



## ***Rivers, Lakes, and Marshes***

**1** Turn to pages 10–11. What is the purpose of the main picture? What does it show? Draw a copy of the picture and add labels for “Sun,” “water vapor,” “rivers,” “groundwater,” and “sea.”

*Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.7*

**2** Do you know what “precipitation” is? If not, turn to page 12 and the glossary to find out. What are the two most common forms of precipitation?

*Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.4, RI.5.4*

**3** Read pages 16–17 about how rivers can change the land they flow through. Describe how canyons and gorges can be created.

*Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.3, RI.5.3*

**4** Look at the small map on page 19. What is the purpose of this map? Where does the Mississippi River start? When does the river end?

*Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.7*

**5** Read pages 20–21 about the Amazon River and the Nile River. Which of these two great rivers is the longest? Which river carries the most water?

*Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.1, RI.5.1*

**6** Read about lakes on pages 24–25. Why is Lake Natron in Tanzania toxic? How are flamingos adapted to live there?

*Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.1, RI.5.1*

**7** Turn to pages 26–27. What is the purpose of the four pictures? How do they help you understand the different kinds of lakes?

*Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.7*

**8** Pages 30–31 describe how the Great Lakes can impact the weather. Describe what happens in the phenomenon called the “lake effect.” What kind of weather does it cause?

*Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.3*

**9** Do you know the difference between a marsh, a swamp, and a bog? If not, turn to pages 34–35 to find out. What kinds of plants are commonly found in each one?

*Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.1, RI.5.1*

**10** Look at pages 40–41 about people and wetlands. Name some of the reasons why many people around the world live near rivers, lakes, and marshes.

*Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.1, RI.5.1*

## Answers

- 1 To illustrate the water cycle; Answers will vary.
- 2 rain, snow, and other forms of water that fall from the sky; rain and snow
- 3 Rushing water pulls at the sides and bottom of a river channel; the rock erodes; over time, this carves narrow valleys with steep sides called canyons or gorges.
- 4 to illustrate the size of the Mississippi River and show its location; Lake Itasca; the Gulf of Mexico
- 5 Nile River; Amazon River
- 6 It is so salty that most things cannot live in it; they have thick, leathery skin on their legs and glands in their heads to remove the salt from the water.
- 7 To show what each kind of lake looks like; Answers will vary.
- 8 Cool air moves across the warmer lake water in the winter; the air absorbs heat from the water; it picks up water that is evaporating from the lake; this moist air rises and cools creating blizzards of snow; lots of snow.
- 9 fast-growing plants with flexible stems like reeds; bigger plants and trees; a thick, carpet-like layer of moss
- 10 Growing crops on fertile farmland, good transportation, recreation; Answers will vary.