



## Big River Journey Classroom Activity: Geography

# Map the River in the Twin Cities!

### Instructions for students:

**Use the map template “Mississippi River: Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota” and other maps and resources (including National Park Service brochure) to create your own map of the Mississippi River in the Twin Cities.**

1. Complete the compass rose beneath the map title by writing “N” for north, “S” for south, “E” for east, and “W” for west. And in the lower part of the page, draw a line with division marks to create a “scale of miles,” ensuring that the scale can be used to measure distances on the map.
2. Use city maps to locate where the Interstate 94 and Interstate 35E highways cross the river, and draw the bridges onto your map.
3. Locate and draw the Hennepin Ave. bridge, Lake St. bridge, Smith Ave. “High Bridge,” and the Highway 52 (“Lafayette”) bridge on your map.
4. Locate and label downtown Minneapolis and downtown St. Paul on your map.
5. Indicate the location of Historic Fort Snelling with an orange star, and label it.
6. Locate and label the Minnesota River and Minnehaha Creek on your map. Draw a line across Minnehaha Creek where Minnehaha Falls is, and label it.
7. Locate and label Nicollet Island and Pike Island. Color them light green.
8. Locate and draw in St. Anthony Falls; label it. Draw a line across the river where Lock and Dam #1 (“Ford Dam”) is located; label it.
9. Use a National Park Service map (or others) to find “river miles”; indicate them on your map. “River miles” indicate number of miles upstream from the Ohio River; on your map these numbers should be from 835 to 855, and may be indicated for every 5 miles.
10. If your school and/or your home can be located on the map, mark them with a red star (school) and a blue star (home), and label them “school” and “home.”
11. Use a map of Mississippi River canoe routes to locate boat access locations and canoe campsites. Mark them on your map.
12. Locate at least four more historic or modern river features and label them on your map. Some possibilities include Mounds Park, Fountain Cave, Carver Cave, Kaposia, Crosby Lake, Pickerel Lake, Fort Snelling State Park, Minnehaha Park, Boom Island Park, Hidden Falls Park, railroad bridges, historic mills, etc.
13. Color the rivers, lakes and streams light blue. Lightly color land areas as desired.

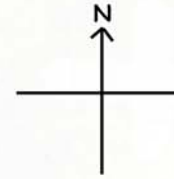


Mississippi National River  
and Recreation Area

## Map the Mississippi River in the Twin Cities

# Mississippi River

Minneapolis - Saint Paul, Minnesota





Mississippi National River and Recreation Area

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