

Turn page over for instructions and more puzzle pieces.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY  
GEOGRAPHY ACTION

*Project 2007*

## A River Puzzle.

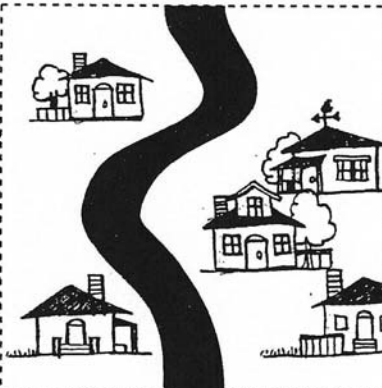
Every river has a beginning and an end, but a lot of different things can go on in between! The things we do in a watershed—the area drained by a river—can affect the health of rivers.

**Your challenge:** Make a healthy river that everyone can live with for a long, long time! (See other side for instructions.)

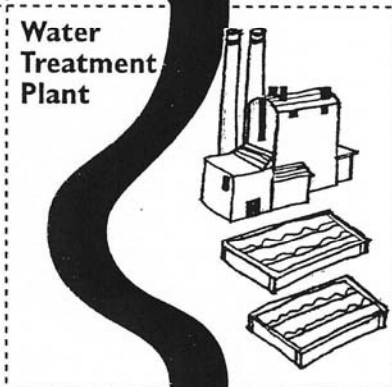
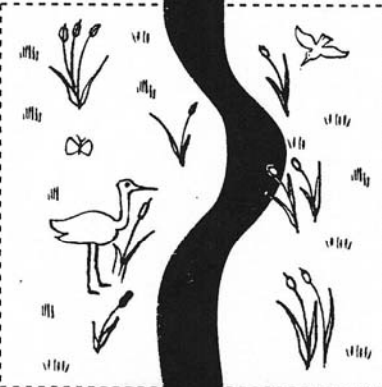
**Caution:** Before cutting puzzle pieces, copy one or both sides of the handout.



Megalopolis



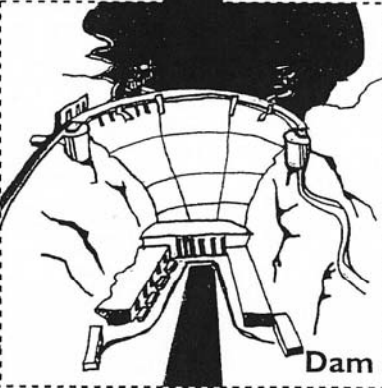
Sewage Treatment Plant



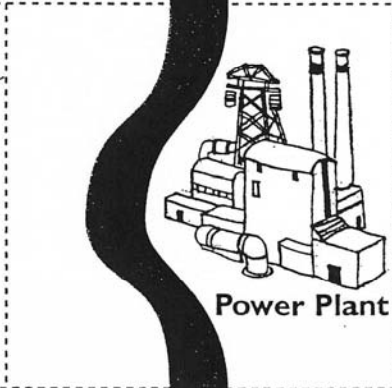
Water Treatment Plant



Paper Mill

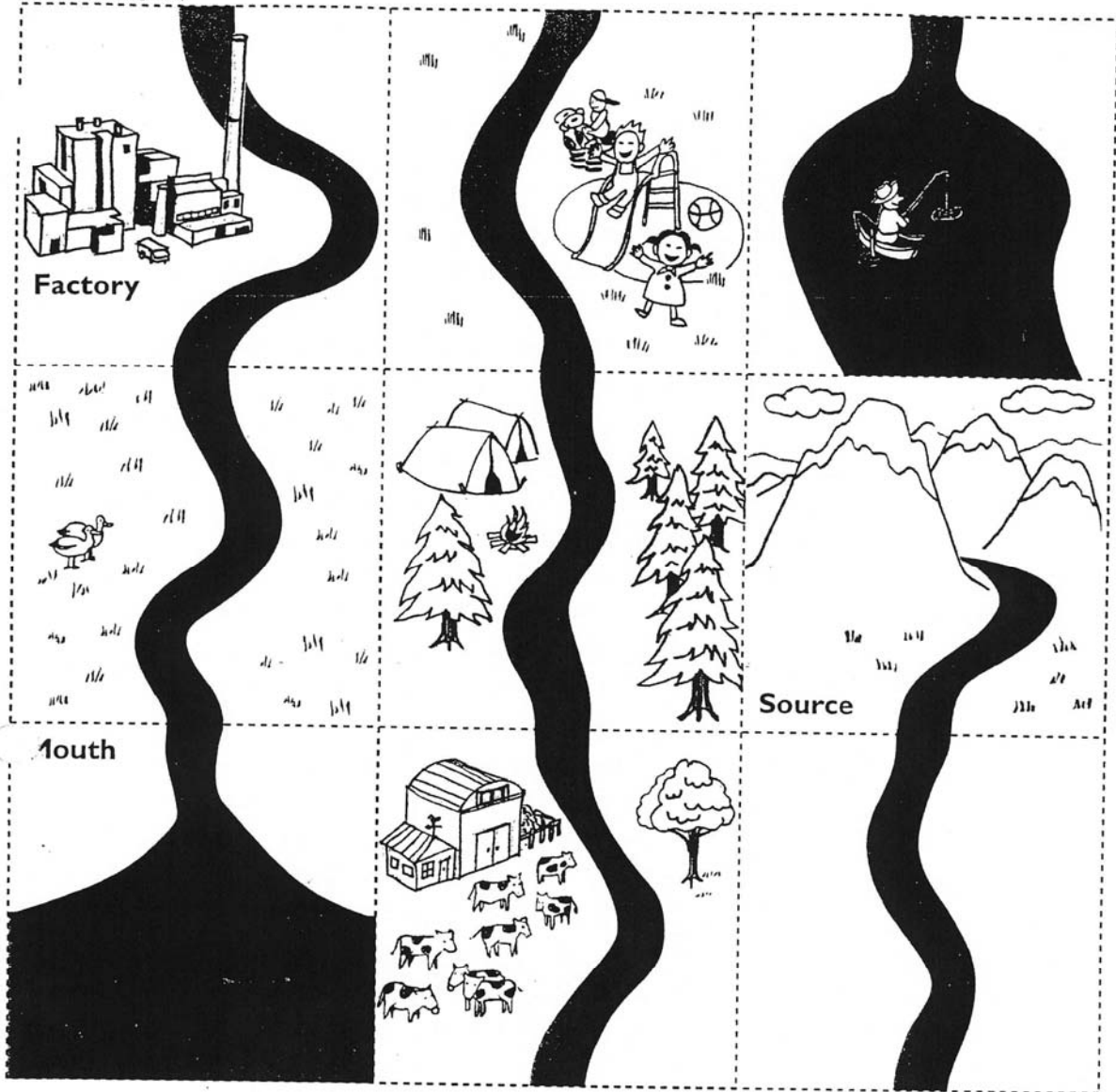


Dam



Power Plant

Want to learn more about rivers? Want to keep our rivers safe and clean? Go to [www.nationalgeographic.com/geographyaction](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geographyaction)



**Instructions:**

- Copy one or both sides of this handout. Then cut out the puzzle pieces or ask a grownup for help.
- Put the SOURCE piece (the beginning of a river) near the top of a big sheet of construction paper and the MOUTH piece (a river's end) near the bottom.
- Sort the other pieces into categories: nature, urban, agriculture, industry, recreation, power.

**How to Plan Your River:** Consider how each activity or use along a river could affect people, animals, and plants downstream (in the direction of, or closer to, the mouth). Ask yourself:

- What are some ways that people use rivers?
- What can happen to a river when a factory is nearby?
- What can happen when a town is close to a river?
- Where along a river would water be clean for swimming or fishing?
- Could building a dam change a watershed?
- Does farming affect the water in a river?

Move the puzzle pieces around until you're satisfied, then tape your river to the construction paper.

**Make a Special River:** Be creative! Use puzzle pieces to make a model of a river in your state. Collect pictures from magazines and make your own puzzle pieces.