



WATERSHED 360°

INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY [GRADES 9-12]

**Nebraska Social Studies
and/or Science Standards
Addressed**

(To be added when the new standards are completed and approved)

TITLE: MAPPING THE WATERSHEDS

Overview: Students will label three watersheds in the United States. The activity is set for students to get a broad overview of the largest watershed and then work back to one closer to home and more Nebraska specific.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Labeled maps of the Mississippi, Missouri, and Platte River watersheds
- Unlabeled maps of the Mississippi, Missouri, and Platte River watersheds
- All maps can be found in the Watershed 360° Resources Document | 9-12.

SUGGESTED PROCEDURE

1. Hand out the labeled and unlabeled maps of the Mississippi River watershed.

[Mississippi_River_Watershed.jpg]

[1117px-Mississippiriver-new-01.png]

Have the students label the following rivers:

- a. Mississippi
- b. Missouri
- c. Ohio
- d. Arkansas
- e. Illinois
- f. Wabash
- g. Tennessee
- h. Red

2. Hand out the labeled and unlabeled maps of the Missouri River watershed.

[Missouri_River_basin_map.png]

[Missouririvercoregions.jpg]

Have the students label the following rivers.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| a. Missouri | i. Platte |
| b. Milk | j. Kansas |
| c. Yellowstone | k. Osage |
| d. Little Missouri | l. Republican |
| e. Grand | m. Smoky Hill |
| f. Cheyenne | n. James |
| g. White | o. Big Sioux |
| h. Niobrara | |



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3. Hand out the labeled and unlabeled maps of the Platte River watershed.

[Platterivermap.png]

[1024px-Platterivermap.original.jpg]

Have the students label the following rivers.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| a. Platte | g. Laramie |
| b. North Platte | h. South Loup |
| c. South Platte | i. Middle Loup |
| d. Loup | j. North Loup |
| e. Elkhorn | k. Calamus |
| f. Sweetwater | l. Lodgepole Creek |

4. Hold a discussion on what the students learned about the three watersheds while doing this activity. Tell students that the activity was designed to have them thinking about watersheds and the scope of watersheds.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES

Outline map of United States Rivers: <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/usa/outlinemaps/rivers/map.GIF>

Labeled map of Mississippi River Watershed:

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/c3/Mississippiriver-new-01.png/1117px-Mississippiriver-new-01.png>

[1117px-Mississippiriver-new-01.png]

Unlabeled map of Mississippi River Watershed

By Unknown - <http://www.nwrc.usgs.gov/factshts/016-00/016-00.htm>, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=8145646>

[Mississippi_River_Watershed.jpg]

Labeled map of Missouri River Watershed:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Missouri_River#/media/File:Missouri_River_basin_map.png

By Shannon 1, 21 March 2018 (GNU Free Documentation License, version 1.2):

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:GNU_Free_Documentation_License_version_1.2

[Missouri_River_basin_map.png]

Unlabeled map of Missouri River Regions/Watershed

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Missouri_River#/media/File:Missouririvercoregions.jpg

[Missouririvercoregions.jpg]

Labeled map of the Platte River Watershed:

<http://nebraskastudies.org/1800-1849/routes-west/platte-river-road/#lg=1&slide=1>

[1024px-Platterivermap.original.jpg]

Outline map of Platte River Watershed:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Platte_River

[Platterivermap.png]