

# **The All Star River Explorers- A Web Site for Teachers and Students**

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# All Star River Explorers

<http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/rivers/>

- Designed for 3-5 grade level
- For use as supplement to science, math, social studies materials
- Discusses rivers in terms of:
  - How they form and change over time
  - How we use them
- Resources for teachers
- Activities for students



# The All-Star River Explorers



This site requires Macromedia Flash Player 6.



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# The All-Star River Explorers

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Click on a section to learn more about rivers.



River Basics



River Dollars & Sense




All-Star River Explorers Hall of Fame




River Management: The Good the Bad & the Ugly

Ooze, Goo & Other Nasty Things



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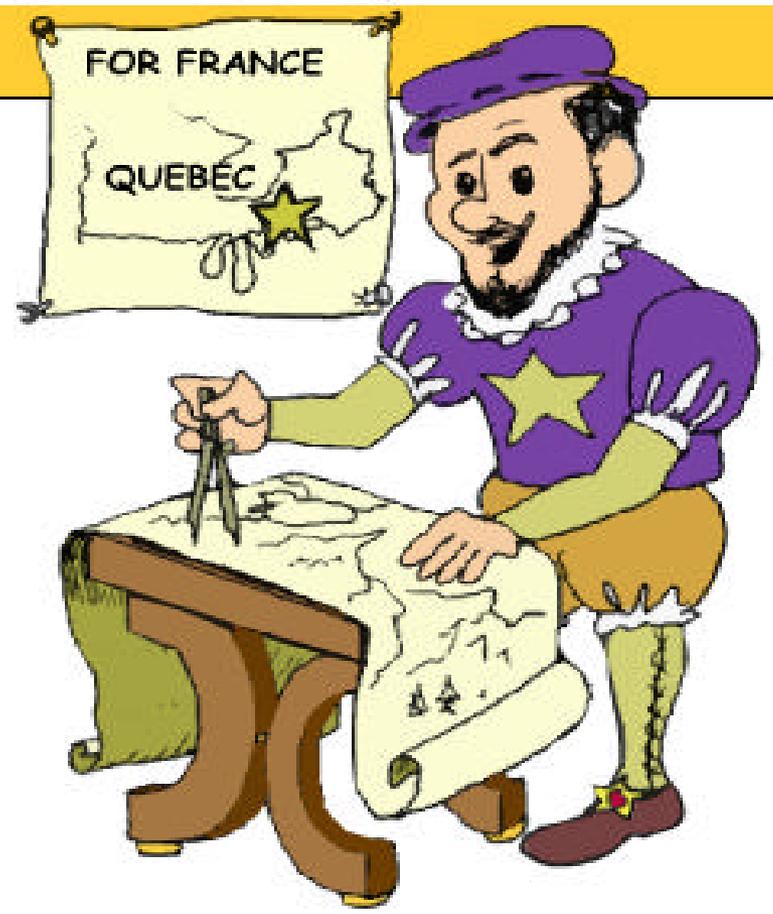


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## River Basics

Let's listen to Samuel de Champlain tell us about how rivers are formed and how various forces change them over time.



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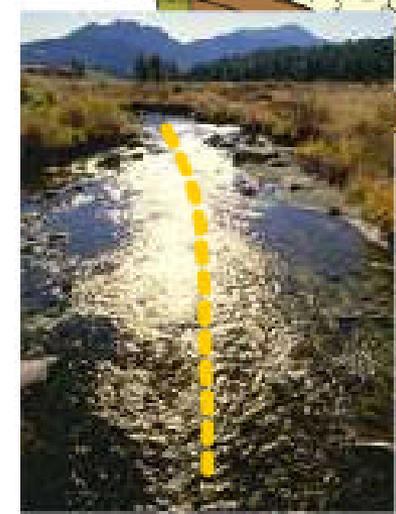
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## River Basics

People use many different words to describe streams. For example, large streams are called **rivers**. Small streams may be called **creeks**, **draws** or **brooks**.

No matter what size it is, all have one thing in common. They all flow in **channels**.



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## River Dollars and Sense

Often we think of the Mississippi River as a place to have fun, but it is also a hard working river. It supplies us drinking water, waters our crops and livestock, moves our goods, and entertains us. The Mississippi River is used for about every purpose you can use a river for...



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## River Dollars and Sense

Changes in the river whether high waters or low waters, affect commercial businesses as well as local tourism. This income loss affects people's lives in a big way. People have always depended on the rivers for income — basically it's all dollars and sense!



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## Ooze, Goo & Other Nasty Things

Asian carp are amazing! They grow to be 100 pounds and can jump 8-10 feet out of the water when they feel the vibrations of motor boats. Think of what happens when a fish this size hits someone in a motor boat. Ouch! Or worse! People's teeth have been knocked out and people have been knocked overboard.



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## Explorer's Hall of Fame



Choose an explorer to learn more about their river adventures!





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## Major John Wesley Powell



In 1856 when he was 22 years old, he traveled the Mississippi River alone in a row boat from the Falls of St. Anthony to its mouth. The following year, he rowed the length of the Ohio River from Pittsburgh to its mouth, and in 1858 he traveled the Illinois River to its mouth and then up the Des Moines River.





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## All-Stars Locker Room

Click on a towel to begin

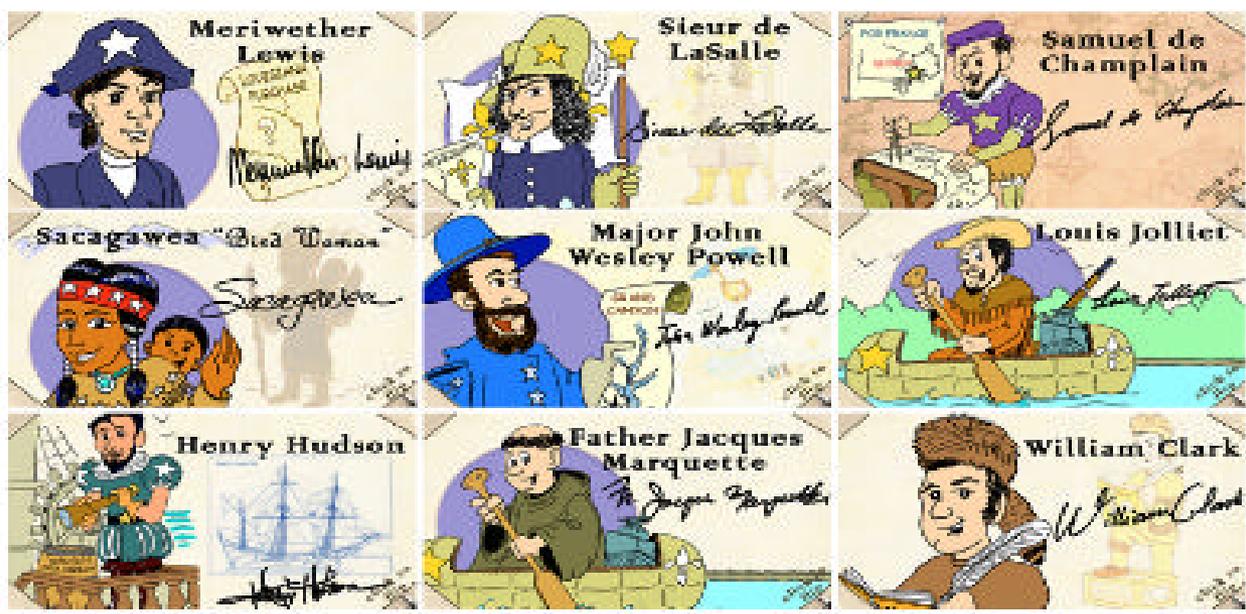
Go Team!





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Here are Trading Cards for you to print and share with your friends

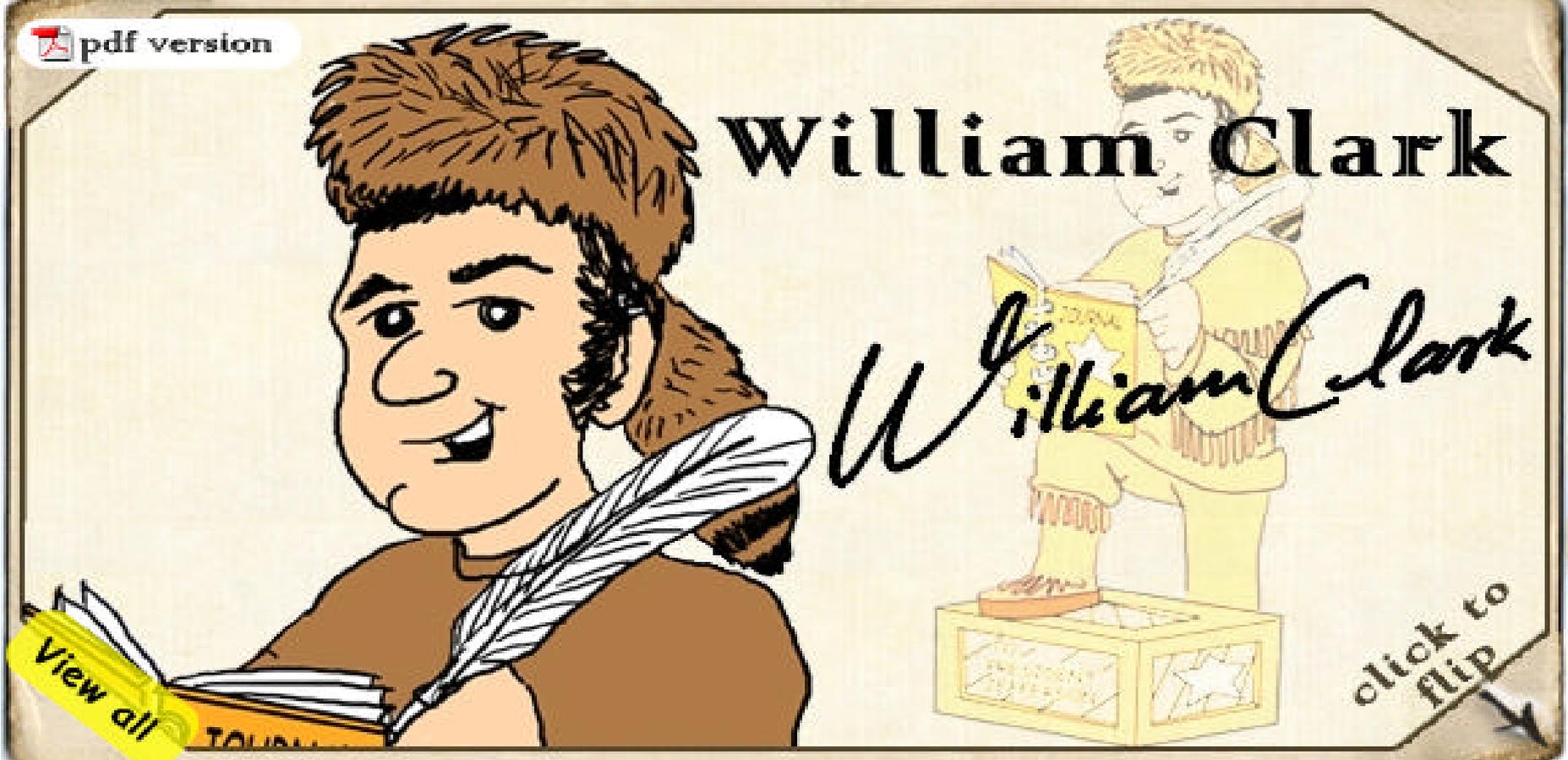




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 pdf version



**William Clark**

*William Clark*

View all

click to flip

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 pdf version

## William Clark

- August 1770** - Born in Virginia
- 1792-96** - Army officer.
- 1803** - Chosen to accompany Lewis on an expedition to the Pacific Ocean.
- 1807** - Appointed superintendent of Indian Affairs.
- 1813-1821** - Was again superintendent of Indian Affairs.
- 1838** - Died.



click to flip  
↓

View all





# The All-Star River Explorers

## Select your explorer!

Enter Your Name:

State:

Country:

ACKGTT3341

Marquette

\$ Dollars

< >

Let's Play >

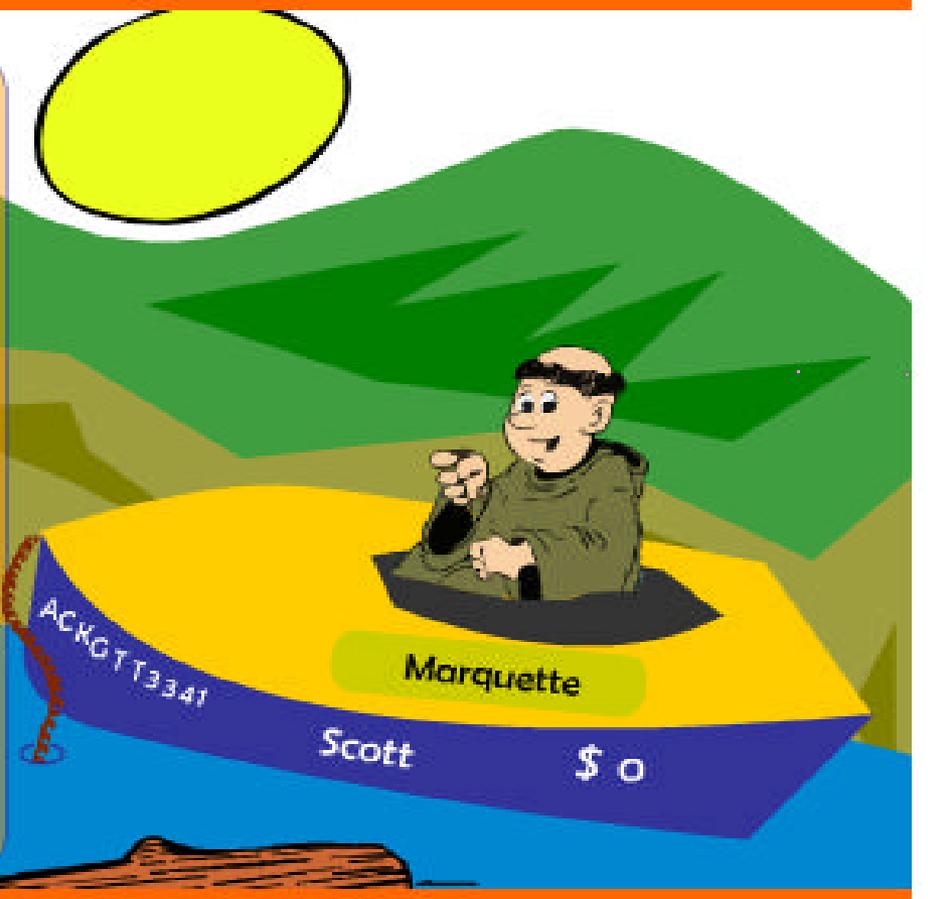




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Famous Rivers	Barging In	Dams and Rivers	Go with the Flow
\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500





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What river is also known as "Old Man River"?

---

Illinois River

Mississippi River

Iowa River

Pass





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You've got it right!

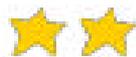
---

Mississippi River

---

You win: \$100

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# The All-Star River Explorers

Where in the world are these rivers?

We need your help at locating the rivers in the following map. Click on a river, and select its name from the box that will appear.

START>





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Go Back

## Select a River

Yukon	St. Lawrence
Missouri	James
Mississippi	Red
Rio Grande	Ohio
Arkansas	Colorado





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## Teacher's Guide

Welcome to **The All-Star River Explorers**, an elementary program for third through fifth grade students.

**The All-Star River Explorers** is designed to introduce students to the basics of hydrology and increase their understanding of how rivers are formed and their importance in our lives. Activities will enhance student's skills in math, science, language arts, social studies, and art.

You will have many options in using this website with your students. Choose any or all of the suggested activities for your class.

Many activities are for students to work independently and some will be ideal for group work. We in University of Illinois Extension hope you enjoy using the **The All-Star River Explorers** with your students and discovering the rich history of our river explorers.

If you complete our online request form, we will send you a poster for your classroom featuring **The All-Star River Explorers**.

### ★ ★ Introduction

Rivers are an essential part of our world. Since the beginning of time, people have traveled on them and built cities along them. Rivers have provided food as well as a source of commerce and entertainment for centuries.

### ★ ★ Getting Ready

# The All-Star River Explorers



## Building a Stream Table



To see how a stream table works, visit **River Basics** at:  
[http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/rivers/basics\\_03.html](http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/rivers/basics_03.html)

### ★ ★ General Model Stream Materials List

**(Additional or fewer parts may be needed, if building plans are changed)**

Total cost approximately \$300



## ★ ★ Book References

**Exploring Ecosystems: Rivers and Streams** by Patricia A. Fink Martin. Published by Franklin Watts, 1999. Contains projects and investigations designed for middle and junior high students to help them understand how important rivers and streams are to life on Earth

### **Books on the Chicago River**

<http://www.chicagoriver.org/river/booklist.asp?Filter=River%20Books>

**A River Ran Wild: An Environmental History** by Lynne Cherry. Published by Harcourt Brace & Company, March 1992. An account of "the Nashua River, which runs through New Hampshire and Massachusetts. The book traces the environmental history of the river into the present, documenting the river's destruction by industrial pollution and its eventual reclamation."

## ★ ★ Magazines

**Big River Magazine** (Upper Mississippi River)

<http://www.big-river.com/>

**Stream Notes** (U.S. Forest Service)

<http://www.stream.fs.fed.us/>

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# Additional Materials

- Posters for teachers
- Bookmarks for students



# The All-Star River Explorers

## Credits

★ ★ The All-Star River Explorers was developed by:

- Duane Friend, Extension Educator, Natural Resources Management
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