Map Key, complete this range. Draw in and label the Ouachita Mountains.
- HIGHEST ELEVATION**
 Using the symbol in the Map Key, draw and label Magazine Mountain—2,753 feet above sea level, the highest point.
- BODIES OF WATER** Label and shade rivers and lakes already drawn in:
 Mississippi River
 Arkansas River
 Ouachita River
 White River
 Black River
 Little Red River
 Saline River
 Lake Ouachita
 Bull Shoals Lake
 Norfolk Lake
 Beaver Reservoir
 Dardanelle Reservoir
 Greer's Ferry Lake
 Draw in and label others too
- CITIES**
 Locate Little Rock, the state capital; mark it using the symbol in the Map Key. Label these cities already marked on the map:
 North Little Rock Conway
 Fayetteville
 Springdale
 Pocahontas Forrest City
 Hot Springs Arkadelphia
 Hope Pine Bluff
 Texarkana El Dorado
 Camden Warren
 Jonesboro Mena
 Fort Smith Clarksville
 Add others, including your city or town.
- INFRASTRUCTURE**
 Some man-made physical structures such as airports, railroads and highways can be added. See Map Key symbols.
- DECORATION**
 Add a decorative touch—color these!
 ARKANSAS title
 Earthworm (our mascot)
 Border (around map)
 Compass Rose: mark north, south, east and west.
- Draw these on your finished map:
 State Flower: apple blossom
 State Bird: mockingbird
 State Tree: southern pine

Boundary Lines
 A solid line shows a coast or a shoreline.
 Political lines between states and countries are often shown with broken lines. On this map, a line with two dashes shows state boundaries.



MISSISSIPPI

The Magnolia State

Welcome to Mississippi! The state of Mississippi is located in the South Central region of the continental United States. Mississippi is bordered to the north by the state of Tennessee. In the west, the state is divided from neighboring Louisiana and Arkansas by the Mississippi River. Mississippi shares its eastern boundary with Alabama. The southern part of Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico lie to the south of Mississippi.

The topography of Mississippi is very low compared to other states, with few points of high elevation. The highest point is in the northeast on Woodall Mountain, only 806 feet high.

The lowest land areas are along the western border next to the Mississippi River; these floodplains are known as the Delta. Rich soil has been deposited here for thousands of years when the river overflowed. The Big Sunflower River and the Yazoo River also flow through the Delta, which is officially called the Mississippi Alluvial Plain.

To the east of the Delta lies the East Gulf Coastal Plain, which fills most of the state. There are many gentle hills and valleys in this area, as well as prairie land. The Bluff Hills, near the Delta, and the North Central Hills are areas of higher elevation in part of this area in Mississippi.

Along the south, the state is only 44 miles wide along the Gulf of Mexico. There are many islands here in the Mississippi Sound. The largest are Cat Island and Horn Island.

In terms of land area, Mississippi is ranked thirty-second of the fifty states. It stretches for about 331 miles from north to south and about 208 miles wide from east to west at its widest points. At the time of the 2000 United States census, Mississippi had 2,844,650 residents.

Some words are highlighted. Can you define these words?

MAP KEY

- Highest Elevation
- River
- Capital
- City
- Town
- Marshland
- Highway
- Railroad
- Airport

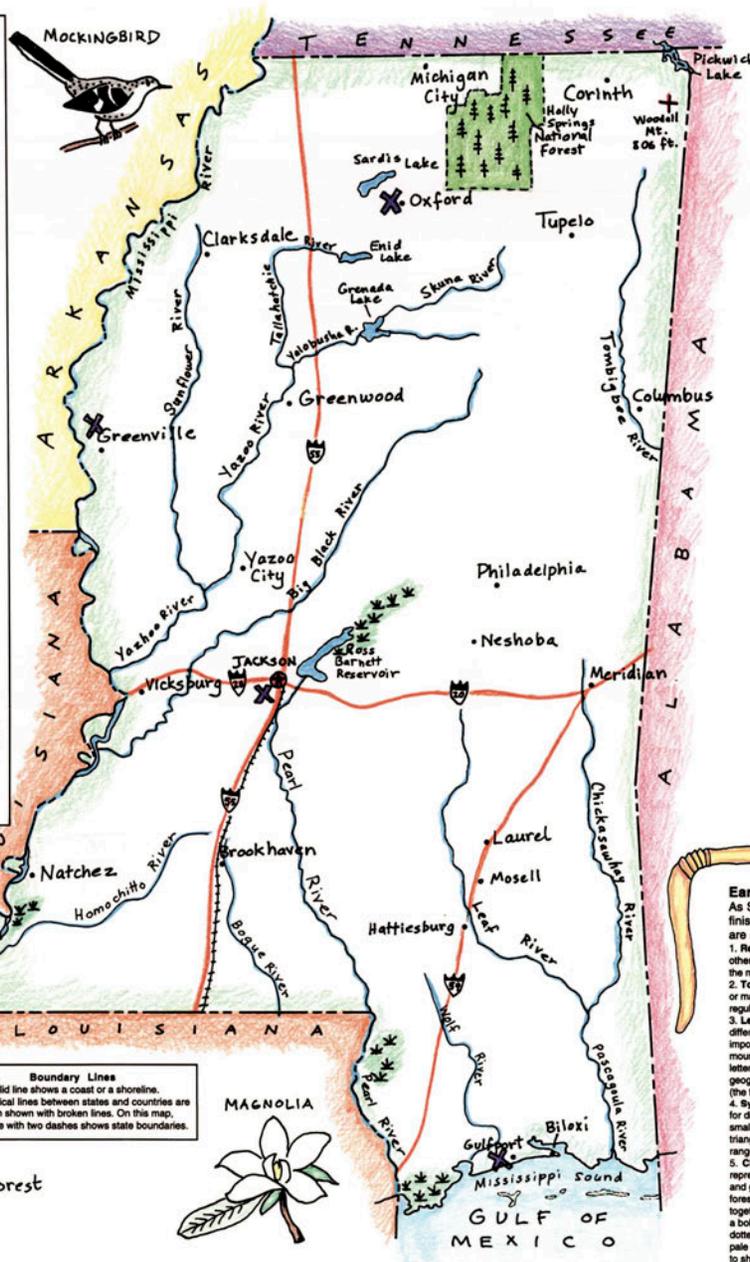
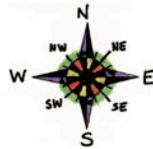
Boundary Lines
A solid line shows a coast or a shoreline. Political lines between states and countries are often shown with broken lines. On this map, a line with two dashes shows state boundaries.

Forest

Map of the Month

© copyright 2005, Map of the Month
East Side Station, P.O. Box 2484
Providence, RI 02906-0484

Register at our web site
www.mapofthemonth.com



Cartographic Activities

By drawing the features of Mississippi on this map, you will begin to see the geography of the state. See Earthworm's Cartographic Tips (below) for help in completing this map.

BORDERS

Label the neighboring states:
Alabama Tennessee
Arkansas Louisiana

BODIES OF WATER

Label and shade the coastline along the Mississippi Sound.
Label the Gulf of Mexico.

Label and shade these large rivers drawn in on the map:

Mississippi River
Chickasaw River
Leaf River
Starna River
Pascagoula River
Pearl River
Yazoo River
Big Black River
Tombigbee River
Yalobusha River
Draw in and label other rivers too.

Label and shade these lakes:

Grenade Lake
Sardis Lake
Rosa Barnett Reservoir
Enid Lake
Pickwick Lake

MARSHLAND

Using the symbol in the Map Key, draw in some areas of marshland.

HIGH ELEVATION

Using the symbol in the Map Key, draw and label Woodall Mountain, which is 806 feet above sea level. It is the state's highest point.

CITIES

Locate Jackson, the state capital; mark it using the symbol in the Map Key.

Label these cities already marked on the map:
Greenville
Clarkdale
Greenwood
Meridian
Natchez
Corinth
Biloxi
Philadelphia
Oxford
Yazoo City
Draw in and label other cities and towns, including your own.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Some man-made physical structures such as airports, railroads and highways can be added. See Map Key symbols.

DECORATION

Add a decorative touch—color these!

MISSISSIPPI (the mascot)

Earthworm (our mascot)

Border (around map)

Compass Rose; mark north, south, east and west.

Draw these on your finished map:

State Flower: magnolia

State Bird: mockingbird



Earthworm's Cartographic Tips

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

- Resources:** Refer to an atlas, encyclopedia or other books about Mississippi to help complete the map.
- Tools:** Colored pencils are better than crayons or markers when adding symbols or shading. Use a regular pencil with eraser for place names.
- Lettering:** Different features of a map require different lettering. Use capital letters for large or important features like neighboring states, mountain ranges or state capital. Use lower case letters for city names and less prominent geographic details, like rivers, lakes, towns, etc. (the first letter should always be a capital letter).
- Symbols:** Symbols are small pictures that stand for different features on the map. For instance, a small triangle represents a mountain. Many triangles, grouped together, represent a mountain range. See the Map Key for additional symbols.
- Choosing colors:** Use colors that help represent features of a map. Use blue for water and green for areas with much vegetation, like forests or farmland. Brown and green used together help make mountains stand out. Choose a bold color like red or orange to highlight the dotted lines indicating parks or reservations. Use a pale color, like yellow, to fill in these areas. Use tan to shade desert areas.
- 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 with a colored pencil that's not too sharp. Make short light strokes. With blue, completely shade in lakes and shade over river lines.

0 scale of miles 50

Cartographic Activities

By drawing the features of Louisiana on this map, you will begin to see the geography of the state. See **Earthworm's Cartographic Tips** (at right) for help in completing this map.

NEIGHBORING STATES

Label the neighboring states that border the state of Louisiana:
Texas **Mississippi**
Arkansas

BODIES OF WATER

The Mississippi River follows part of the eastern boundary of the state. Shade and color this river with blue.

Label and shade along the Gulf of Mexico which borders the state.

Label and shade these large rivers drawn on the map:

Sabine River
 Pearl River
 Calcasieu River
 Ouachita River
 Red River

Draw in and label other rivers too.

Label the following bodies of water:

Atchafalaya Bay
 Barataria Bay
 Breton Sound

Label and shade:

Lake Pontchartrain
 Grand Lake
 White Lake
 Calcasieu Lake
 Lake Borgne
 Sabine Lake
 Lake Salvador
 Catahoula Lake
 Lake Maurepas
 Barataria Bay
 Toledo Bend Reservoir
 Bayou D'Arbonne Lake

ISLANDS

Label these islands:

Marsh Island
 Chandeleur Islands

HIGHEST ELEVATION

Using the symbol in the Map Key, draw and label Driskill Mountain which is 535 feet above sea level. It is the state's highest point.

CITIES

Locate **Baton Rouge**, the state capital; mark it using the symbol in the Map Key. Label these cities already marked on the map:

Shreveport	Monroe
New Orleans	Leesville
Lafayette	Winnsboro
Lake Charles	Alexandria
Bogalusa	Opelousas
Many	Winnfield
Amite	Houma
New Iberia	

Add others, including your city or town.

NATIONAL FOREST

Using the special line shown in the Map Key, outline and color the **Kisatchie National Forest**.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Some man-made physical structures such as airports, railroads and highways can be added to the map. See **Map Key** for symbols.

WETLANDS

On this map, some wetland areas have already been drawn in. Using the symbol in the **Map Key**, mark other wetland areas along the coastline.

DECORATION

To add a decorative touch to your map, color the following:

LOUISIANA title
 Earthworm (our mascot)
 Border (around map)
 Compass Rose: mark north, south, east and west.

Find room on your finished map to draw and color the following:
 State Flower: Magnolia
 State Bird: Brown Pelican

Map of the Month

© copyright 2002, Map of the Month
 East Side Station, P.O. Box 2484, Providence, RI 02908-0484

LOUISIANA

The Pelican State



MAGNOLIA

Some words are highlighted.
 Can you define these words?

Welcome to **Louisiana!** The state of Louisiana is located in the **Southern region** of the **continental United States**. Louisiana is bordered to the north by the state of Arkansas. Texas lies to the west. In the east, Louisiana is divided from the state of Mississippi by the Mississippi and Pearl Rivers. The Gulf of Mexico lies to the south and east.

Louisiana is a very **low-lying** state. The lowest area in the state is New Orleans, five feet below **sea level**. The highest **elevation** is Driskill Mountain in the northern part of Louisiana. It is only 535 feet in height, very low compared to mountains in other states.

The **topography** of Louisiana is greatly influenced by water. The coastline of Louisiana is always changing from the **tidal erosion** along the Gulf of Mexico. The **coastal wetlands** area along the Gulf of Mexico is made up of **marshlands**, **swamps** and **bayous**. These wetlands extend inland from the coast twenty to thirty miles. The Mississippi River, the largest river in the United States, gathers soil and sand along its path. It deposits this **sediment** at the Gulf of Mexico, forming the land which is known as the **Mississippi Delta**. Many of the lakes near the delta contain **brackish** water, a mixture of fresh and salt water. Lakes in the northern part of the state are fresh water.

The state can be divided into three major geographic areas. The central section of the state which flanks the Mississippi River is very low-lying and is known as the **Central Alluvial Plain**. The north central part of the state, or **West Gulf Coastal Plain** is hilly and slopes down towards the coastal areas. The **East Gulf Coastal Plain**, west of the Pearl River, is very similar. In these higher areas are **prairies** where farming is possible.

In terms of **land area**, Louisiana is the thirty-first largest state in the United States. Louisiana stretches for about 283 miles from north to south and about 315 miles wide from east to west at its widest points. Louisiana is the only state that continues to grow, as silt and sediment from the Mississippi River adds about 1000 acres a year to the delta area. At the time of the 2000 **census**, Louisiana had 4,468,976 residents.

Earthworm's Cartographic Tips

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

- Resources:** Refer to an atlas, encyclopedia or other books about Louisiana to help complete the map.
- Tools:** Colored pencils are better than crayons or markers when adding symbols or shading. Use a regular pencil with eraser for place names.
- Lettering:** Different features of a map require different lettering. Use capital letters for large or important features like neighboring states, mountain ranges or state capital. Use lower case letters for city names and less prominent geographic details, like rivers, lakes, towns, etc. (the first letter should be a capital letter).
- Symbols:** Symbols are small pictures that stand for different features on the map. For instance, a small triangle can represent a mountain. Many triangles, grouped together, can represent a mountain range. On this map, some of the wetland areas have been drawn in using the symbol found in the Map Key. See the Map Key for additional symbols.
- Choosing colors:** Colors help represent features of a map. Use blue for water and green for areas with much vegetation, like forests or farmland. Use a light green, to fill in the lowland or wetland areas. Brown and green used together help make mountains stand out. Bold colors like red or orange can highlight the dotted lines indicating parks or reservations.
- Shading:** This technique ends color without covering up details or lettering. After defining an area on the map, such as a mountain range, shade it with a colored pencil that's not too sharp. Make short light strokes. With blue, completely shade in lakes and shade over river lines. Shade along coastlines.

MAP KEY

- + Highest elevation
- River
- ⊕ Capital
- City
- Town
- Wetlands or low-lying areas
- Highway
- Railroad
- Airport
- National Forest

EASTERN BROWN PELICAN



Boundary Lines
 A solid line shows a coast or a shoreline. Political boundaries between states and countries are usually shown with broken lines. On this map, a line with two dashes shows state boundaries.

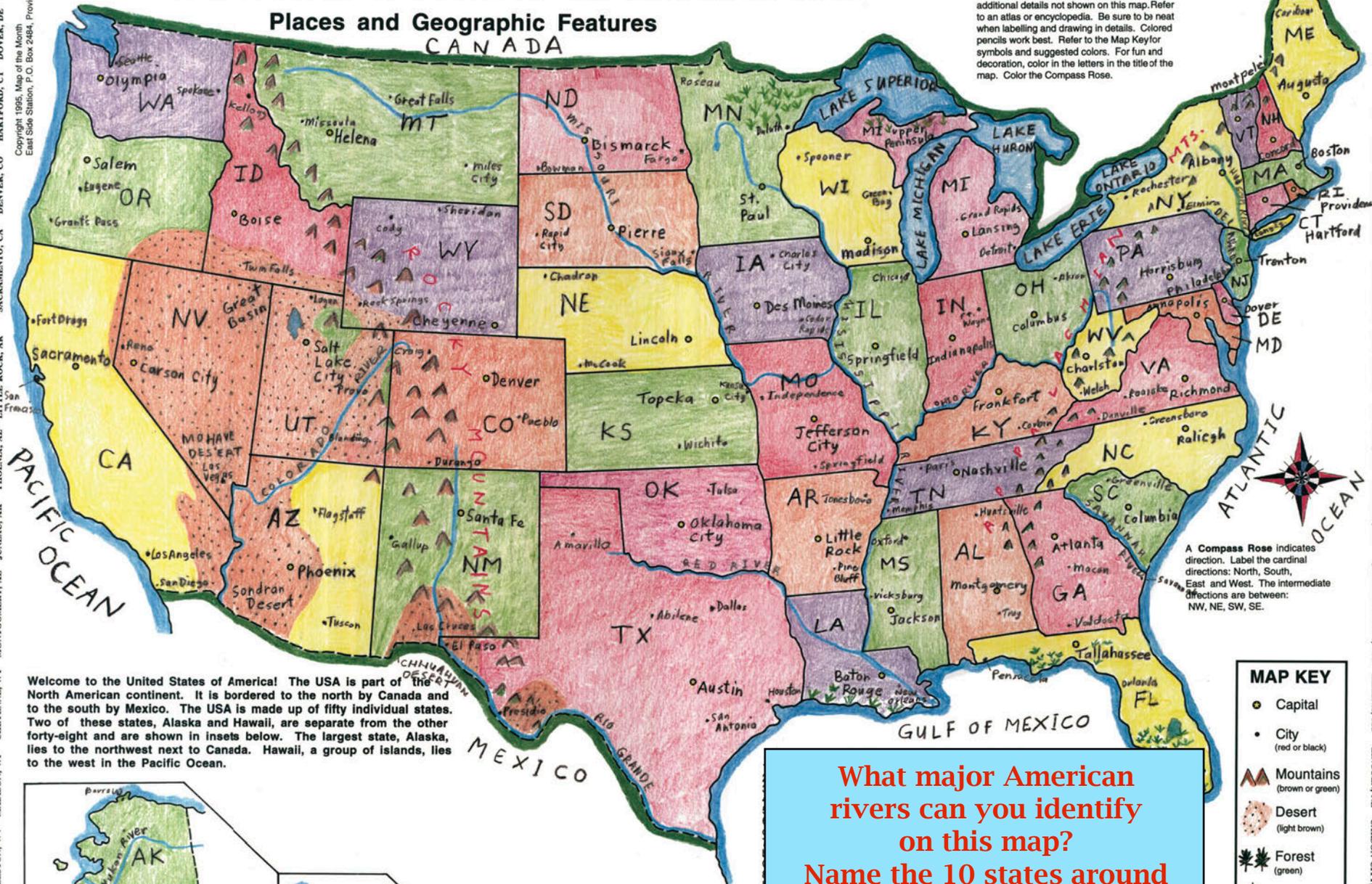
Map of the Month

United States of America

Places and Geographic Features
CANADA



Your job as cartographer is to fill in some additional details not shown on this map. Refer to an atlas or encyclopedia. Be sure to be neat when labelling and drawing in details. Colored pencils work best. Refer to the Map Key for symbols and suggested colors. For fun and decoration, color in the letters in the title of the map. Color the Compass Rose.



A Compass Rose indicates direction. Label the cardinal directions: North, South, East and West. The intermediate directions are between: NW, NE, SW, SE.

Welcome to the United States of America! The USA is part of the North American continent. It is bordered to the north by Canada and to the south by Mexico. The USA is made up of fifty individual states. Two of these states, Alaska and Hawaii, are separate from the other forty-eight and are shown in insets below. The largest state, Alaska, lies to the northwest next to Canada. Hawaii, a group of islands, lies to the west in the Pacific Ocean.



On the main map, the scale is one inch equals about 150 miles. Because of space limitations, these insets are not drawn to the same scale as the main map. Look at a globe and you'll see that Alaska is much bigger than Texas!

What major American rivers can you identify on this map?
Name the 10 states around the Mississippi River.

MAP KEY	
●	Capital
•	City (red or black)
▲	Mountains (brown or green)
◼	Desert (light brown)
🌲	Forest (green)
🌿	Wetland (green)
🌊	River (blue)