



Mississippi National River and Recreation Area

www.nps.gov/miss
www.livetheriver.org
651-293-0200

Name _____ Age _____

Keep Going!

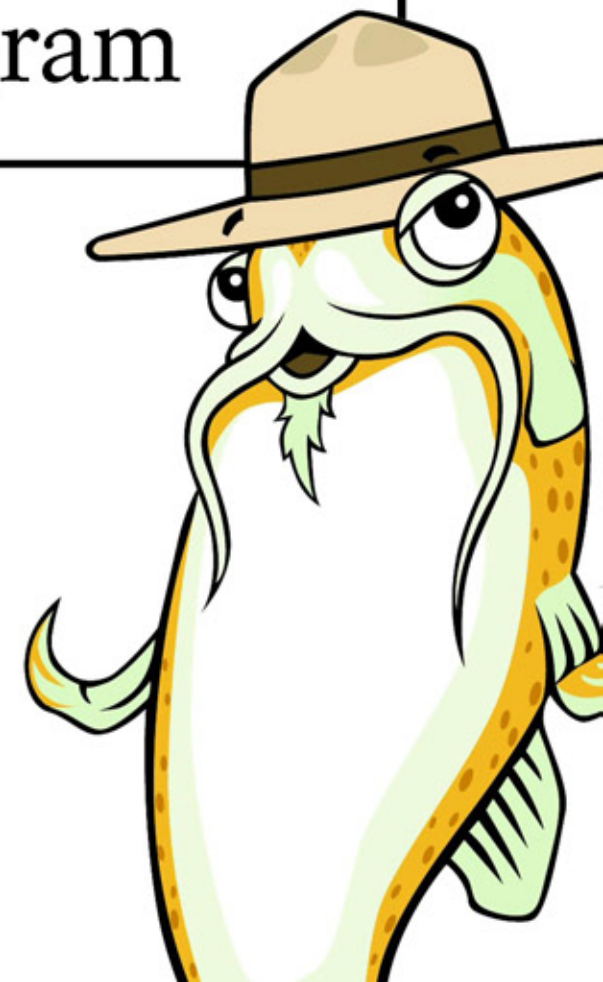
Complete all the other Junior
Ranger workbooks!

- ★ Mill City Museum
- ★ The Mississippi River Visitor Center
(in the Science Museum of Minnesota)
- ★ North Mississippi Regional Park



Junior Ranger Program

Mill Ruins Park



Then and Now

This is an 1885 drawing of the Minneapolis Riverfront. Many of these buildings and bridges still exist.

Color in the circle next to the buildings and bridges you see while exploring along the river. Try and find them all!

West Side Flour Mill
(Hint: only ruins remain)

Suspension Bridge

St. Anthony Falls

Steel Railroad Trestle
(Hint: only a small part of it remains.)

What giant letter is on the side of the Pillsbury Mill?

How do boats move up stream and down stream past the waterfall?



Why doesn't St. Anthony falls look like a natural waterfall anymore?

What is your favorite part of the Minneapolis Riverfront?



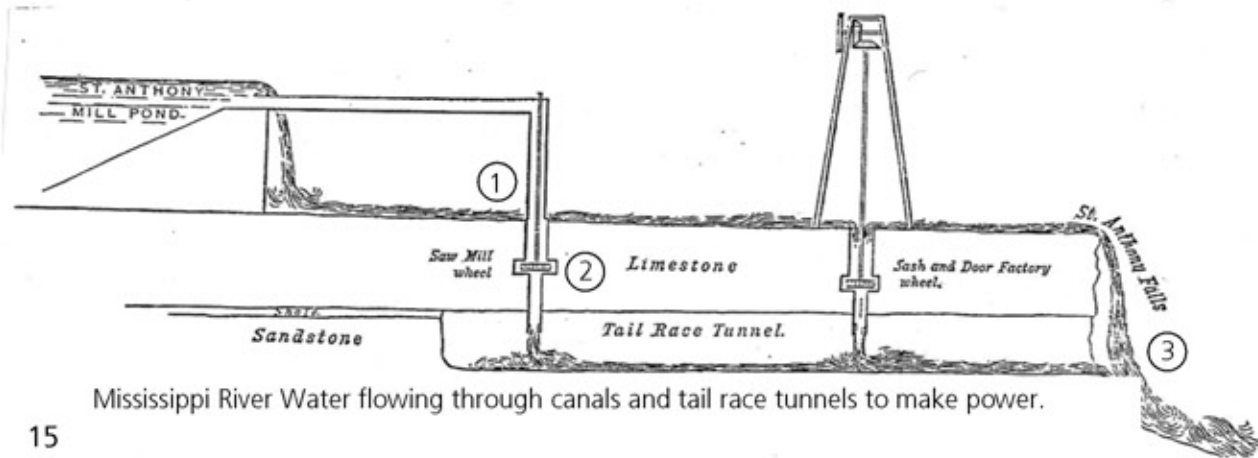
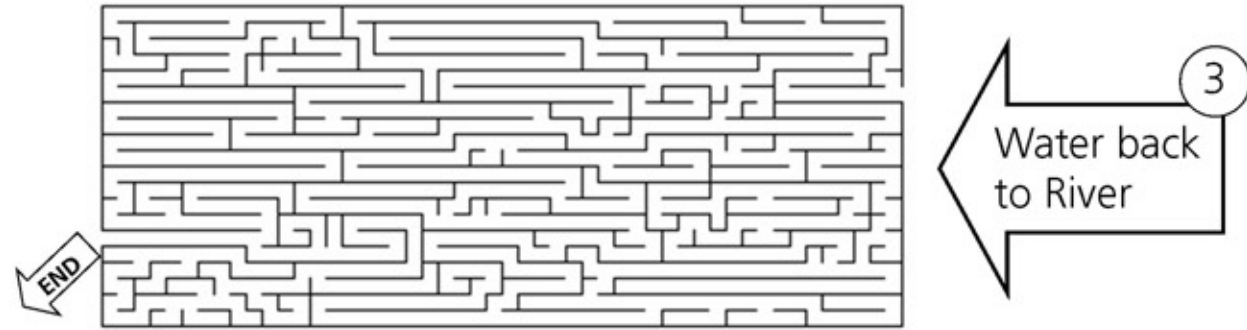
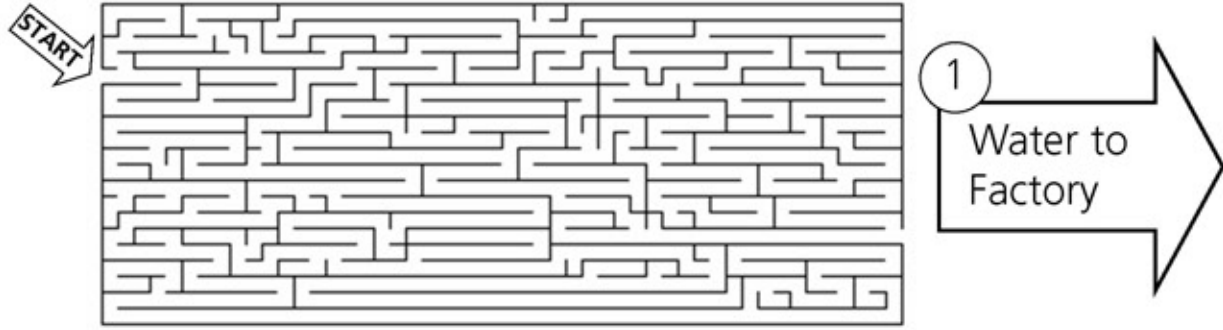
Take a free tour of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam. Tours are offered most days in summer. The lock and dam entrance is at the bottom of the path that goes under the west end of the Stone Arch bridge.



Water is Power

Find your way through the canal mazes below to learn how Minneapolis factories used to:

1. Get water out of the Mississippi River from above the falls,
2. Run it through to the mills to make power,
3. Then return the water back into the Mississippi River below the falls.



Mississippi River Water flowing through canals and tail race tunnels to make power.



Turkey Vulture



Bald Eagle



Great Blue Heron



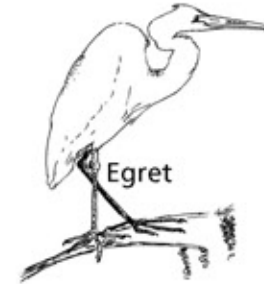
Dragonfly



Song Bird



Mayfly



Egret



Raccoon



Grebe



Cormorant



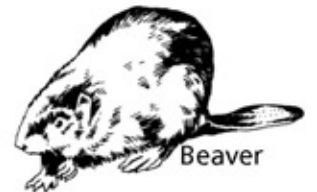
Muskrat



fish



Turtle



Beaver

National Parks!



Mill Ruins Park is part of a National Park called the *Mississippi National River and Recreation Area*.

Over 390 National Park areas all over the United States protect areas that are important to the entire country. They keep historic buildings and fields preserved, they keep natural areas healthy for animals and plants, and they preserve and tell stories that otherwise might be forgotten.

What about Mill Ruins Park is important to the entire country?

What about the Mississippi River is important to the entire country?



Eager Beavers

Look upriver from the Stone Arch Bridge. You can see a beaver-like change humans made to the Mississippi River.

Minneapolis was founded on tricks humans learned from Beavers.

In the mid 1800's, logs were floated down the Mississippi River to Minneapolis for cutting.

Minneapolis became the flour milling capital of the world in 1880 by changing the flow of the river with dams and canals to create water power.

What change did humans make to the river here?

Why do you think people built that?

Beavers build dams to make the water deep enough not to freeze in winter.

Beavers can swim faster than you can walk

Adult beavers often cut down more than 200 trees a year.

Beavers still live along the Minneapolis Riverfront! Keep an eye out for cut trees or beaver dams.

Beavers sometimes dig canals to float far away trees to their dens.

Beavers were trapped for their warm and waterproof fur.



River Poetry

The Mississippi River has inspired many artists.

How does the river's beauty, power, and mystery inspire you?

Follow Freddie the Flathead Catfish's directions below to write river poetry.

Line 1: In one word, write the name of something you have seen or heard along the Mississippi River.

Line 2: Write two words that describe your first word.

Line 3: Write three action words about your first word.

Line 4: Using four or five words write a phrase about your first word.

Line 5: Choose one final word to sum up your poem.



Eagle
Sharp, Fast
Playing, diving, catching
Always watching the water
Hunter



Pretend you are an archaeologist digging up the history of these flour mills. What kind of artifact do you think you might find?

Draw a picture and describe your discovery below:



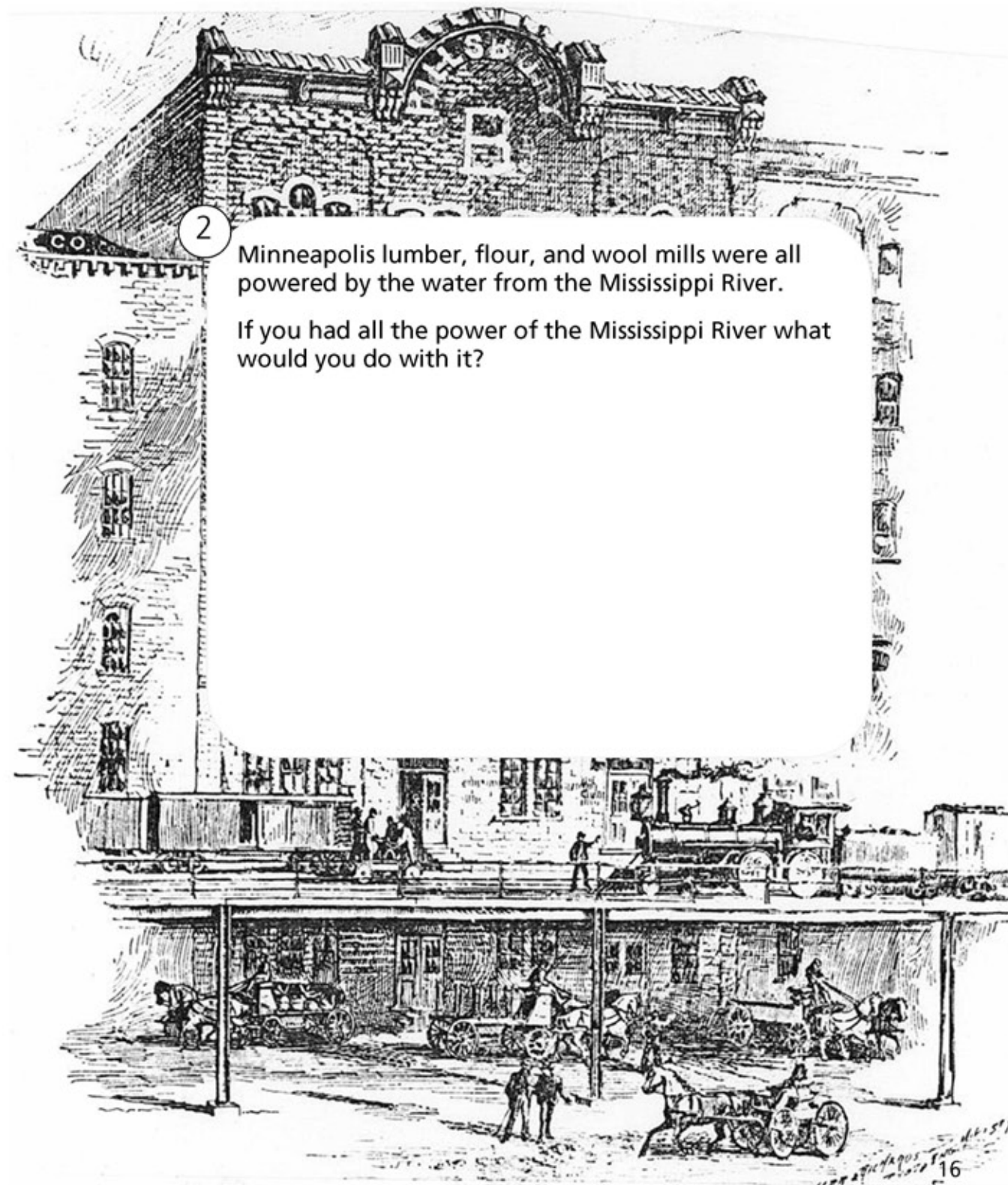
Please leave everything where you find it!

Wildlife in the City!

Many different types of animals live along the Mississippi River right here in the Minneapolis Riverfront. Look upstream from the east end of the Stone Arch Bridge for river wildlife.

1. Look for animals (or signs of animals) and circle the ones you see.
2. Make notes of where you saw them and what they were doing.

Junior Ranger Wildlife Notes:





Scavenger Hunt



Help Freddie the Flathead Catfish find the answers to the following questions.

You can find the answers by looking at the signs, maps, and buildings around Mill Ruins Park and on the Stone Arch Bridge. **Answer as many questions as you can!**

Name a group of American Indian people who traveled around St. Anthony Falls.

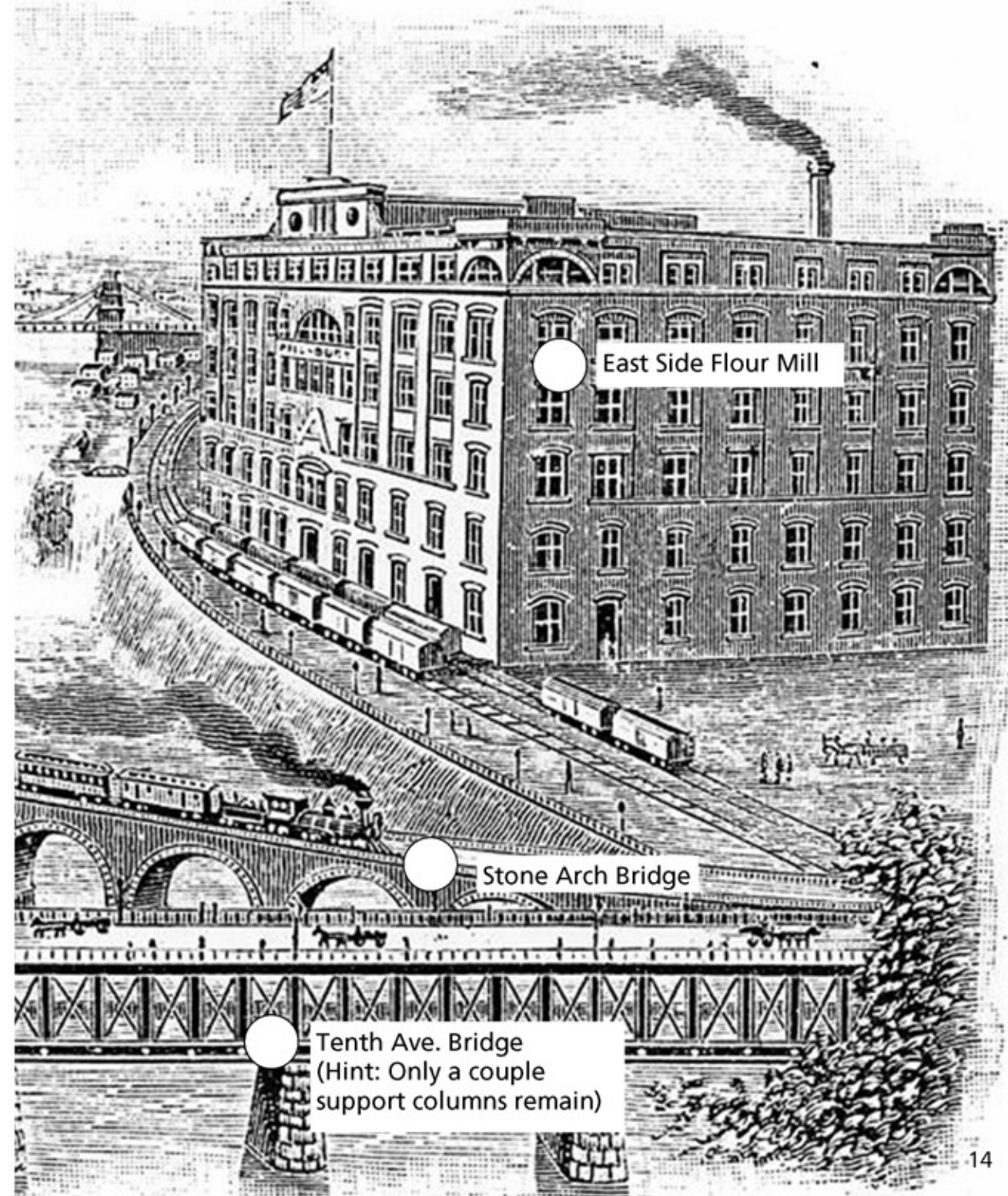


Why was the Stone Arch Bridge built?

Name an island in the Mississippi River near St. Anthony Falls.

What powered the flour mills?

What year was the Stone Arch Bridge completed?

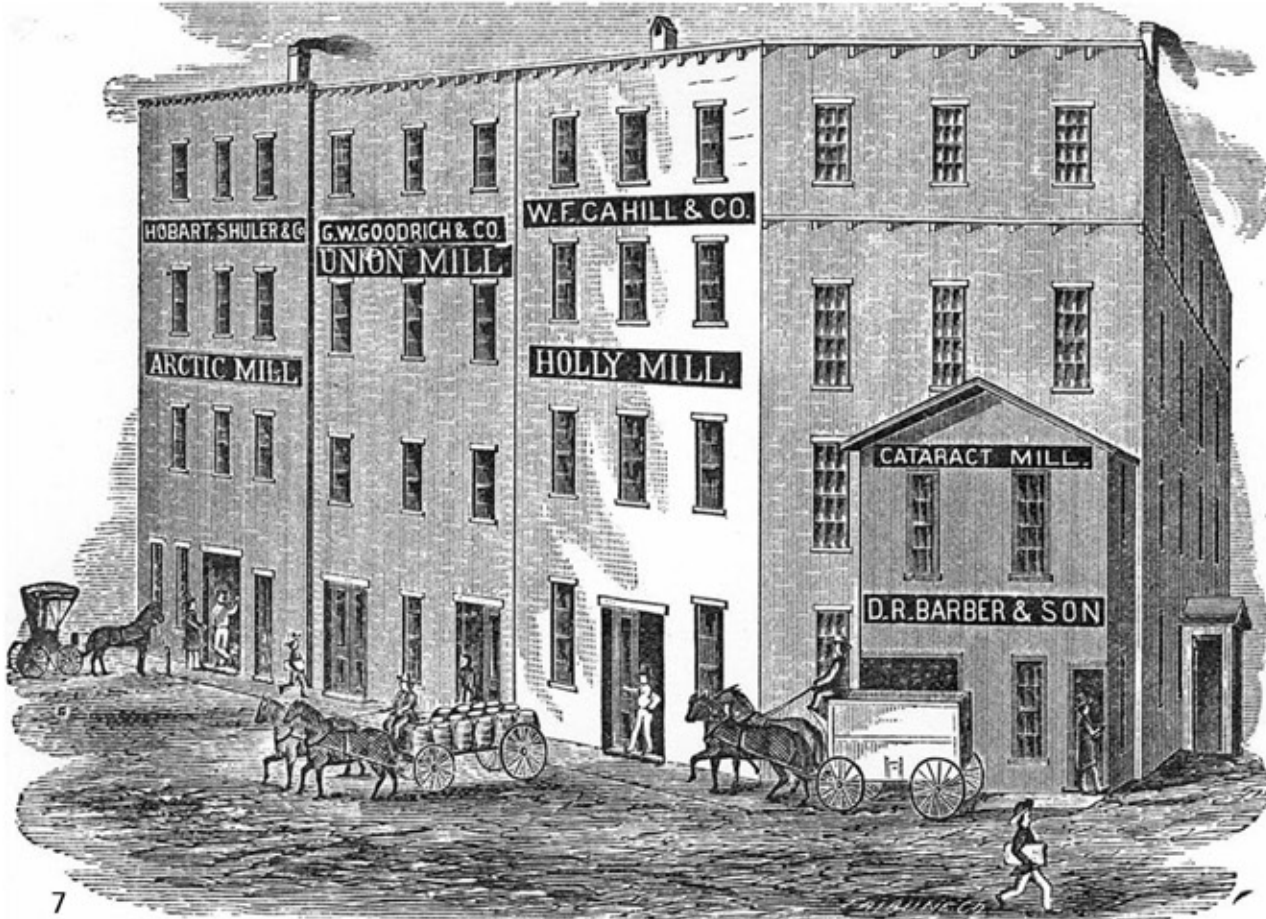


Be an Archaeologist!

Just off the west end of the Stone Arch Bridge are the ruins of four 1860s flour mills (drawn below).

Only the bottom of the front walls of the mills are still visible above the ground. However, there is much more evidence of the mills below the ground. *On weekends in summer you can help dig and discover the buried history!*

See if you can figure out which pieces of ruin wall belong to each of the flour mills drawn below. A donut-shaped mill stone (used for grinding wheat into flour) is on the wall of the Cataract Mill.



_____ 's
(Your Name Here)

Mississippi River Poem:

Line 1: _____

Line 2: _____

Line 3: _____

Line 4: _____

Line 5: _____





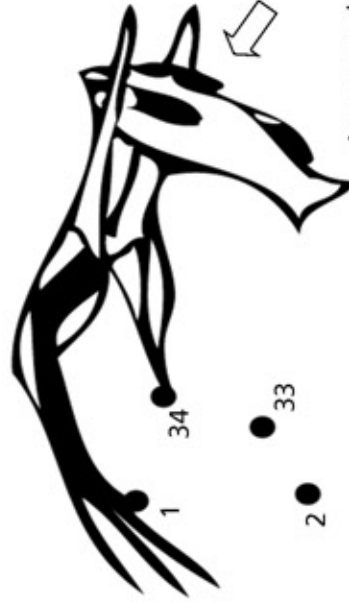
River Dweller

Great Blue Heron

Great blue herons have body parts adapted for hunting.

Connect the dots to see this predator's hunting tools.

Then fill in the blanks to find out how the heron uses these tools.



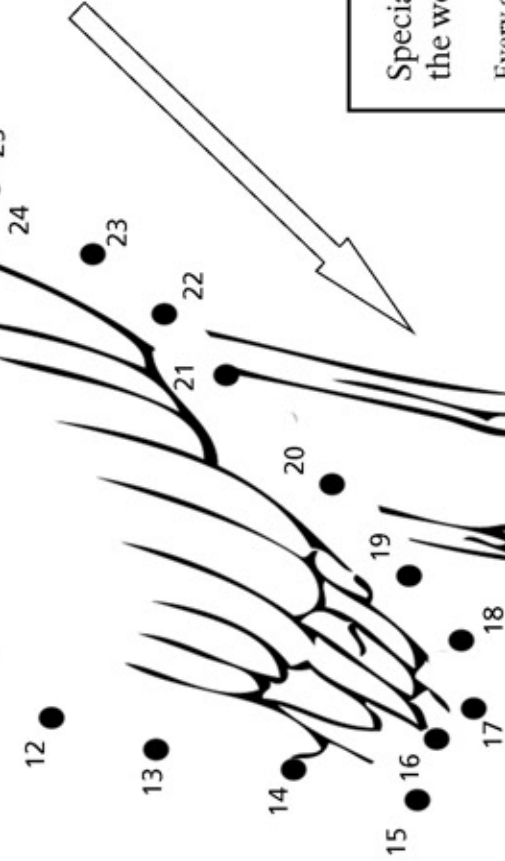
A narrow long _____ catches slippery fish and frogs.



A long and thin _____ is curled into an "S" shape, ready to strike lightning fast, while the heron looks for prey.



Blue-gray colored _____ look like the sky to animals underwater.



Tall, skinny, and dark _____ keep the Great Blue Heron dry and look like underwater sticks to fish and frogs.

Special features that help an animal survive in the world around it are called **adaptations**.

Every animal, even people, have adaptations.

List two different animals and their adaptations below.

Animal	Adaptation
Example Great Blue Heron	Long Beak
1.	_____
2.	_____

Want to earn a Junior Ranger Badge?

Complete as many of the activities in this booklet as you can and show it to someone who works at Mill Ruins Park or Mill City Museum to get your Junior Ranger Badge.

Junior Ranger Pledge:

As a Junior Ranger
of the Mississippi River
I promise to:
Explore the River,
Learn about the River,
and Take Care of the River



Freddie the Flathead Catfish

When you earn a Mississippi River Junior Ranger Badge you become a member of a special group. Junior Rangers help National Park Rangers protect the Mississippi by exploring, learning about, and taking care of the river.

Park Rangers provide many special programs just to help Junior Rangers fulfill their pledge. Sign up for the free program mailing list when you get your badge.

Image Sources:

www.fromsitetostory.com The Institute for Minnesota Archeology: Pages 7, 8, 13 - 16
Discovery School: (<http://school.discovery.com/clipart/>): Pages 5
National Park Service: Cover, 1, 2, 4, 6, 9 - 12, 17, 18



If you could create your own National Park what would it be? What you would be protecting?
Draw a picture of your park below.

