Rivers of the World

**Learning Target:** PG6 - I can identify the location of Earth's major landforms and bodies of water.
1. Amazon River—the largest river (carries most water) in the world; found in South America.
The Amazon River winds its way through the dense jungles of the Amazon Rainforest.

Its waters are home to piranha, which are fish that are so deadly that they can bite through the skin to the bone in under a minute.
2. Nile River—the longest river in the world; found in Africa.
Nile River running through Cairo, Egypt (one of the oldest cities in the world). Flows from south to the north.

The Egyptian Queen Cleopatra was known to love to sail down the Nile River.
3. Mississippi River—the longest river in North America; makes the western border of TN.
The Mississippi is often referred to as the “Muddy Mississip” or “The Big Muddy”
4. Missouri River—the longest tributary of the Mississippi River.
Lewis & Clark & Sacagawea traveled a lot of their journey on the Missouri River.
5. Rio Grande River—makes the border between U.S. and Mexico.
6. **Volga** (vol-guh) River—the longest river of Europe; runs through the country of Russia.
The Volga is considered the national river of Russia, and 11 of its largest cities are along its waters.
7. Thames River—the longest river of England; runs through the city of London.
Thames River

Standing guard by the River Thames, The Tower is an impressive London landmark. It is the place were 3 English queens were beheaded.

Big Ben and Parliament on the Thames River in London
8. Seine River—major waterway in France; runs through the city of Paris.
Seine River

The river Seine is probably one of the most well known rivers in France and has been made even more popular as a tourist attraction within the city of Paris.
9. Rhine River—major waterway in Germany; runs through the countries of the Netherlands, Germany & Switzerland.
Rhine River

The Rhine River is famous for the many medieval castles that line it.
10. Danube River—2\textsuperscript{nd} largest river in Europe
The Danube River has been immortalized in song literature, and pretty much every postcard that saw a stamp in Budapest, Hungary.

Steinere Brücke, built in 1135, was the first stone bridge over the Danube river. It has 16 archways and its 1,000ft long.
11. Yangtze (yang-see) and Huang He (hwahng hue) or Yellow Rivers—the major rivers of China
More people in the world live along the Yangtze and Huang He (Yellow) Rivers than on any other river systems in the world.

Positives of a dam: generates electricity from a renewable source

Negatives: loss of animal habitats, people have to move

Three Gorges Dam on Yangtze River in China
It is the largest dam in the world (about 1 ½ miles in length and over 300 feet thick).
12. Ganges (gan-jeez) River—the major river of India; a holy river in Hindu religion
For Hindus, the Ganges is a holy river. Many Hindus bathe and pray in its waters.

The Ganges is the most important river in India, which is the 2nd most populated country in the world. Millions of people live near its waters.
13. Tigris and Euphrates Rivers—two main rivers of Turkey and Iraq; important in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic religions.
Many stories of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam are related to the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.

The Greeks later called this area Mesopotamia, which means “between the rivers.”

This area has also been referred to as "Cradle of Civilization".