

LESSON THREE

LET'S MAKE WAVES!

OVERVIEW:

Students label the counties of Arkansas and the rivers that serve as county boundaries to enhance their awareness and support of the importance of preserving Arkansas's natural resources.

CONNECTION TO CURRICULUM:

Arkansas History and Geography.

STANDARDS ADDRESSED:

Arkansas Social Studies Curriculum Framework
Strand 2: Continuity and Change

2.1.18 Use appropriate methods and tools such as maps, globes, statistics, primary sources, field studies and interactive technologies to explore and understand continuity and change over time.

National Geography Standard 4:
Show the physical and human characteristics of places.

SUGGESTED LEVEL:

Grades 7 and 8

TIME FRAME:

One class period, approximately 45 minutes.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Black and blue pens or pencils (or any two colors); class set of map worksheets showing Arkansas counties and major rivers; class set of maps of Arkansas showing counties and major rivers (for example, Arkansas State Highway Maps).

OBJECTIVES:

Students will label state rivers that serve as county boundaries as well as the counties themselves.

SUGGESTED PROCEDURE:

The teacher leads a class discussion on the importance of water resources in Arkansas, including the average yearly precipitation (approximately 50 inches per year), abundance of rivers and lakes, and their importance to the quality of life, industry, agriculture and tourism in

our state. Conservation of water should be stressed even though water is a renewable resource because of the costs involved in water purification. Emphasize the different uses of water, such as transportation, sports, recreation, power, etc. On a wall map, the teacher should show the three rivers which form part of the boundary of our state and discuss the frequent use of bodies of water as boundaries throughout history. Students are to complete a map of Arkansas, labeling the counties in black ink and the rivers that form county boundaries in blue ink. They will then make a list of the 15 counties in Arkansas with *no* river boundary. Helpful hint for the students: rather than scanning the map randomly for the 15 counties, use an alphabetical listing of the counties and eliminate them. An alphabetical listing can be found in many sources including some textbooks, encyclopedias and maps. The teacher could also provide the list.

NOTES:

This activity is a real challenge! All students should be required to label the counties and most of the rivers that form county boundaries. However, every student will not have the patience to actually identify the 15 counties with no river boundary. Therefore, this activity makes a good contest for extra points, free movie passes, etc. The contest should award those who accurately determine the 15 counties. Students could work on this during one class period and then finish at home.

EXTENSIONS:

For extra credit students label (and draw if needed) the following lakes on their map worksheet of Arkansas using the Arkansas State Highway Map as a resource:

Beaver Lake	Lake Catherine	Lake Maumelle
Blue Mountain Lake	Lake Chicot	Lake Ouachita
Bull Shoals Lake	Lake Conway	Millwood Lake
DeGray Lake	Lake Dardanelle	Nimrod Lake
DeQueen Lake	Lake Erling	Norfolk Lake
Dierks Lake	Lake Greeson	Ozark Lake
Gillham Lake	Lake Hamilton	Table Rock Lake
Greers Ferry Lake	Lake Jack Lee	