



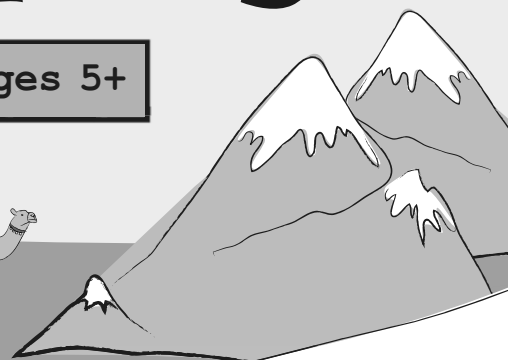
DK Curriculum Resources



Geography



Activity pack for ages 5+



The Aim

This Activity Pack can be used with children either at home or in the classroom.

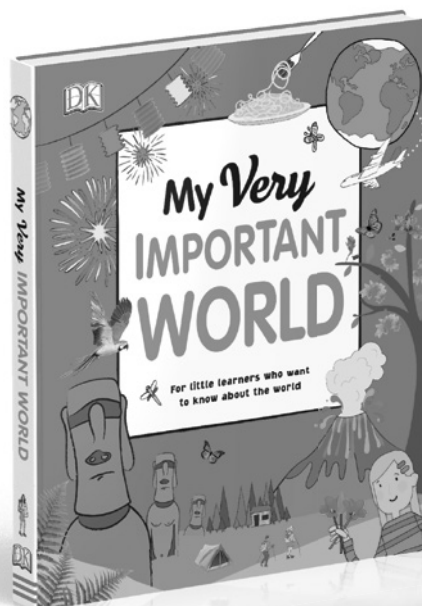
It includes five activities, one for each day of the week. Children can dip in and out and complete as many activities as they like. The focus of the pack is for children to boost their Geography and Citizenship skills, exploring their place in the world as well as what surrounds them, the wider world, the natural world – and our growing need to protect it.

Books included in this pack

***My Very Important World* is for little learners who want to know more about the world.**

Every important person needs to know about our incredible world and why there really is no place like home.

Read hundreds of fun facts about people, culture, and society. Learn about rivers, volcanoes, and other wonders of the natural world. Discover amazing places from every corner of the globe... and much, much more.





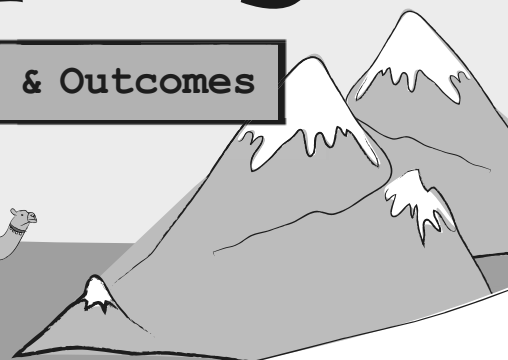
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Geography



Educational Objectives & Outcomes



Activity 1: My World – What Makes Me, Me?

Objectives: Identifying the different components of personal identity – including personality, home life, family and hobbies; exploring the different things that make a person unique; celebrating similarities and differences.

Outcomes: An “Identity Collage”; a Badge or Crest celebrating your unique identity.

Activity 2: The World Around Me – Going on Holiday

Curriculum Links: Understanding reasons why people go on holiday; identifying different types of holiday; identifying what needs to be packed for a holiday.

Outcomes: A list of different types of holiday; a packing list for a holiday; a unique suitcase design.

Activity 3: The Big Wide World – Continents

Curriculum Links: Identifying the world’s continents; locating the world’s continents on a map; locating them in relation to the Equator;

identifying the effects of being closer to or further from the equator.

Outcome: A colour-coded world map showing the different continents and the Equator.

Activity 4: The Natural World – Rivers

Curriculum Links: Understanding how rivers are formed; identifying the different stages in the life of a river; developing an appreciation for the natural world.

Outcomes: A completed “True or False Rivers Quiz”; a diagram or drawing of a river.

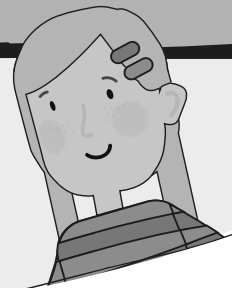
Activity 5: Exploring the World – The Great Barrier Reef

Curriculum Links: Locating and describing the Great Barrier Reef; identifying some creatures that live there; understanding the threat to the Great Barrier Reef; identifying ways of reducing your carbon footprint.

Outcomes: A description of the Great Barrier Reef; drawings of four creatures; an annotated carbon footprint.



Activity 1: My World – What Makes Me, Me?



Let's start by looking at your world.

What is your experience of the world?

Did you know?

Each person on earth is different – and that's a great thing! It's these differences that help make us who we are. But we all have plenty of things in common, too!

Find Out!

Take a look at pages 12–13 in *My Very Important World* (on page 4 of this pack). For each of the following categories, think about what makes you, you! Discuss your ideas with a friend, sibling or other family member!

Then, using the template on page 5 of this pack, create a collage to represent each thing on the list below. You might want to use photographs or images, or to draw your own pictures.

Personality

Are you bold, creative, funny, clever, sporty, loud or quiet?

Home life

Where do you live? Is it loud or quiet? Is it big or small? How many people do you live with?

Appearance

What colour are your eyes? What colour is your hair? How tall or short are you?

Hobbies

What do you like to do in your spare time? Do you like to do sport, draw, cook, or something else?

Beliefs

What is your religion?

Experiences

What do you do each day? What is your routine? Where have you been in your life so far?

Family

Who are your family members? What is your relationship with each of them?

Family history

Where are your family from?

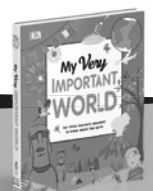
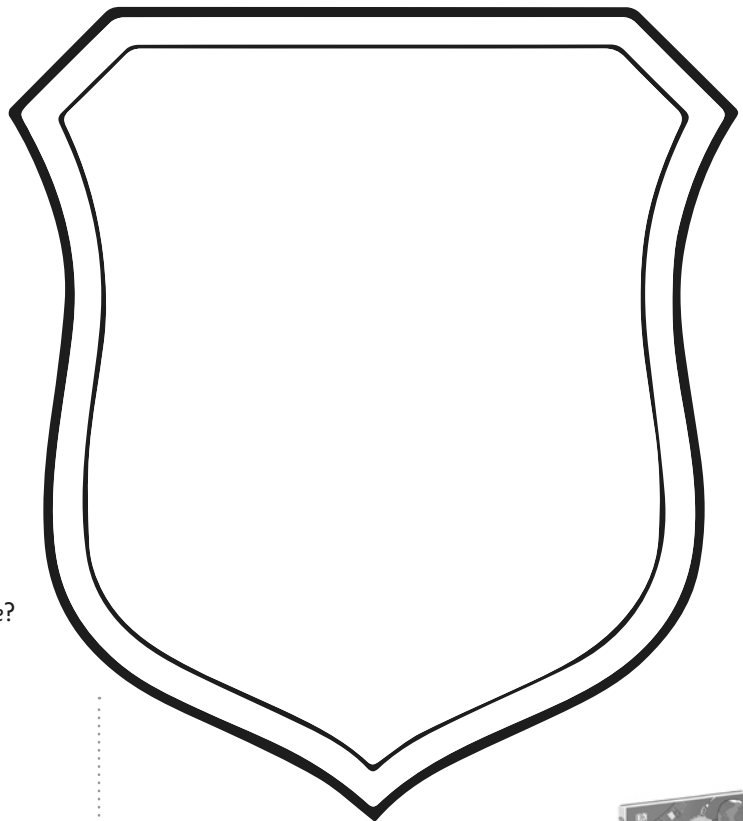
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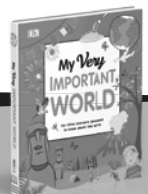
Think about what makes you different and why this is awesome!

Design a badge or crest to show what makes you different and special. It might include symbols, words, or drawings relating to your heritage, hobbies, or anything else that relates to your identity.

Show your badge or crest to your family and friends. Explain what each element of the image you've designed means to you. Put it on display to show that you are proud of who you are!

Encourage others to create their own badges so that you can compare and celebrate your differences and your similarities.





Who am I?

Each person on Earth is different – and that's a great thing!

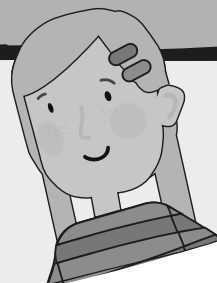
It's these differences that help **make us who we are**.

But we all have plenty of things in common, too!

Personality Are you loud and adventurous, or more quiet and creative? The way you act makes you, you. 	Appearance Are you tall or short? Do you have short brown hair or curly blonde hair? Your looks are only a tiny part of who you are.	Beliefs Is there anything you feel strongly about? Are you religious? People believe in many different things.	Family What's your role in your family? Are you a big sister, a little brother? Or perhaps you're an only child. 
Home life Where you live and what you learn will have an impact on who you will be in the future.	Hobbies Are you a football fanatic, a bookworm, or a mathematician? What interests do you have that are special to you? 	Experiences The things that have happened and will happen to you – your experiences – might make you look at the world in a different way from your friends. 	Family history You won't have met them, but your ancestors have changed your life – in fact, you wouldn't be here without them!

As you get older and your body grows, your

THOUGHTS and FEELINGS will grow and change, too!



Activity 1: My World – What Makes Me, Me?

Personality	Home Life
Appearance	Hobbies
Beliefs	Experiences
Family	Family History





Activity 2: Going on Holiday



Time to take a look at the world around you.

Where have you been before on holiday?

Did you know?

Travelling can be so much fun. People go on trips to relax, experience other cultures, and create new memories with their friends and families.

Find Out!

Looking at pages 70–71 of *My Very Important World* (on page 7 of this pack), how many different types of holiday can you see?

Use the pictures below to identify some of them.

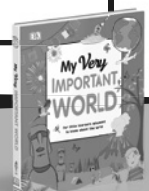


Choose one of these holidays. Which of them appeals to you the most and why? Which countries would you like to visit to experience your chosen type of holiday?

Imagine you have to pack for your chosen holiday.

Use the **Packing List** below to make a note of what you might pack in your travel bag and why:

Category	Items chosen	Reasons for my choices
Shoes		
Clothing		
Objects		
Extras		





Going on holiday

Travelling can be so much fun. People go on trips to relax, experience other cultures, and create new **memories** with their friends and family.

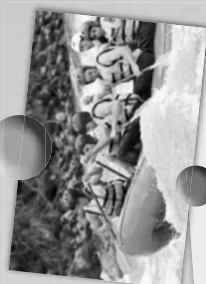
Types of holiday

People like to spend their time doing different things, so it's no surprise they like to go on different trips, too. Luckily, there's a holiday for everyone.



Some people love to get back to nature. Going **camping** means they can sleep under the stars in the wilderness and toast marshmallows over a fire!

Whether it's by the beach or a hotel pool, a warm place with sunshine, sandcastles, and swimming is perfect for people looking to take in the scenery and relax.



Some people like to live life on the edge. Instead of relaxing they prefer going on adventures such as mountain climbing, skydiving, scuba diving, or white water rafting.



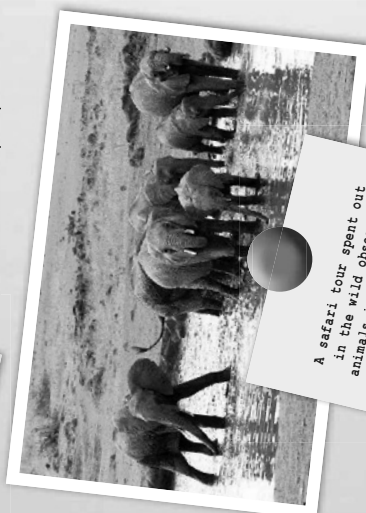
Cruise ships are like massive floating hotels that sail from place to place. The huge ships have restaurants, pools, and activities to keep passengers happy.



There are lots of amazing **cities** all over the world. Exploring them and taking in the exciting sights, sounds, food, and attractions is a wonderful experience.



A safari tour spent out in the wild observing animals in their natural habitat is considered the trip of a lifetime for many people.



There's nothing quite like the view from a mountain. That's one of the reasons people go **skiing**. Not to mention the thrill of zipping down mountains at rapid speeds!





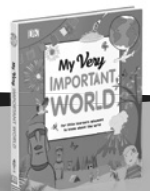
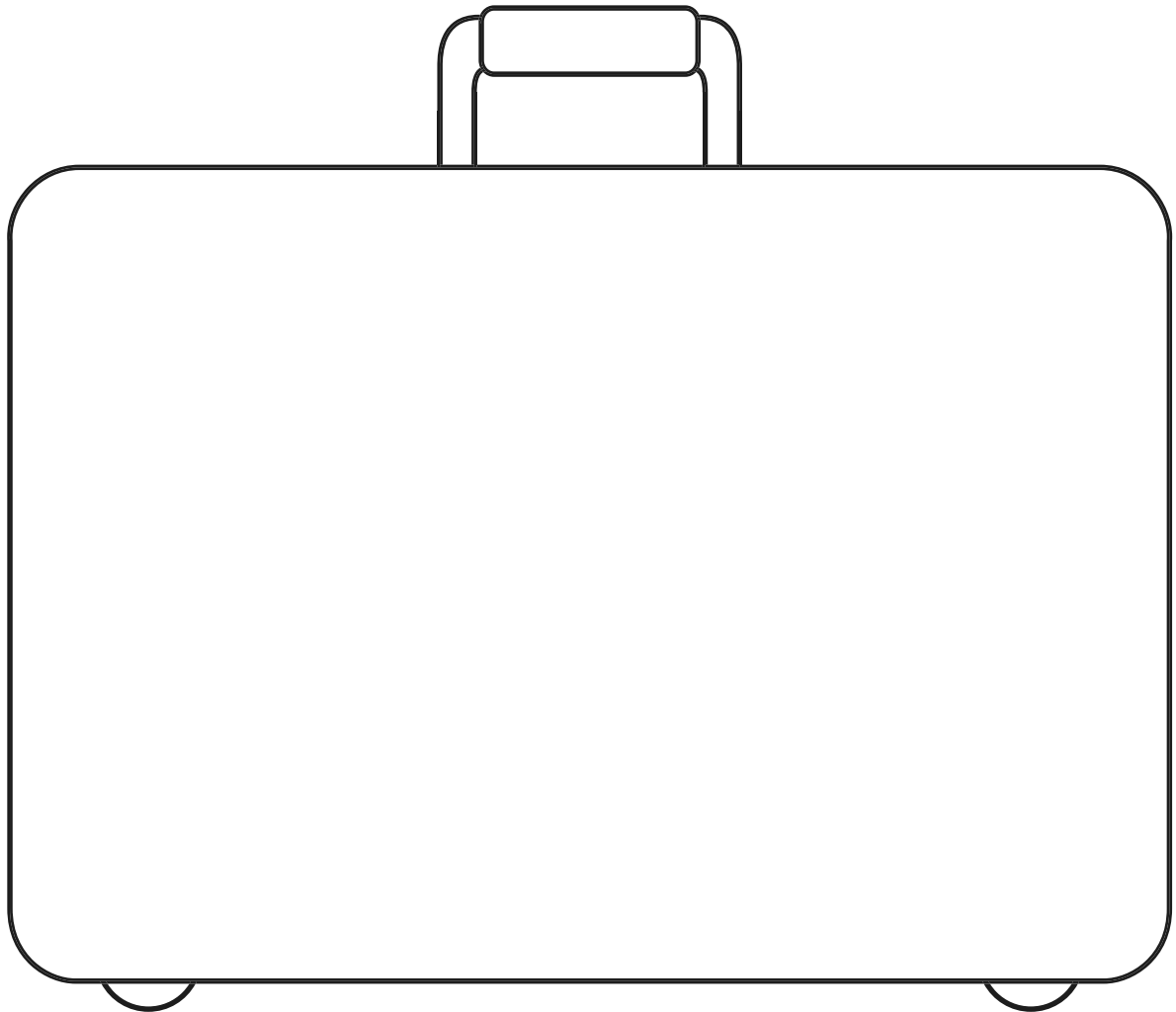
Activity 2: Going on Holiday



Final task:

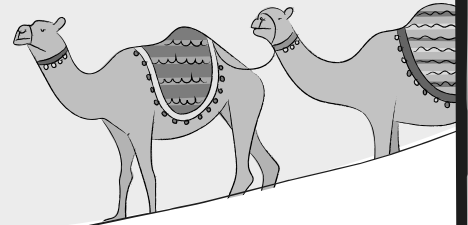
Create your very own travel bag to take on your holiday.
Consider the following questions and make notes before you begin:

1. What colours will you use and why?
2. What images will you use and why?
3. Will your bag be old and tatty, or will it be brand new?
4. Will your bag have any personal features, like a lock, a badge or some patches to show your identity?





Activity 3: Continents



What about the big wide world?

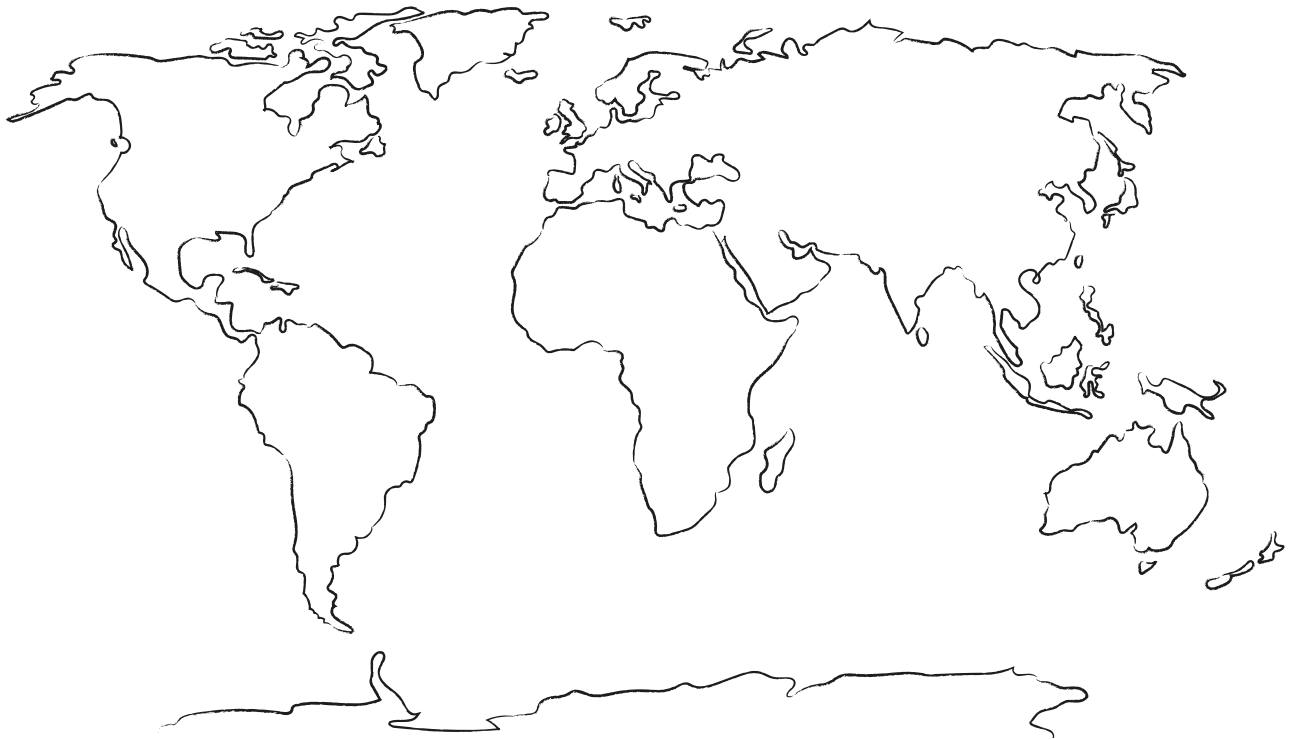
What do you know about it?

Did you know?

Planet Earth is mostly water, but all the land is split into seven big chunks called continents. These continents are also split into smaller chunks called countries.

Find Out!

Using the map template below, have a go at creating and labelling your own colour-coded map of the world!



Africa

Asia

Europe

North America

South America

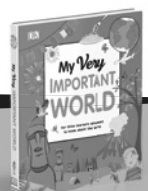
Australia

Antarctica

Colour in your blank map to show where each continent is in the world.

Pick a colour for each continent – don't forget to label them and also to include a key on your map!

If you need help, use the spread from pages 104–105 in *My Very Important World* (on page 10 of this pack).



It takes a long time to travel around the Earth!

A long, long time ago all the continents were joined together into one big supercontinent called Pangaea.

Continents

Planet Earth is mostly water, but all the land is split into seven big chunks called **continents**. These continents are also split into smaller chunks called countries.

Do you know which continent you live on? I bet it's not Antarctica!

From round to flat
Because the **Earth is round**, it's impossible to make a perfect flat map of it – something will always get distorted. There are different versions of maps with different distortions. We call these different maps **projections**.

The most common map projection is the **Mercator projection**. Directions and distances look quite accurate, but places far away from the middle of the Earth look bigger than they really are.

Distortion in the Mercator projection makes the country Greenland look bigger than Africa. In reality it's 14 times smaller!

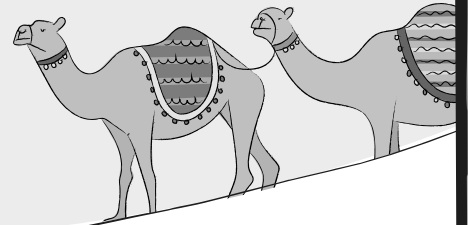
104

105





Activity 3: Continents



Returning to your map of the world, draw a straight, horizontal line across the middle of the map. It should look like the world is wearing a belt all along its middle! This line is imaginary; it shows the halfway point between the north and the south poles.

Label this line on your map as **'The Equator'**. You should also draw two arrows, one that points 'North' and one that points 'South'. Then label the following things:

- The Northern Hemisphere
(anything north of the equator)
- The Southern Hemisphere
(anything south of the equator)

The equator runs through lots of countries and continents. The closer a country is to the equator, the more sunshine it has and the warmer it gets. Looking at your map, can you guess which continent might be the coldest? Can you say why?

Final task:

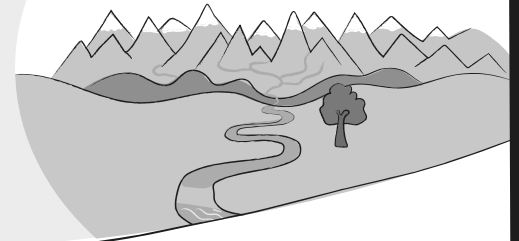
Create a real-life model of the world's continents – in your own home!

Use a piece of string or similar to create an equator in your front room or bedroom – remember it should run through the center of the room. Take turns to call out each continent that you have learned about; use your map to stand exactly where you should in relation to the equator! Use your body language to show whether you are hot or cold.





Activity 4: Rivers



Let's think about the natural world?

What do you love about the natural world?

Did you know?

When fresh water flows from a mountain or hill, a trickling stream is formed. Lots of streams join up to make a river, which twists and turns all the way to the sea.

TRUE or FALSE

Rivers Quiz

Find Out!

Look at pages 148–149 in *My Very Important World* (on page 13 of this pack).

Use what you read to complete the TRUE or FALSE Rivers Quiz below! You can play with a friend, sibling or family member. Who will have the best river knowledge?!

TRUE or FALSE?

1. The Amazon River is located in South America

2. There are less than 3,000 species of fish in the Amazon River!

3. The Amazon River carries more water than any other river on Earth

4. The mouth of the Amazon is almost as wide as the distance between London and Dublin!

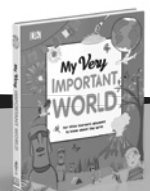
5. Rivers begin when streams flow into each other from the mountains

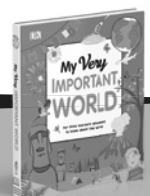
6. The river mouth is where the river begins

7. The longest river in the world is the River Nile

8. Rivers are not filled with wildlife

Answers: 1. True; 2. False; 3. True; 4. False; 5. True; 6. False; 7. True; 8. False





Rivers

When fresh water flows from a mountain or hill, a trickling stream is formed. Lots of streams join up to make a river, which **twists and turns** all the way to the sea.

The mighty Amazon
The Amazon River cuts through the Amazon **Rainforest** in South America. It carries more water than any other river on Earth. Its mouth is nearly as wide as the distance between London and Paris!

There are more than 3,000 species of fish in the Amazon River!

Wildlife
Rivers are filled with wildlife, **especially fish**. Animals such as birds and bears are drawn to the fish-filled waters for food. Humans also like to go fishing in rivers.

The Amazon contains animals such as dolphins and piranhas!

Piranha

Pink river dolphin

Life of a river

Rainwater and melted snow flow into streams.

Stream

River

Small streams join together and form a river.

Dam

Some rivers have dams that slow the flow of water.

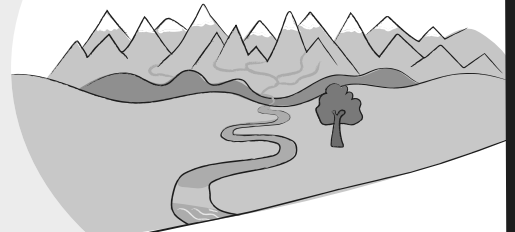
River mouth

The river slows down when it joins the sea.

The longest river in the world is the River Nile. It flows through 11 countries in Africa.



Activity 4: Rivers

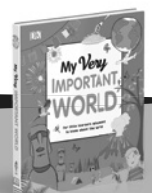


Final task:

Create your own drawing of a river. It might be a local river or a river that you have heard of. Include a few lines explaining what is happening in your picture, just like the diagram on page 149 of *My Very Important World*. Here are some ideas to help you decide what to include:

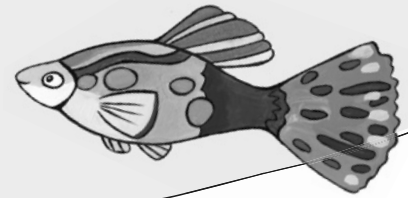
- The start of a river which is called 'the source'
- The end of a river which is called 'the mouth'
- Rivers carry rainwater downhill to other rivers, lakes, or the sea
- Lots of different creatures live in or nearby water
- Rivers sometimes run through towns and cities

My River by





Activity 5: The Great Barrier Reef



It's time to start exploring the world.

Where would you most like to visit?

Did you know?

This giant coral reef off the coast of Australia is one of the most incredible places in the natural world. It is bursting with colourful plants and creatures, but it is under threat.

Find Out!

Look at pages 190–191 in *My Very Important World* below. What are your first impressions of the Great Barrier Reef from looking at the images? Use the Word Bank to help you describe what you can see.

The Great Barrier Reef

This giant coral reef off the coast of Australia is one of the most incredible places in the natural world. It is bursting with colourful plants and creatures, but it is **under threat**.

Disappearing reef
Due to climate change, oceans are becoming warmer. This can cause **coral bleaching**, which destroys coral. A huge amount of the Great Barrier Reef has been bleached, and as a result, the habitat that millions of creatures rely on is disappearing.

The Great Barrier Reef is made up of more than 2,900 reefs and 900 islands. It's so big it can be seen from space.

Conservation
Scientists are growing coral to try to save the reef. By reducing our **carbon footprint** (the amount of carbon dioxide gas released into the air), we can help, too.

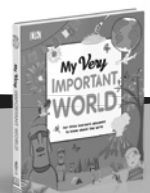
What is a coral reef?
Made from skeletal remains and minerals, a coral reef is **home** to lots of plants and animals that live underwater.

Conservationists work to come up with ways to save coral.

190 191

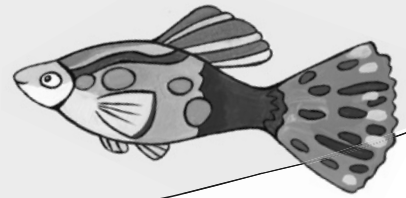
Beautiful Precious Big Blue Green Natural
Colourful Water Transparent

1. In which continent is the Great Barrier Reef?
2. What is a coral reef?
3. What is happening to the Great Barrier Reef in Australia? Why is it disappearing?
4. What can we do to help the Great Barrier Reef to survive?



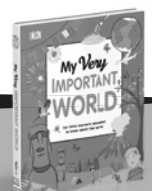


Activity 5: The Great Barrier Reef



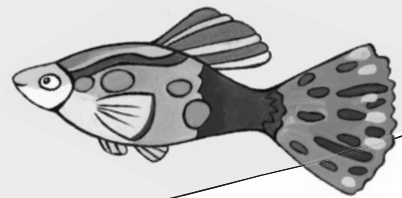
Draw four of the creatures that live in the Coral Reef below:

Crab	Fish
Starfish	Seahorse





Activity 5: The Great Barrier Reef



Final task:

In order to protect the Great Barrier Reef and places like it, we need to **reduce our carbon footprint**.

How can we do this? Consider:

- Transport
- Food
- Waste
- Things you buy and use
- Energy

On this footprint template, write down or draw the changes you would make to your daily life to improve your **Carbon Footprint** and help to protect the Natural World!

