

# Africa Activator

Look at the world map below. Circle the continent of Africa. Then see if you can identify (shade or label them) the location of the following countries and physical features on the map: Sahara, Nile River, Atlas Mountains, Kalahari Desert, Egypt, South Africa, Congo (Zaire), and Nigeria.



# Essential Question:

Where are the major physical features and nations of Africa located?



In the activator, you attempted to locate a few physical and political features of Africa. By the end of this lesson, you will be able to locate these and many more.



# **Standards:**

SS7G1a. Locate on a world and regional political-physical map: the Sahara, Sahel, savanna, tropical rain forest, Congo River, Niger River, Nile River, Lake Tanganyika, Lake Victoria, Atlas Mountains, and Kalahari Desert.

SS7G1b. Locate on a world and regional political-physical map the countries of Democratic Republic of the Congo (Zaire), Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Sudan,

# AFRICA Satellite Map

cartography - www.mapland.co.za

NORTH  
ATLANTIC  
OCEAN

Tropic of Cancer

20°N

10°N

Equator

0°N

SOUTH  
ATLANTIC  
OCEAN

10°S

20°S

Tropic of Capricorn

# Afric

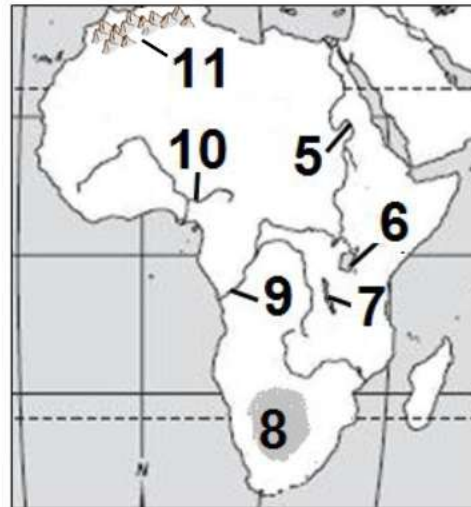
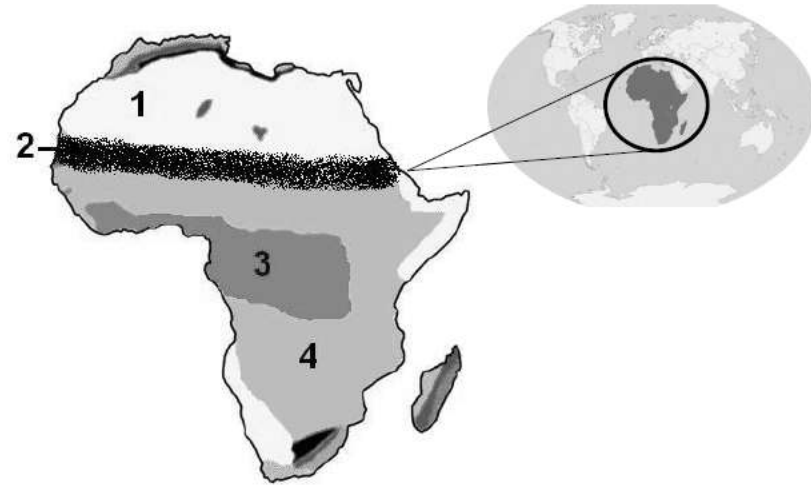


# Use the Africa Physical Features Map

## Africa Physical Features

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Feature	Description
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
11.	



# Sahara Desert

1.





## **Sahara Desert:**

World's largest, hot desert,  
covering most of Northern

Africa



# Sahel



**2.**

# Sahel:

Transition zone south of the Sahara;  
separates Sahara from tropical rain  
forests



# Tropical Rain Forest



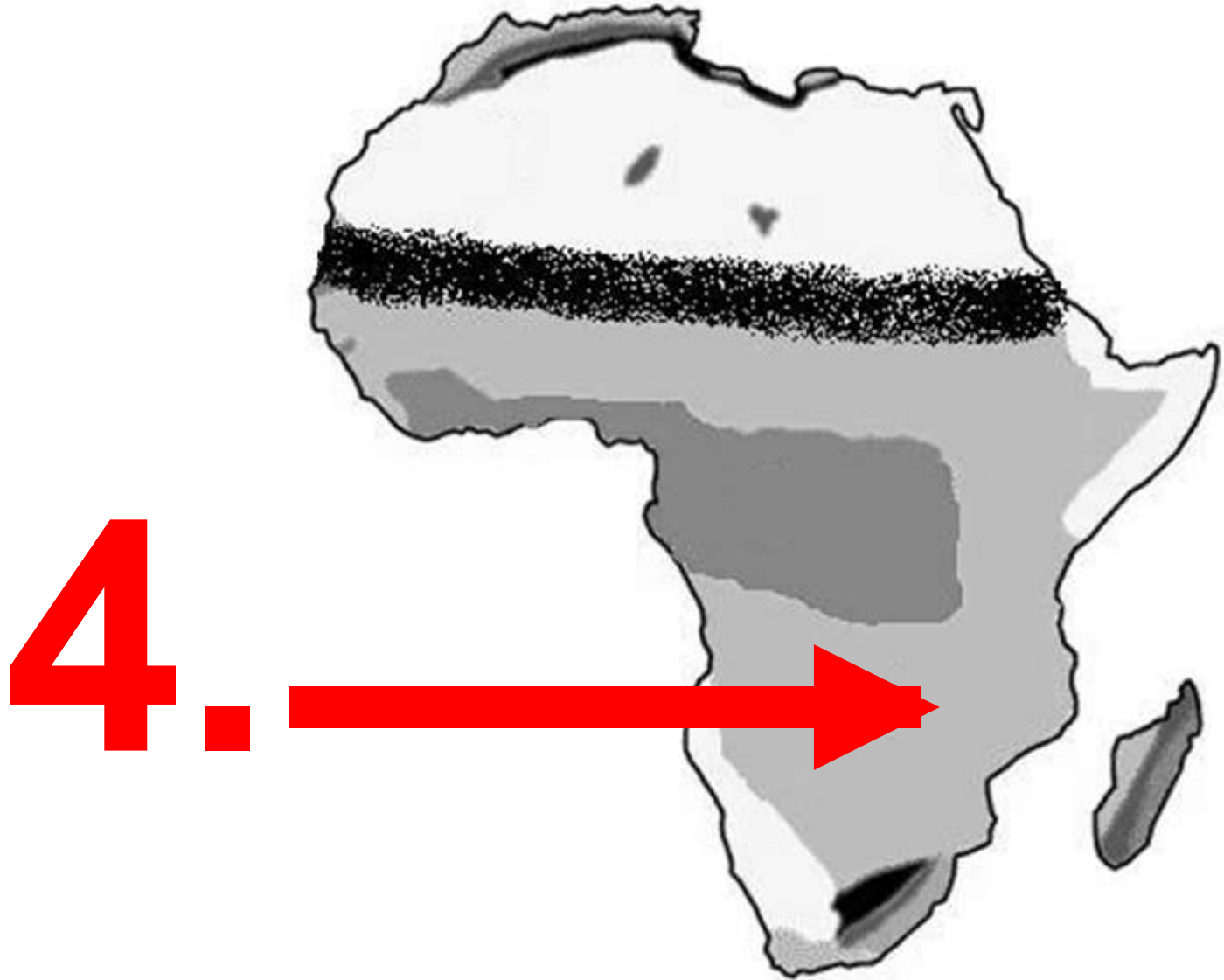
**3.**

# **Tropical Rain Forest:**

Central African tropical rainforest is the second largest in the world



# Savanna



# Savanna:

Rolling grassland and  
scattered  
trees and shrubs



# Nile River

5.



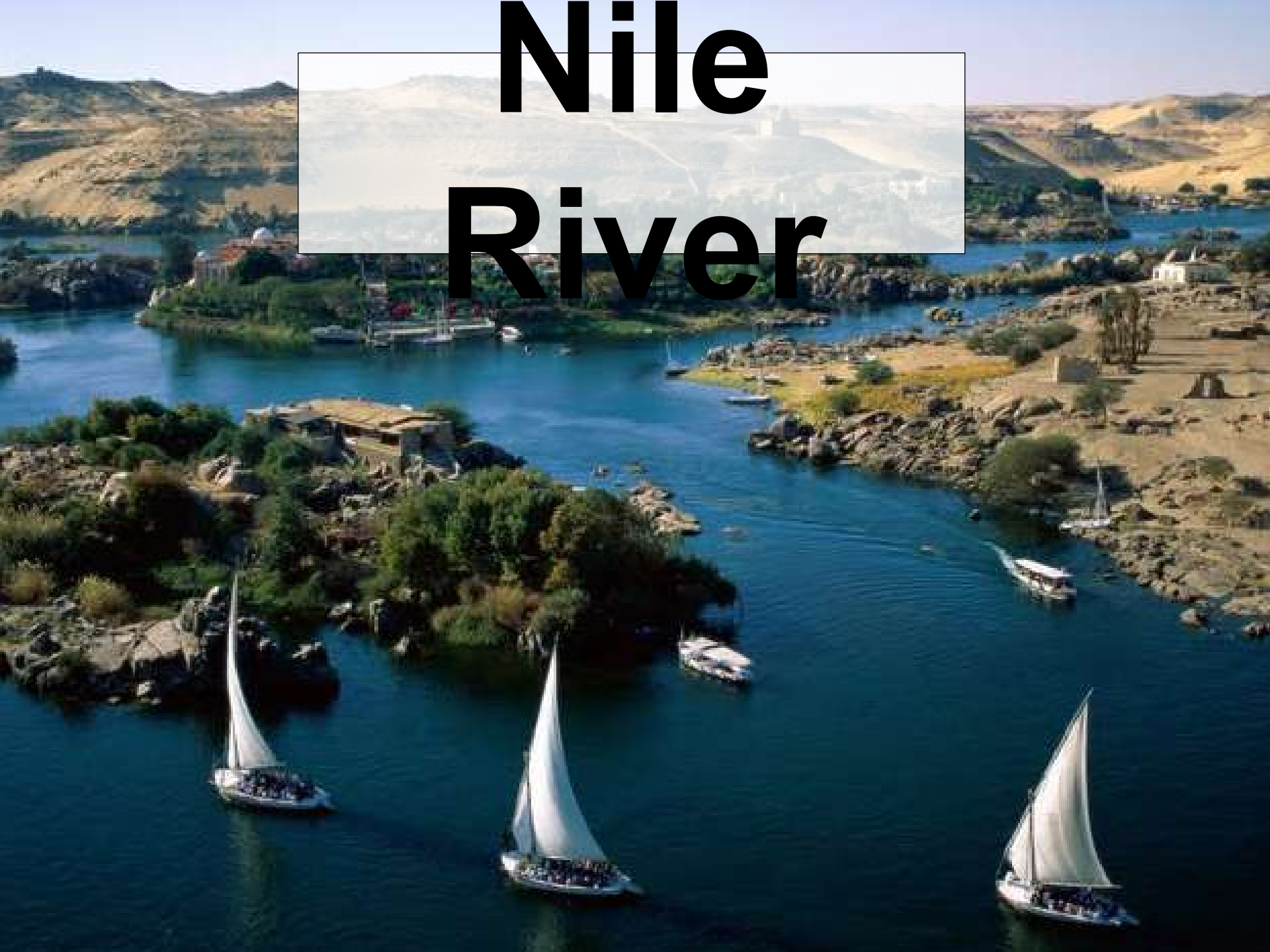
# Nile River:

World's longest river; flows northward into the Mediterranean Sea





# Nile River



# Lake Victoria

6.





# **Lake Victoria:**

Reservoir for the Nile River;  
largest lake in Africa; 2<sup>nd</sup> largest  
freshwater lake in the world

# Lake Tanganyika

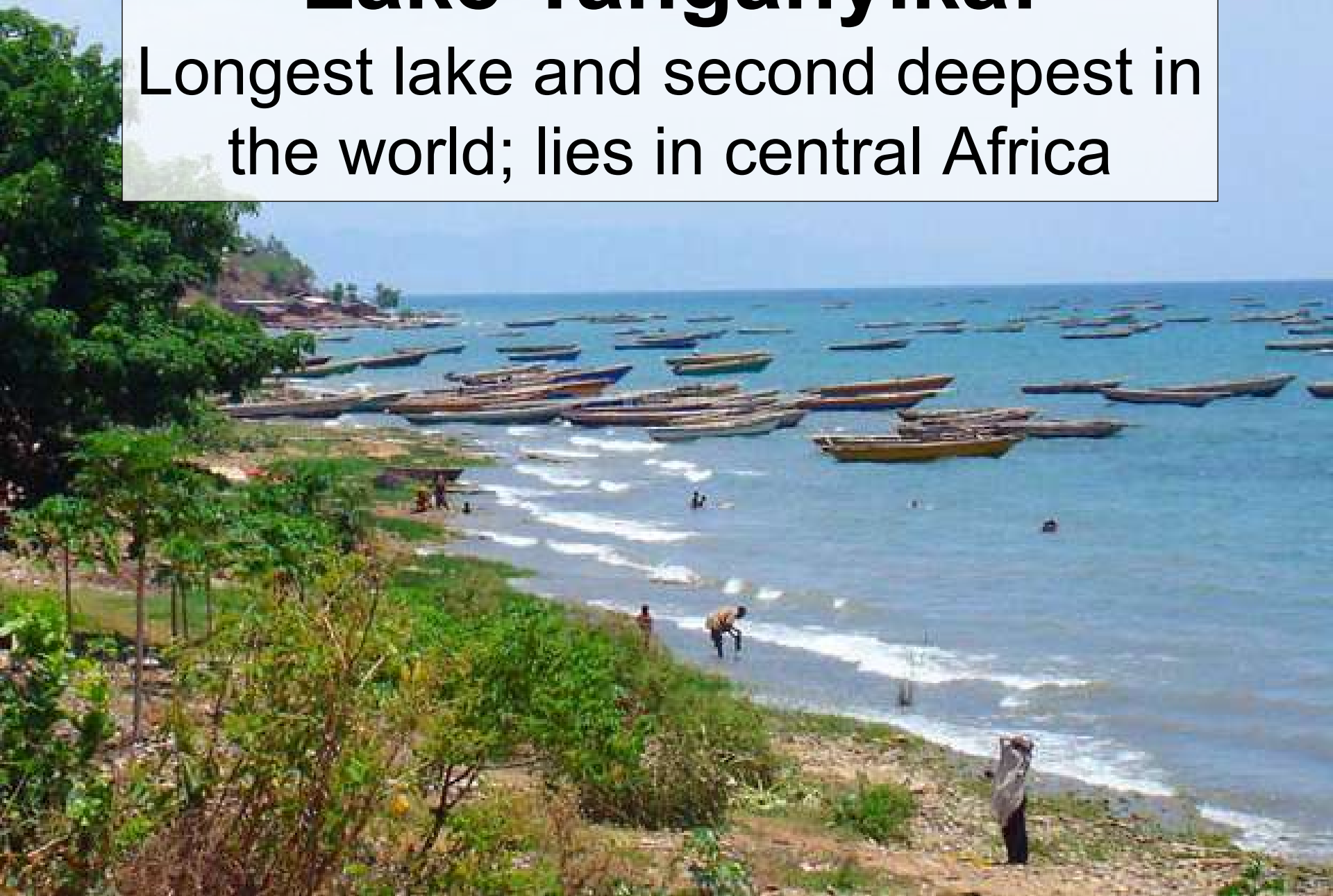
7.

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# Lake Tanganyika:

Longest lake and second deepest in the world; lies in central Africa



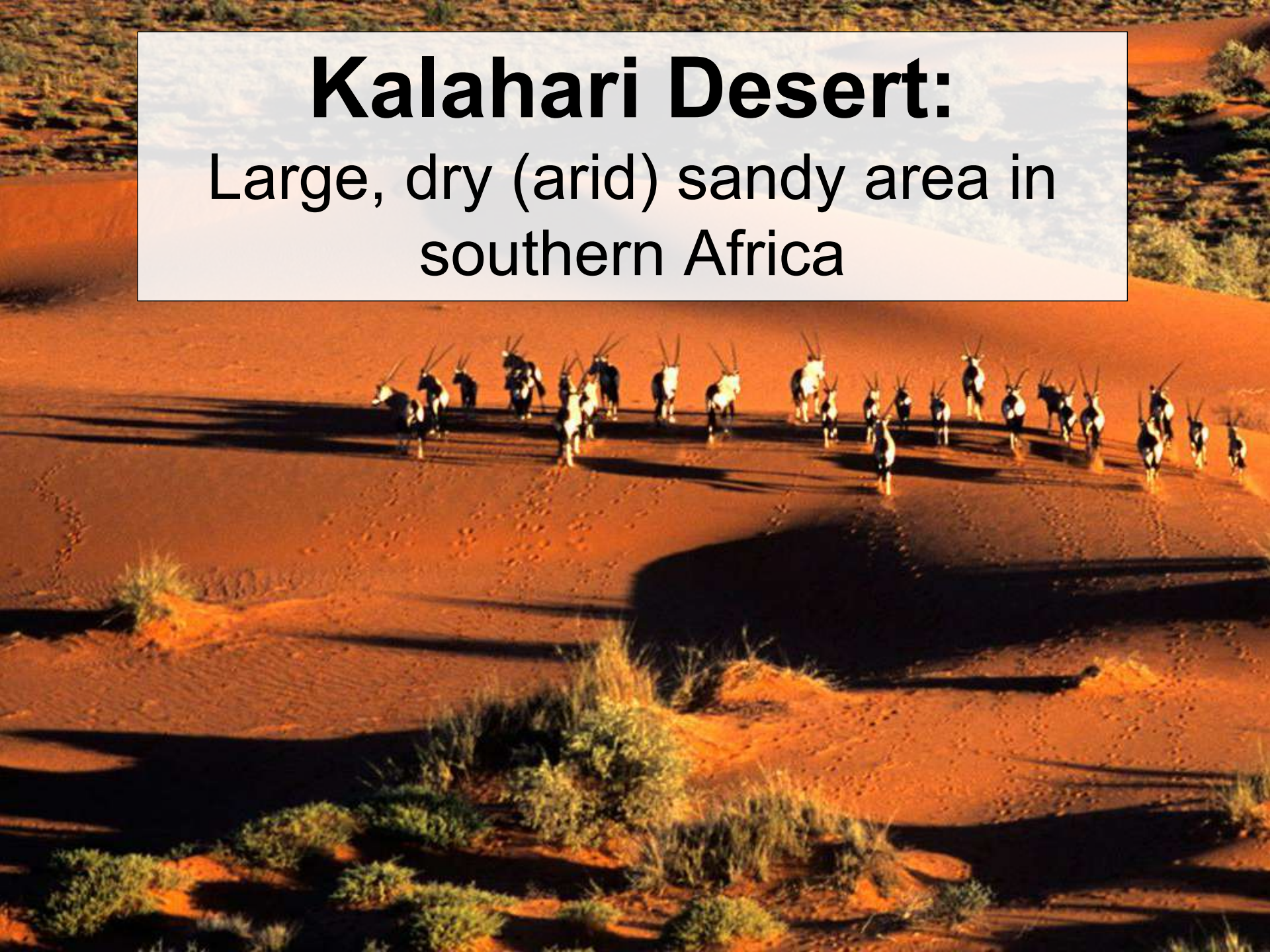
# Kalahari Desert



8.

# Kalahari Desert:

Large, dry (arid) sandy area in southern Africa



# Congo River

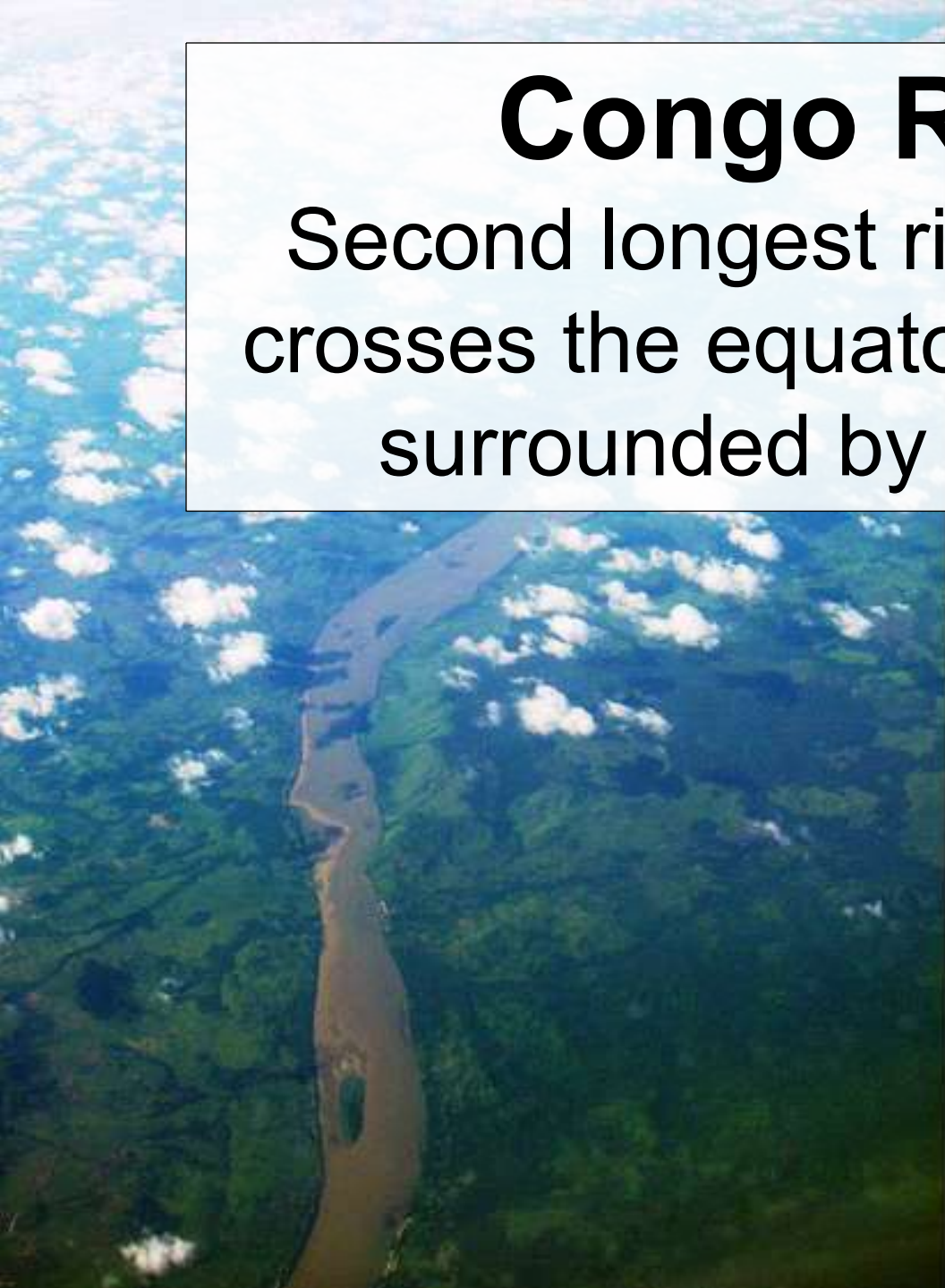


9.



# Congo River:

Second longest river in Africa;  
crosses the equator twice and is  
surrounded by rain forest



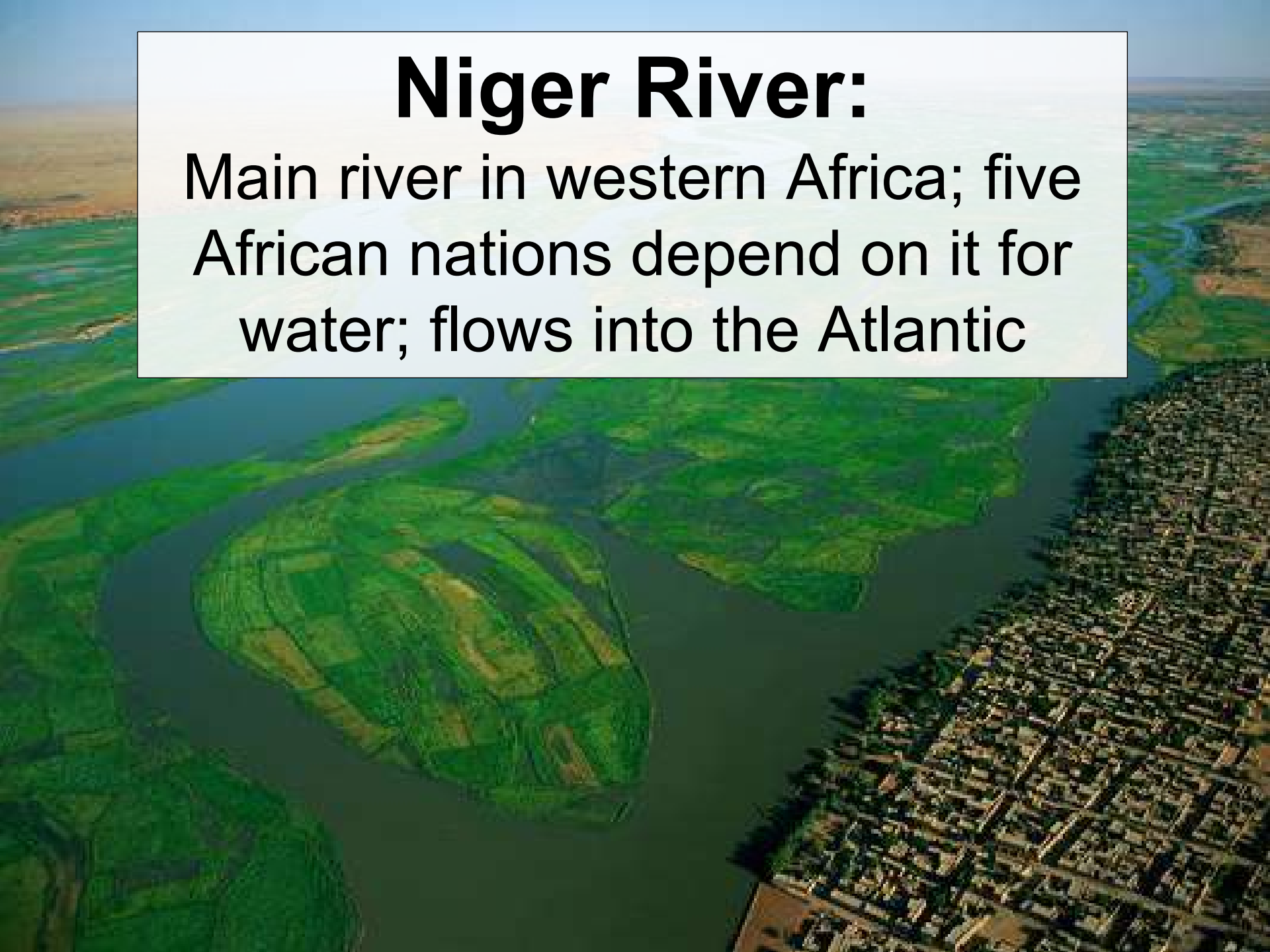
# Niger River



10.

# **Niger River:**

Main river in western Africa; five African nations depend on it for water; flows into the Atlantic



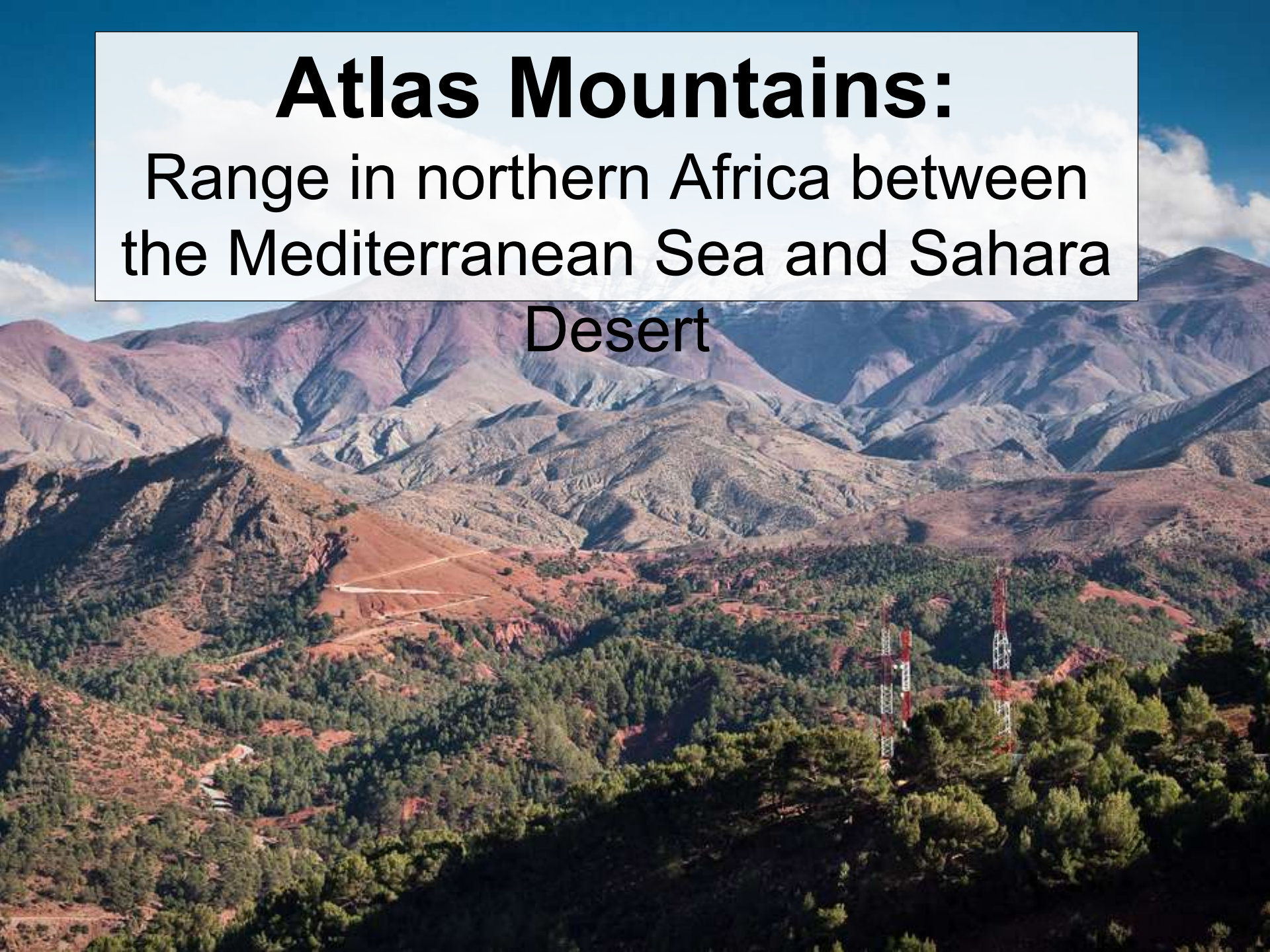
# Atlas Mountains



11.

# Atlas Mountains:

Range in northern Africa between  
the Mediterranean Sea and Sahara  
Desert





With a partner, come up with a mnemonic device or other way to remember the location of the physical features of Africa.



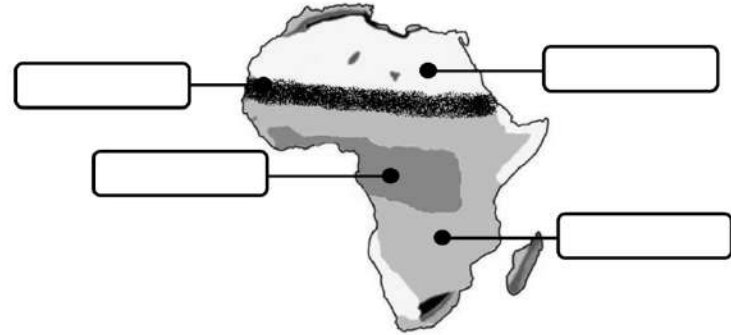
# Formative Assessme

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Africa Physical Features Formative Assessment

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Identify the Sahara, Sahel, Savanna, and Tropical Rain Forest in the map below.



Label and draw if needed the following physical features of Latin America on the map below:

Congo River  
Kalahari Desert

Nile River  
Lake Tanganyika

Niger River  
Lake Victoria

Atlas Mountains



# Use the African Countries Map

## African Countries

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Using teacher instruction, label the following countries on the map below:  
Democratic Republic of the Congo (Zaire), Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, South  
Africa, Sudan, South Sudan







**Egypt**  
**t**

# Egypt



# Suda

# n





**Suda**

**n**

# South Sudan



# South Sudan





**Nigeri**

**a**

# Nigeri

# a







**Kenya**  
**a**

A herd of African elephants is shown in a lush green savanna. In the background, the snow-capped peak of Mount Kenya rises against a clear blue sky. The elephants are of various sizes, including a small calf. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

# Keny

# a

# Democratic Republic of Congo (Zaire)





**Democratic Republic  
of**

**Congo (Zaire)**

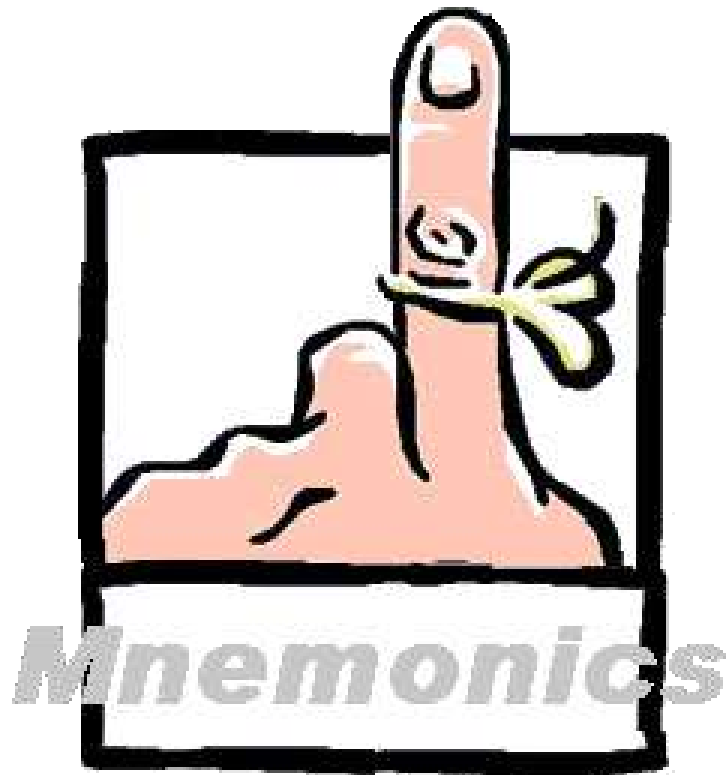
# South Africa





# South Africa

Create a Mnemonic  
Device to help remember  
the countries of Africa



# Formative Assessment

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Africa Political Features Formative Assessment

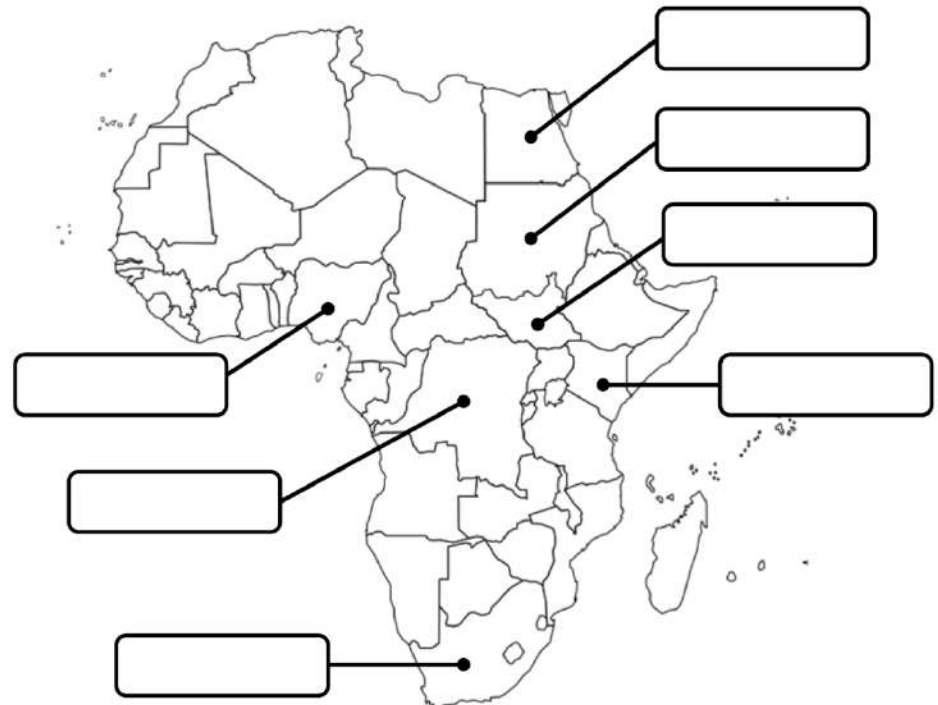
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Identify the following countries of Africa on the map below:

Egypt  
South Sudan  
South Africa

Kenya  
Sudan  
Nigeria

Democratic Republic of Congo (Zaire)





# Physical and Political Features

Review Activities [if needed]

- Africa Physical and Political Features Flashcards
- Physical and Political Features Slipcover

# Summarizer

