

Bell Quiz

Name _____

1. In 2-3 sentences, describe the characteristics of a desert.

2. What kind of physical features are usually considered good places for humans to live? Explain your answer in 2-3 sentences. (Example: People like to live where it is not too hot or too cold.)

Bell Quiz **Answer Key**

1. In 2-3 sentences describe the characteristics of a desert.

Little water (10 inches or less of precipitation per year)
Plants that need little water (palo verde and mesquite trees, cactus, creosote bushes, plants with small leaves, plants with spines)
Animals and insects that need little water and can tolerate extreme temperatures (lizards, snakes, coyotes, rabbits, ants, birds)
Land that is so dry it doesn't make good farmland
Land can be flat or mountainous

2. People tend to settle near what kind of physical features. Explain your answer in 2-3 sentences.

Places that have available water all year
Places that are not too cold or too hot
Places where food can be grown
Places that are easy to travel through (flat or nearly flat land or rivers)
Places where other sources of food can be found (oceans, rivers, forests, open land)
Places that have resources for building (stones, lumber, soil)

Dams Information Sheet

By Barbara Post

A dam is a structure that blocks the flow of water. Often a dam is built to control a river. Beavers are nature's best dam builders. They use mud, sticks, and stones to block the flow of a river. Building a dam provides the beaver with a pond. People, however, build dams out of concrete. The water from man-made dams is held in a lake called a reservoir. The reservoir holds or reserves the water.

Dams have many different purposes. Some dams move water into canals or pipelines. Other dams use the energy of the falling water to make electricity. Dams also hold water for crop irrigation, flood control, and to provide water for cities. Dams that control floods release water slowly into rivers. A reservoir holds the extra water until it is released. A spillway is the part of the dam that lets extra water go around the dam. The spillway helps protect the dam from collapsing or falling down.

Dams are useful, but they also have harmful effects. Dams change the ecology of the area in which they are built. Fish are affected because a dam changes the temperature of the water. The water that is released from the dam comes from the bottom of the river where the water is much colder. In addition, dams make river water slow down. This often stops healthy organic material from getting to the soil. The organic material settles on the bottom of the reservoir instead. Dams also affect animals that live in and near the water, often destroying their homes.



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Important Dams Worksheet

Name _____

Use the map, **Important Dams in Arizona**, to answer questions 1 – 5.

1. Name the 4 dams on the Salt River.

2. Write the dates of construction of the following Colorado River dams.

Glen Canyon Dam _____

Hoover Dam _____

Davis Dam _____

Laguna Dam _____

3. Which of the following lists puts the numbers above in order from **greatest to least**? Circle your answer.

a. 1964 1936 1949 1909

b. 1909 1936 1949 1964

c. 1936 1949 1964 1909

d. 1964 1949 1936 1909

4. Which dam on the Colorado River was built the earliest?

5. Listed below are the dates of construction of the Salt River dams. Write the numbers in order from **least** to **greatest**.

1927 1930 1912 1925

10. Write the dates of the 3 Gila River dams from earliest (**least**) to latest (**greatest**.)

Important Dams Worksheet **Answer Key**

Use the map, **Important Dams in Arizona**, to answer questions 1 – 5.

1. Name the 4 dams on the Salt River. **Horse Mesa, Mormon Flat, Stewart Mountain, Theodore Roosevelt**

2. Write the dates of construction of the following Colorado River dams.

Glen Canyon Dam **1964**

Hoover Dam **1936**

Davis Dam **1949**

Laguna Dam **1909**

3. Which of the following lists puts the numbers above in order from **greatest to least**? Circle your answer.

a. 1964 1936 1949 1909

b. 1909 1936 1949 1964

c. 1936 1949 1964 1909

d. 1964 1949 1936 1909

4. Which dam on the Colorado River was built the earliest?

Laguna Dam

5. Listed below are the dates of construction of the Salt River dams. Write the numbers in order from **least** to **greatest**. 1927 1930 1912 1925

1912, 1925, 1927, 1930,

10. Write the dates of the 3 Gila River dams from earliest (**least**) to latest (**greatest**).

1921, 1928, 1959