

The Mississippi River

The Mississippi River is the longest river in the United States. It is known for being a wide river that is not very deep. The mighty Mississippi River begins in a state called Minnesota. Minnesota is the the source, because it is where the river begins. The Mississippi flows south through many U.S. states, until it reaches the Gulf of Mexico.

The Mississippi River helps people in many different ways. The river makes the soil near the river very rich so farmers can grow crops. The river also provides people with lots of seafood to eat. Many people use the Mississippi River as transportation.

The Mississippi River has a lot of history. A sport called waterskiing was invented on the Mississippi River in the 1920's. There was once a popular boat called a steamboat that would travel up and down the river. Native Americans used the river for food and transportation.



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Comprehension Questions

1. Describe the Mississippi River using information from the first paragraph of the reading passage.
2. List 3 reasons the Mississippi River is helpful to people.
3. List one historical fact about the Mississippi river.
4. What is the main idea of the passage?