Name: _____ Date: _____

One River That Flows Through Many Capitals

Circle group

Most rivers pass a few towns. The Danube, in Europe, passes many. It starts in the hills of Germany. There, two small streams join. Then the river flows east. It gets wider as more rivers pour into it.

The Danube goes through four capital cities. They are Vienna in Austria, Bratislava in Slovakia, Budapest in Hungary, and Belgrade in Serbia. Each city grew by the river because water is useful. People could drink it, fish in it, and travel on it. Today, long flat boats called barges still carry goods like grain on the Danube.

The river crosses many borders. So the countries have to work together. They agree on rules for boats. They help keep the water clean. What one country does to the river reaches the next country.

At the end, the Danube comes to Romania. There it spreads out into a delta. A delta is a fan of small channels and wet land. Many birds live there. Then the river flows into the Black Sea.

Questions

1. Where does the Danube begin?

_____

_____

2. Which four capital cities does the Danube pass through?

_____

_____

3. What do barges carry on the Danube?

_____

_____

4. What is a delta?

_____

_____

5. Why did cities grow by the river?

_____

_____

6. Why do the countries along the Danube have to work together?

_____

_____

Words to know

capital: the city where a country's government sits
barges: long, flat boats used to carry heavy goods
borders: the lines that separate one country from another
delta: low land where a river splits into many channels before the sea

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

One River That Flows Through Many Capitals

Triangle group

Most rivers flow past a few towns. The Danube, in Europe, flows past a great many. It begins in the hills of Germany, where two small streams join. From there it moves east. It grows wider as other rivers flow into it.

On its way, the Danube passes through the capital cities of four countries. They are Vienna in Austria, Bratislava in Slovakia, Budapest in Hungary, and Belgrade in Serbia. Each city grew up beside the river because water was so useful. People could drink it, fish in it, and travel on it. Even today, long flat boats called barges carry goods such as grain along the Danube.

The river crosses many borders, so the countries along it have to work together. They agree on rules for boats. They share the job of keeping the water clean. What one country does to the river will reach the next country downstream.

At last the Danube arrives in Romania. There it spreads out into a delta, a fan of small channels and wetlands. Many birds make their homes there. Then the river empties into the Black Sea.

Questions

1. Where does the Danube begin?

_____

_____

2. Which four capital cities does the Danube pass through?

_____

_____

3. What do barges carry along the Danube?

_____

_____

4. What is a delta?

_____

_____

5. Why did cities grow up beside the river?

_____

_____

6. Why must the countries along the Danube work together?

_____

_____

Words to know

capital: the city where a country's government sits
barges: long, flat boats used to carry heavy goods
borders: the lines that separate one country from another
delta: low land where a river splits into many channels before the sea
downstream: in the direction that a river flows

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

One River That Flows Through Many Capitals

Square group

Most rivers pass by only a handful of towns, but the Danube, in Europe, flows past a great many. It begins in the hills of Germany, where two small streams meet and join together. From there it travels east, growing steadily wider as other rivers pour their water into it.

Along the way, the Danube runs through the capital cities of four different countries: Vienna in Austria, Bratislava in Slovakia, Budapest in Hungary, and Belgrade in Serbia. Each of these cities grew up beside the river because water was so valuable to the people who settled there. They could drink it, fish in it, and travel on it. Even today, long flat boats called barges carry goods such as grain along the Danube.

Because the river crosses so many borders, the countries along its banks must cooperate. They agree on rules for the boats that use the river, and they share the responsibility of keeping the water clean. Whatever one country does to the river will eventually reach its neighbor downstream.

Finally, the Danube arrives in Romania and spreads out into a delta, a fan of small channels and wetlands that shelters many kinds of birds. After that, the river empties into the Black Sea.

Questions

1. Where does the Danube begin?

_____

_____

2. Which four capital cities does the Danube run through?

_____

_____

3. What kind of boats carry goods such as grain on the river?

_____

_____

4. What is a delta?

_____

_____

5. Why did cities settle beside the river?

_____

_____

6. Why must the countries along the Danube cooperate?

_____

_____

Words to know

capital: the city where a country's government sits
barges: long, flat boats used to carry heavy goods
borders: the lines that separate one country from another
delta: low land where a river splits into many channels before the sea
downstream: in the direction that a river flows

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: One River That Flows Through Many Capitals

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: One River That Flows Through Many Capitals

Easier · 168 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.2

1. In the hills of Germany, where two small streams join.
2. Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest and Belgrade.
3. Goods like grain.
4. A fan of small channels and wet land where a river spreads out.
5. Water is useful for drinking, fishing and travel.
6. The river crosses many borders, so what one country does reaches the next.

Triangle: One River That Flows Through Many Capitals

This passage · 185 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.2

1. In the hills of Germany, where two small streams join.
2. Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest and Belgrade.
3. Goods such as grain.
4. A fan of small channels and wetlands where a river spreads out near its end.
5. Water was useful for drinking, fishing and travel.
6. The river crosses many borders, so what one country does to the water affects the countries downstream.

Square: One River That Flows Through Many Capitals

Harder · 205 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 9

1. In the hills of Germany, where two small streams meet.
2. Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest and Belgrade.
3. Barges, which are long flat boats.
4. A fan of small channels and wetlands where a river spreads out near its end.
5. Water was valuable for drinking, fishing and travel.
6. The river crosses many borders, so what one country does to the water will reach its downstream neighbor.