



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## RIVERS

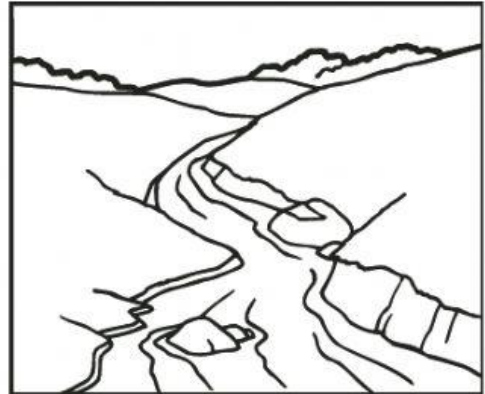
We need rivers. They bring water from mountains to oceans. They also bring water to lakes.

Snow falls on mountains. Then it melts. The water runs down the mountain. Now, it becomes a river. It travels to oceans or lakes.

The longest river in the world is the Nile. It is in Africa. You can take a boat down the Nile.

Some rivers flood. This can be good for farmland. But it is bad if a river floods your house. Some people pollute rivers. This hurts the water, plants, and animals.

Do you have a river in your town? Where did it come from? You can help to keep it clean. Pick up trash in the river. Thank it for bringing you water.



### STORY QUESTIONS

1. Rivers bring water to . . .
  - a. lakes.
  - b. mountains.
  - c. floods.
  - d. trash.
2. What happens to snow when it melts?
  - a. It floods.
  - b. It pollutes water.
  - c. It runs down mountains.
  - d. It hurts animals.
3. Where is the longest river?
  - a. in the mountains
  - b. in California
  - c. in the ocean
  - d. in Africa
4. How can you help to keep a river clean?
  - a. pick up animals
  - b. pick up trash
  - c. pick up water
  - d. pick up boats



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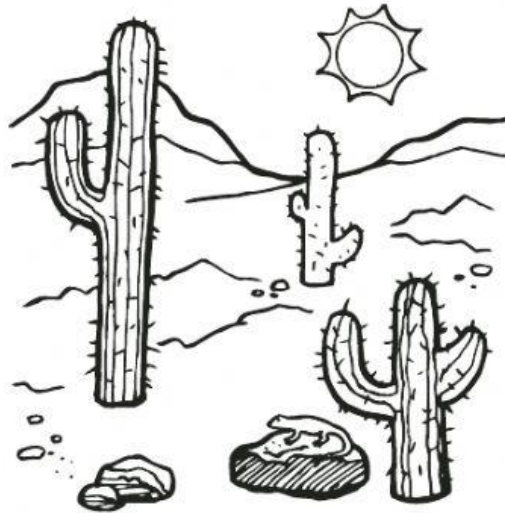
## DESERTS

Can you live in the desert? Yes, but it can be very hot. It can also be very cold.

Deserts are made up of sand or rock. Some do not get much rain. Others are covered in frozen snow. These deserts are called tundra.

Plants can live in the desert. They store water in their roots and leaves. The cactus is a desert plant. It can live for 200 years. Birds live in holes in the cactus.

People can live in the desert, too. But, watch out for the hot sun and always carry water!



### STORY QUESTIONS

1. Deserts can be very . . .
 

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| a. rainy. | c. ugly. |
| b. hot.   | d. wet.  |
2. Tundra is a desert that is covered in . . .
 

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| a. rocks. | c. leaves. |
| b. sand.  | d. snow.   |
3. What lives in the cactus?
 

|          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| a. birds | c. water  |
| b. snow  | d. tundra |
4. In this story, *store* means . . .
 

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| a. a place to shop. |  |
| b. a market.        |  |
| c. groceries.       |  |
| d. save.            |  |



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## WETLANDS

How are a bog, a marsh, and a swamp the same? They are all wetlands.

A wetland is land that is very wet at least some of the time. Plants and animals live there.

The crocodile lives in swamps in Florida. A yellow fly lives in bogs in England. This fly is called the “hairy canary.”

People are working to save the wetlands. They try not to build houses on them. They also try not to build roads over them.

Wild grass and birds and bugs live in wetlands. We must keep their homes safe.



### STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is not a kind of wetland?
  - a. a bog
  - b. a marsh
  - c. an ocean
  - d. a swamp
2. A wetland is land that is wet . . .
  - a. all the time.
  - b. some of the time.
  - c. never.
  - d. in the spring.
3. The hairy canary is a . . .
  - a. crocodile.
  - b. wetland.
  - c. wild grass.
  - d. fly.
4. We should protect wetlands to . . .
  - a. keep plants and animals safe.
  - b. build roads over.
  - c. build houses on.
  - d. drink water.