





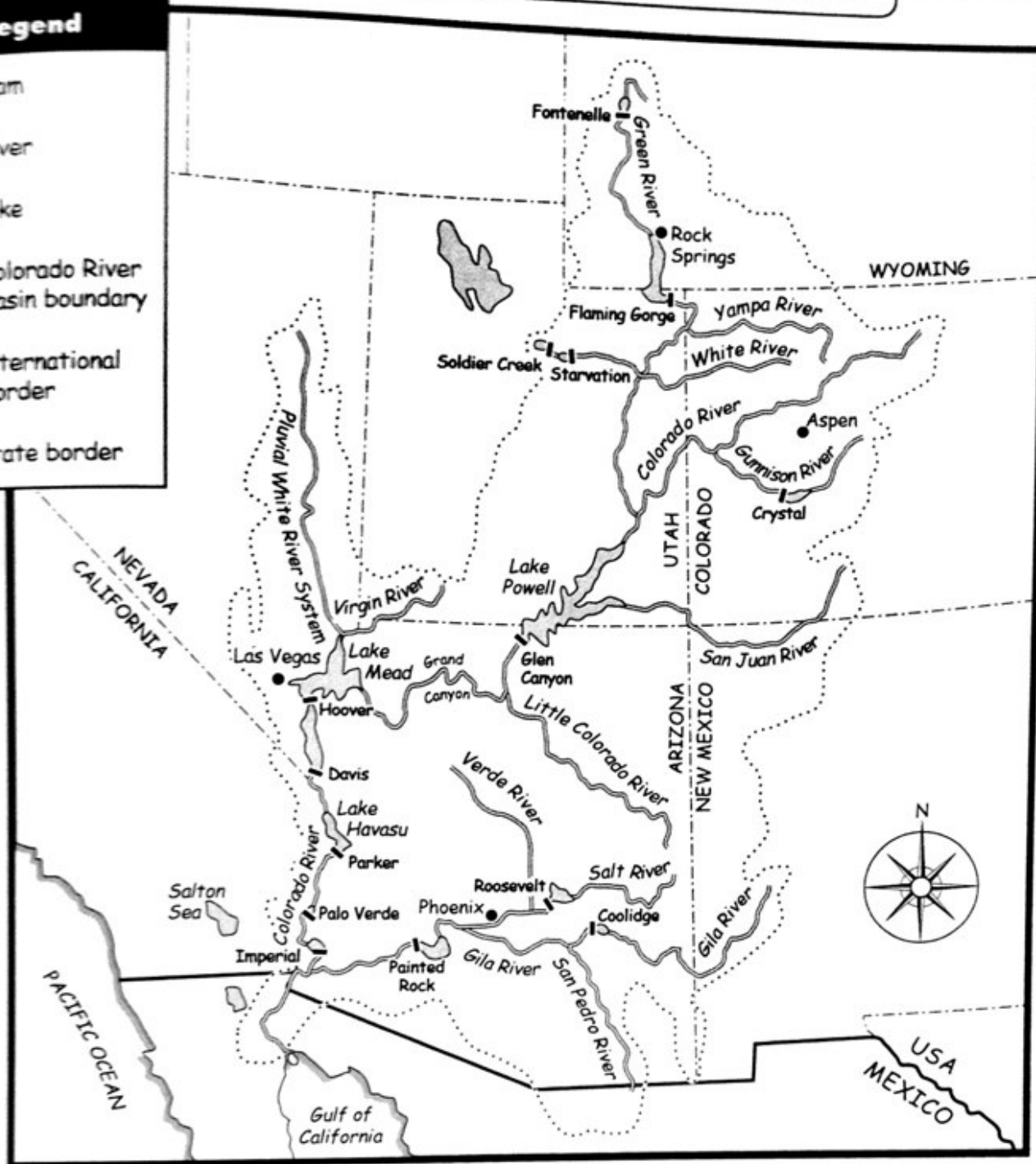


Name _____

Legend

-  dam
-  river
-  lake
-  Colorado River Basin boundary
-  international border
-  state border



The Colorado River begins in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado and flows southwest into Utah. The Green River in eastern Utah and the San Juan River in southern Utah join the Colorado River. The Colorado flows southwest into Arizona. The Little Colorado River merges with the Colorado River and then flows west through the Grand Canyon. The Virgin River of Nevada joins up with the Colorado River, and then the river turns

south and forms the Arizona/California border. It flows across the Mexican border to the Gulf of California. The Gila River of Arizona joins the Colorado just north of the border.

The Colorado River drains an area of about 250,000 square miles (650,000 square km), which is called the Colorado River Basin. Seven states are part of this basin.



Sharing the Colorado River

Monday

1. Where does the Colorado River begin?

2. How many states share the water from the Colorado River? Name them.

Tuesday

1. From Colorado, the Colorado River flows southwest into which state? Which two rivers join the Colorado in this state?

2. The Colorado River flows through which famous canyon in Arizona?

Wednesday

1. How many dams are along the Colorado River system's entire route?

2. Hoover Dam forms a border with which two states? Which large lake is near this dam on the Colorado River?



Sharing the Colorado River

Thursday

1. Name the labeled rivers that join the Colorado River in southern Arizona.

2. Besides the seven states of the U.S., which other country shares the water of the Colorado River?

Friday

1. What have the dams, canals, aqueducts, and irrigation projects on or near the Colorado River provided for the seven states?

2. What is the Colorado River Basin?

Challenge

In 1922, the Colorado River Compact was written. This agreement set the amount of water that each of the seven states could take from the river every year. Since then, the states of Arizona, California, and Nevada have grown in population dramatically. They need more water from the Colorado River. This has become a major problem.

On the back of the map, write a paragraph about how people could help to solve this huge problem.