

**3rd GRADE MINIMUM CONTENTS**  
**UDI 1: WATER AND LANDSCAPES (4)**

► **RIVERS**

**Rivers** are bodies of moving fresh water. They provide a home and food for many animals. We use them to generate electricity, and to transport things and people by boat and ship.



All rivers begin in high areas, like mountains, and flow downhill to seas, oceans and lakes.

As rivers flow across plains, they get bigger and wider. River water flows very quickly in the mountains, and get slower as it nears the sea.

A **tributary** is a river that flows into a larger river.

A **river bed** is the ground over which a river flows.

Some rivers have more water than others. The volume of water in a river is called the **flow**.

The **course of a river** is the route the river takes.

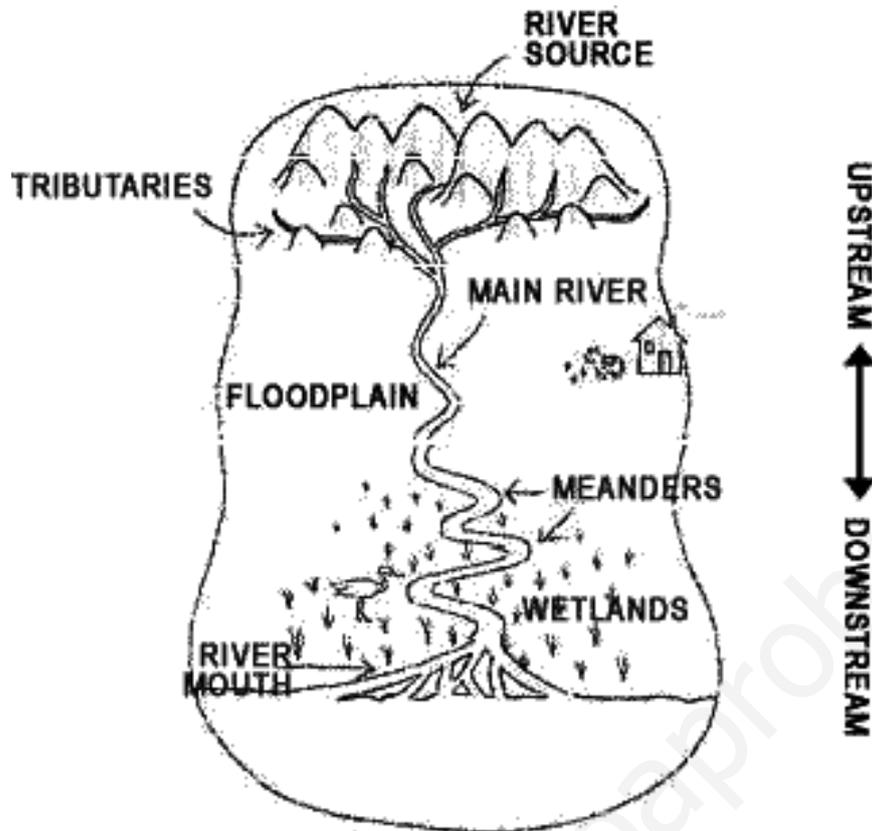
River has three main parts:

The upper course : the place where a river begins is called the **source**.

Water flows quickly here.

The middle course: When a river is in the middle of its journey, it is wider and slower. It flows across flat lands and collects water from rain and smaller rivers called **tributaries**. It has bends called **meanders**.

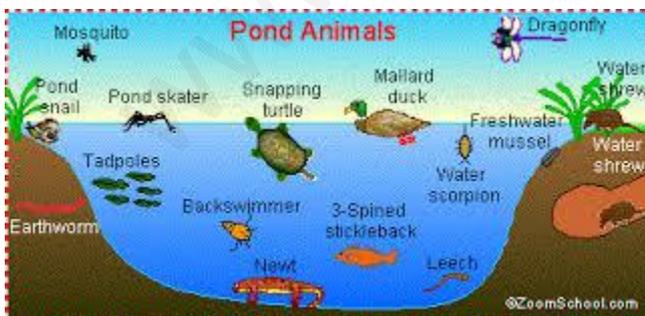
The lower course: The end of a river is called the **mouth**. It is where a river joins the sea, an ocean or a lake.



## ► LAKES AND RESERVOIRS

**Lakes and reservoirs** are bodies of still water. Still water does not flow.

- **Lakes** are large areas of fresh water surrounded by land. Most lakes contain fresh water, but some contain salt water. **Ponds** are small lakes. Lakes and ponds form naturally. They are natural habitats for many

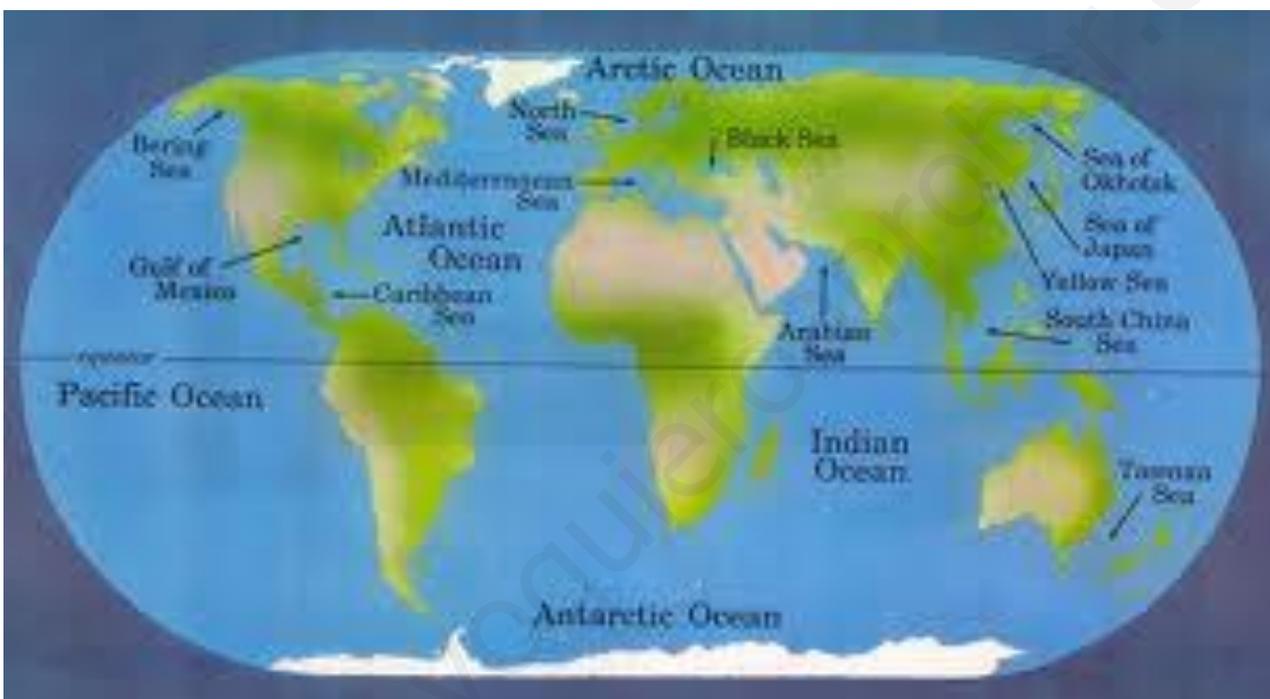


animals and plants.

- **Reservoirs** are man-made lakes for storing river water. A **dam** is a strong wall that stops the flow of the water.

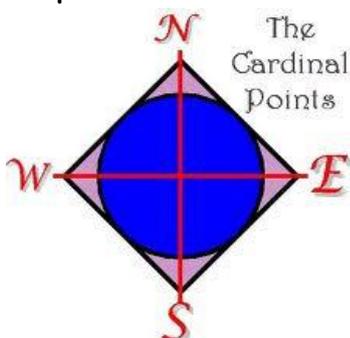
## ► OCEANS AND SEAS

Looking down from space, astronauts can see the most of our planet is covered by water. There are five **oceans**: the Arctic, the Antarctic, the Indian, the Atlantic and the Pacific. Smaller areas of water are called **seas**. Some of the biggest seas are the South China Sea, the Caribbean Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. Oceans and many seas are connected.



## ► CARDINAL POINTS

To use a map we need to know which directions: **north**, **south**, **east** and **west**. We can find out by using a **compass**. A compass has a magnetic needle that always points north. The **cardinal points** are the four main points on a compass.



## ► MAPS

Maps are flat drawings of places. They help us to get from one place to another or to understand the world around us. The **key** on a map helps us to understand the symbols on the map. There are different types of maps:

**Political maps** show different areas of a country or countries in the world.

**Road maps** show different types of roads and show they are connected.

**Tourist maps** show us the places of interest and monuments in an area.

**Relief maps** use different colours to show the height and shape of the land.

Brown represents high land.

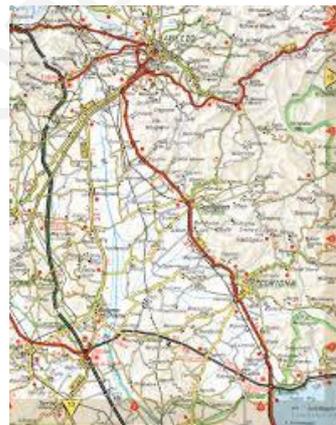
Yellow represents medium high land.

Green represents low land.

Blue represents water.



Tourist map



Road map



Relief map



Political map

## UDI 1: WATER AND LANDSCAPES (4)

### ACTIVITIES

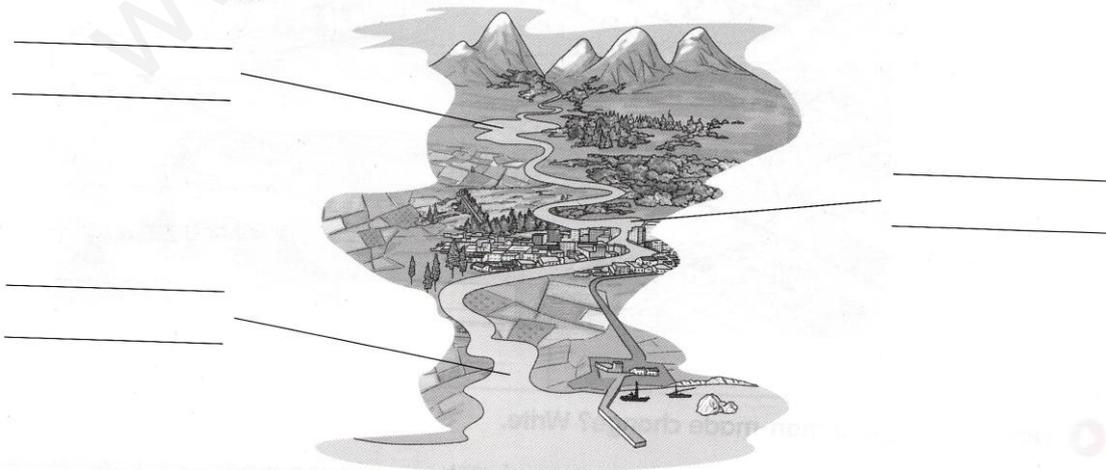
1.- Use the clues to complete the words related to rivers.

- A smaller river that flows into a larger river.    -r- - - - a - -
- The place where a river meets the sea.            - - - t -
- The place where a river begins.                    - - u - - -
- A bend in a river.                                      - - a - - - r

2.- Complete the text about rivers with the following words: fresh water- animals- electricity- transport- fertile- farming

Rivers are bodies of moving ..... They provide a home and food for many ..... We use them to generate ..... We also use them to ..... things and people by boat and ship. The land next to rivers is ..... land which is good for .....

3.- Label the course of the river.

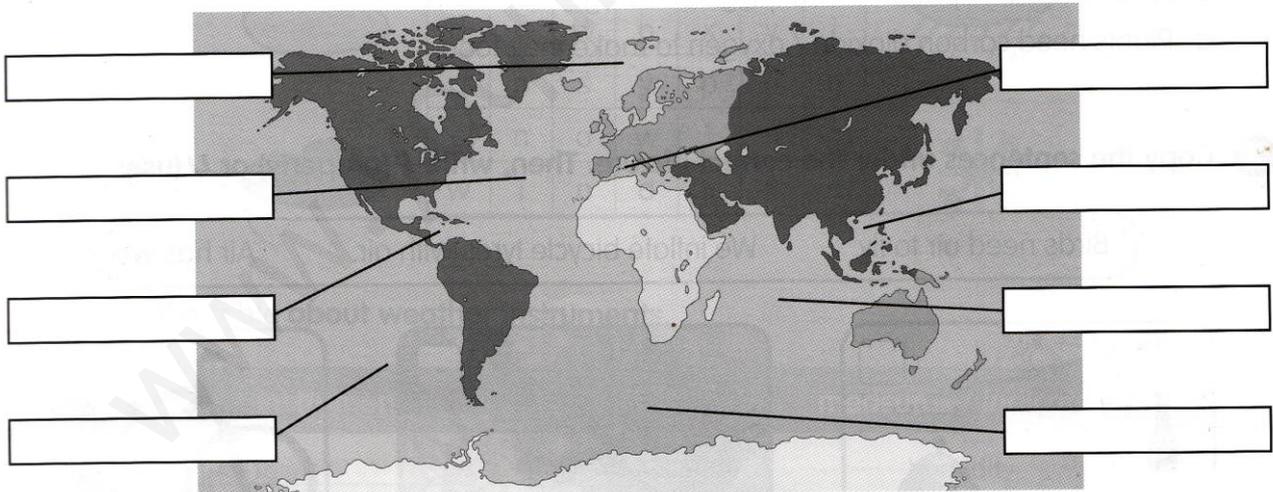


**4.- Complete the sentences with lake or reservoir**

- A ..... always contains fresh water.
- A ..... always has a dam.
- A ..... is a man-made area of still water.
- A very small..... is called a pond.
- A ..... forms naturally.

**5.- Circle the names of the oceans and seas. Then label the map.**

Arcticocean caribbeansea indianoceansouthchinasea antarcticocean  
Atlanticocean mediterraneansea pacificocean



**6.- Read and underline the correct answer.**

- Rivers start in...  
the mountains      flat areas      plain areas
- Water in the upper course of a river flows....  
slowly      quickly
- Lakes and reservoirs are large areas of...  
moving water      still water      salt water
- Our planet has five...  
oceans      seas      rivers
- A compass has a magnetic needle that always points....  
south      north      east

**7.- Cross out the wrong words and write correct sentences.**

a. As rivers flow across mountainous areas, they get wider and slower.

.....

b. The mouth of the river is the place where it begins.

.....

c. A dam is a strong wall that stops the flow of a lake.

.....

d. There are five oceans: the Arctic, the Antarctic, the Indian, the Atlantic and the Mediterranean.

.....

.....

e. A compass is a plastic needle.

.....

8.- Circle the four cardinal points on the compass. Then, find them in the wordsearch and write them.



x	h	e	a	s	t
s	n	o	r	t	h
o	q	w	v	z	g
u	w	e	s	t	t
t	k	r	c	f	w
h	w	p	x	k	s

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9.- What kind of map do you need? Write.

- a. To locate a museum in a city. ....
- b. To locate a country in a continent. ....
- c. To locate mountain ranges in a country. ....
- d. To travel by car from one place to another. ....

10.-Complete your bilingual dictionary.

WATER AND LANDSCAPE		
-River : _____ - Tributary : _____ -River bed : _____ -Course: _____ -Flow : _____ -Source : _____ -Meander : _____ -Lake : _____ -Pond : _____	- Reservoir : _____ - Mouth : _____ - Dam : _____ - The Arctic Ocean : _____ - The Antarctic Ocean : _____ - The Atlantic Ocean: _____ -Compass : _____ - Archipelago : _____ - Isthmus: _____	- The Indian Ocean : _____ -The Pacific Ocean : _____ -Political map : _____ - Relief map: _____ -Tourist map : _____ -Road map : _____ - Cardinal Points: _____