

I LOVE SPENDING TIME ON THE JAMES RIVER!

THE JAMES IS JUST ONE OF MANY RIVERS FOUND IN THE UNITED STATES. THEY HELPED REGIONS COME TOGETHER AND FORM BORDERS.

THIS MAP ALSO SHOWS US THE LONGEST RIVER IN THE U.S. — **THE MISSOURI RIVER!** THE MISSOURI RIVER FLOWS INTO THE MISSISSIPPI, AND TOGETHER THEY FORM THE LARGEST RIVER SYSTEM IN NORTH AMERICA.

THAT'S A LOT OF WATER!

HEY, THIS DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE JAMES RIVER NOW.

WE ARE ON THE **MISSISSIPPI RIVER** — THE SECOND-LONGEST RIVER IN THE UNITED STATES. THE WORD MISSISSIPPI COMES FROM THE NATIVE AMERICAN WORD "MESSIPI," WHICH MEANS "GREAT RIVER."

BOTH THE MISSOURI AND THE MISSISSIPPI WERE USED BY BOATS TO TRANSPORT FOOD AND PRODUCTS TO THE INTERIOR OF THE UNITED STATES. AMERICAN AUTHOR SAMUEL CLEMENTS — BETTER KNOWN AS **MARK TWAIN** — WROTE A GREAT DEAL ABOUT THE MISSISSIPPI.

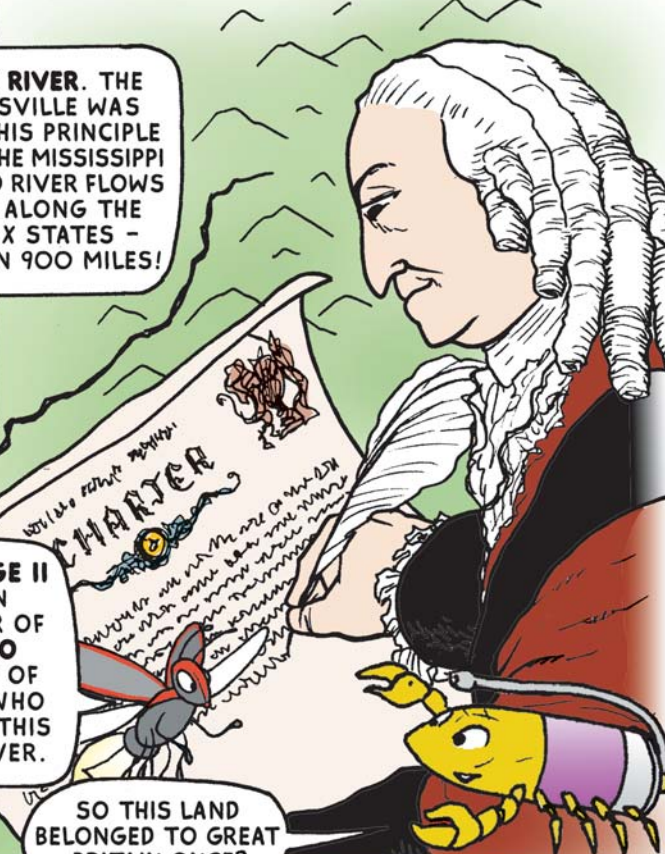
NOW I KNOW WHY THIS IS CALLED "THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI!"



LET ME GUESS -  
THIS MUST BE THE  
KENTUCKY RIVER?


NO, THE **OHIO RIVER**. THE  
CITY OF LOUISVILLE WAS  
FOUNDED ON THIS PRINCIPLE  
TRIBUTARY OF THE MISSISSIPPI  
RIVER. THE OHIO RIVER FLOWS  
THROUGH OR ALONG THE  
BORDER OF SIX STATES -  
FOR MORE THAN 900 MILES!

OHIO RIVER



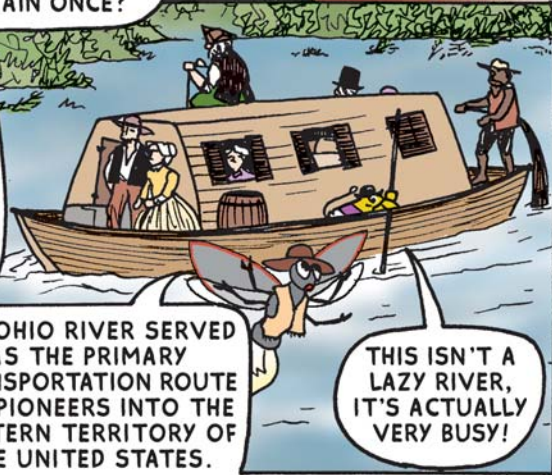
IN 1749 KING GEORGE II  
OF GREAT BRITAIN  
GRANTED A CHARTER OF  
LAND TO **THE OHIO  
COMPANY**, A GROUP OF  
ENGLISH SETTLERS WHO  
WANTED TO SETTLE THIS  
AREA ALONG THE RIVER.

SO THIS LAND  
BELONGED TO GREAT  
BRITAIN ONCE?



WELL, THERE WAS A  
BIG FIGHT OVER IT - **THE  
FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR**  
(SEVEN YEARS WAR) STARTED  
BECAUSE THE FRENCH ALSO  
CLAIMED THIS AREA AND  
BUILT FORTS HERE. THE  
BRITISH EVENTUALLY WON  
THE WAR AND THE LAND.

TOO BAD PEOPLE HAVE  
TO FIGHT TO SOLVE  
THEIR PROBLEMS INSTEAD  
OF TALKING IT OUT.



THE OHIO RIVER SERVED  
AS THE PRIMARY  
TRANSPORTATION ROUTE  
FOR PIONEERS INTO THE  
WESTERN TERRITORY OF  
THE UNITED STATES.

THIS ISN'T A  
LAZY RIVER,  
IT'S ACTUALLY  
VERY BUSY!

MISSISSIPPI RIVER



WE'RE NOT IN VIRGINIA, ANYMORE, LIGHTNING! THESE TREES ARE HUGE!!

WE'RE IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST OF THE UNITED STATES, ABOUT TO EXPLORE THE COLUMBIA RIVER.



IN 1792 **CAPTAIN ROBERT GRAY** BECAME THE FIRST EUROPEAN TO SAIL THE COLUMBIA RIVER, WHICH HE NAMED AFTER HIS SHIP THE "COLUMBIA REDIVIVA." HE DREW MAPS AND MADE NOTES ON HIS VOYAGE.

WOW, A LIVING HISTORY JOURNAL!

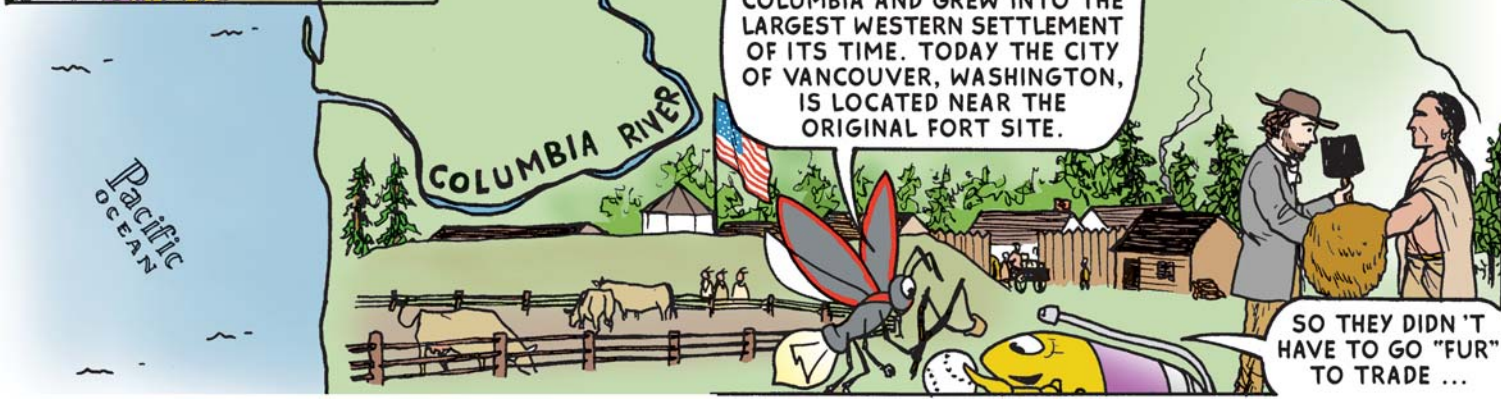


LATER, **LEWIS AND CLARK** EXPLORED THE COLUMBIA RIVER ALL THE WAY TO THE PACIFIC OCEAN AND KEPT DETAILED JOURNALS ABOUT AREAS THEY EXPLORED.

TWO OF MY FAVORITE EXPLORERS!

THE COLUMBIA IS MORE THAN 1,200 MILES LONG—THE LONGEST RIVER THAT FLOWS INTO THE PACIFIC!

NO WONDER IT IS NICKNAMED "THE MIGHTY COLUMBIA!"



IN 1825 **FORT VANCOUVER** BECAME A FUR TRADING HEADQUARTERS ON THE COLUMBIA AND GREW INTO THE LARGEST WESTERN SETTLEMENT OF ITS TIME. TODAY THE CITY OF VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON, IS LOCATED NEAR THE ORIGINAL FORT SITE.

SO THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO GO "FUR" TO TRADE ...

Pacific Ocean

COLUMBIA RIVER

**COWaBUNGA**  
THE COLORADO!!

HOW DO YOU LIKE  
THE COLORADO  
RIVER, SCORPY?

THE COLORADO RIVER IS IN  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL  
PARK AND FLOWS THROUGH  
THE SOUTHWESTERN UNITED  
STATES, PASSING THROUGH  
THE GRAND CANYON AND  
FINALLY TO THE NORTHERN  
TIP OF MEXICO.



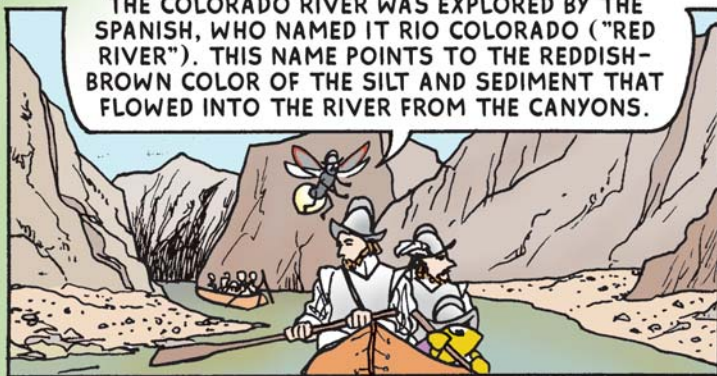
ROCKY  
MOUNTAIN  
NATIONAL PARK



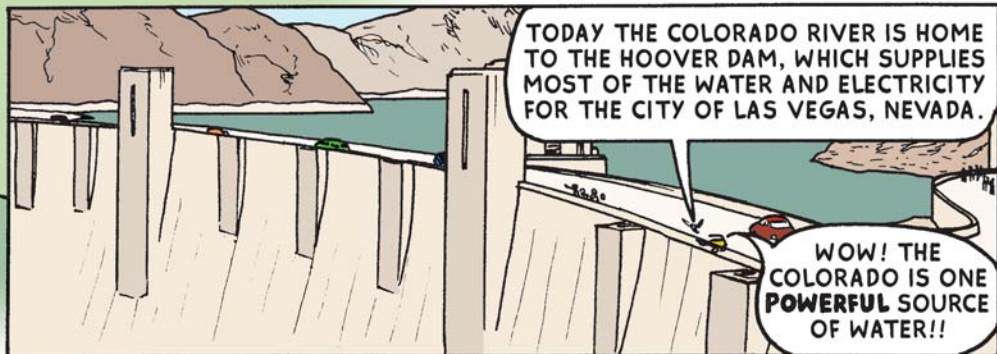
IT IS MORE  
THAN 1,400  
MILES LONG!

THAT IS ONE LOOOOOONG RIVER.

THE COLORADO RIVER WAS EXPLORED BY THE  
SPANISH, WHO NAMED IT RIO COLORADO ("RED  
RIVER"). THIS NAME POINTS TO THE REDDISH-  
BROWN COLOR OF THE SILT AND SEDIMENT THAT  
FLOWED INTO THE RIVER FROM THE CANYONS.



TODAY THE COLORADO RIVER IS HOME  
TO THE HOOVER DAM, WHICH SUPPLIES  
MOST OF THE WATER AND ELECTRICITY  
FOR THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS, NEVADA.



WOW! THE  
COLORADO IS ONE  
POWERFUL SOURCE  
OF WATER!!

COLORADO RIVER

GRAND  
CANYON

Mexico

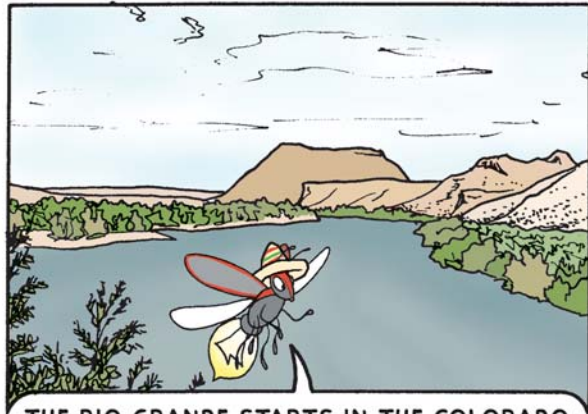
Pacific  
OCEAN



"RIO GRANDE" - THAT SOUNDS LIKE MORE SPANISH.



THE NAME **RIO GRANDE** DOES COME FROM THE SPANISH LANGUAGE. THE WORD RIO MEANS "RIVER;" AND THE WORD GRANDE MEANS "BIG." THIS BIG RIVER IS 1,880 MILES LONG.

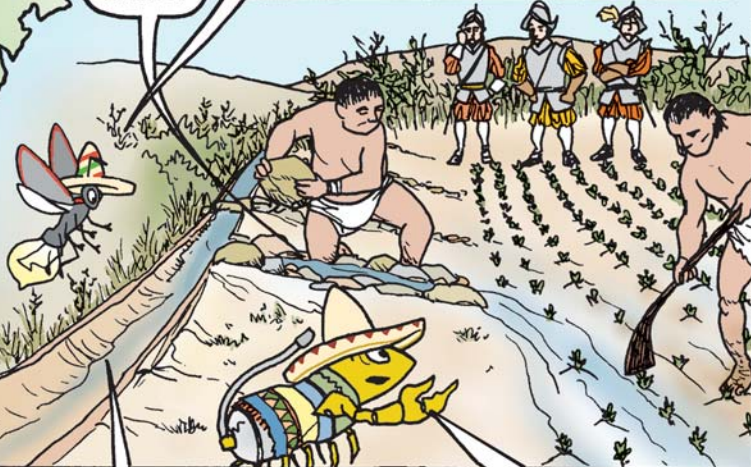


THE RIO GRANDE STARTS IN THE COLORADO MOUNTAINS AND FLOWS SOUTH INTO NEW MEXICO, CUTTING THROUGH THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE. FROM THERE IT FLOWS TO EL PASO, TEXAS, AND EMPTIES INTO THE GULF OF MEXICO. THE RIO GRANDE FORMS PART OF THE BORDER BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

UNITED STATES  
Mexico  
RIO GRANDE

IT SURE FLOWS THROUGH SOME HOT AND DRY AREAS.

EARLY NATIVE AMERICANS PRACTICED IRRIGATION USING WATER FROM THE RIVER TO HELP THEIR CROPS GROW. THEY WERE IRRIGATING WHEN THE SPANISH EXPLORER CORONADO VISITED THIS AREA IN 1540.



THE RIO GRANDE IS STILL USED FOR IRRIGATION AND WATER SUPPLY FOR THE U.S. AND MEXICO. DURING REALLY DRY TIMES, CALLED **DROUGHTS**, THE RIVER DRIES UP TO JUST A TRICKLE IN SOME PLACES.

THANKS FOR KEEPING US HYDRATED, RIO GRANDE!