

Georgia's Rivers

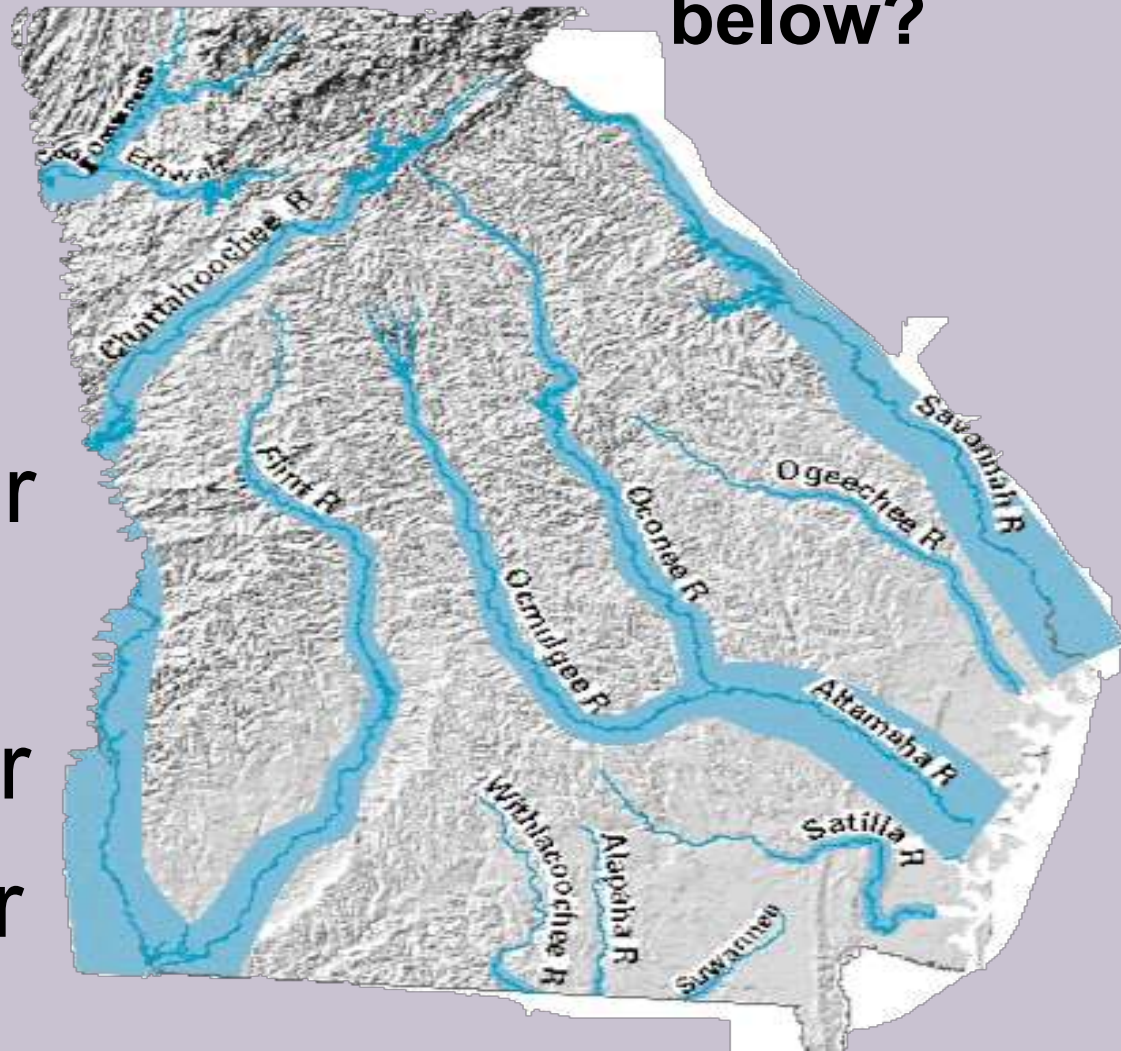


Ms. Masters
2nd Grade
Stoneview Elementary

Georgia's 7 Main Rivers

- Altamaha River
- Chattahoochee River
- Flint River
- Ocmulgee River
- Oconee River
- Savannah River
- St. Mary's River

• Can you spot them on the map below?



Altamaha River

- The Altamaha River, located in South Georgia, is the largest river in Georgia.
- The river was named for a Yamassee Indian chief, Altamaha.
- This river is played a large role in Georgia's history. Many of the large cotton plantations were located along the banks of the river.
- Steamboats traveled up and down the river carrying travelers and items to be sold.



Altamaha River Ecosystem



- The Altamaha is viewed as the most important ecosystems in the region. This river has many marsh and swamp habitats that make up the Coastal Plain region.



- Many different wildlife make their home on this river. Otters, turtles, alligators, and a variety of birds are some of the animals that live on the Altamaha River.

Chattahoochee River



- The Chattahoochee River begins in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Northeast Georgia.
- It flows 430 miles through Georgia. The river flows through the capital city of Atlanta.
- This river is the main source of water for over half of Georgia's population.
- Eventually, the Chattahoochee River joins the Flint River in Southwest Georgia.

What Does Chattahoochee Mean?

- Chattahoochee is Creek Indian for “flowered stones”.
- The word chatto, which means stone, and the word hooche which means flowered or designs like flowers.
- The river was located by Chattahoochee Old Town. The Creek settlement named the river after the settlement.



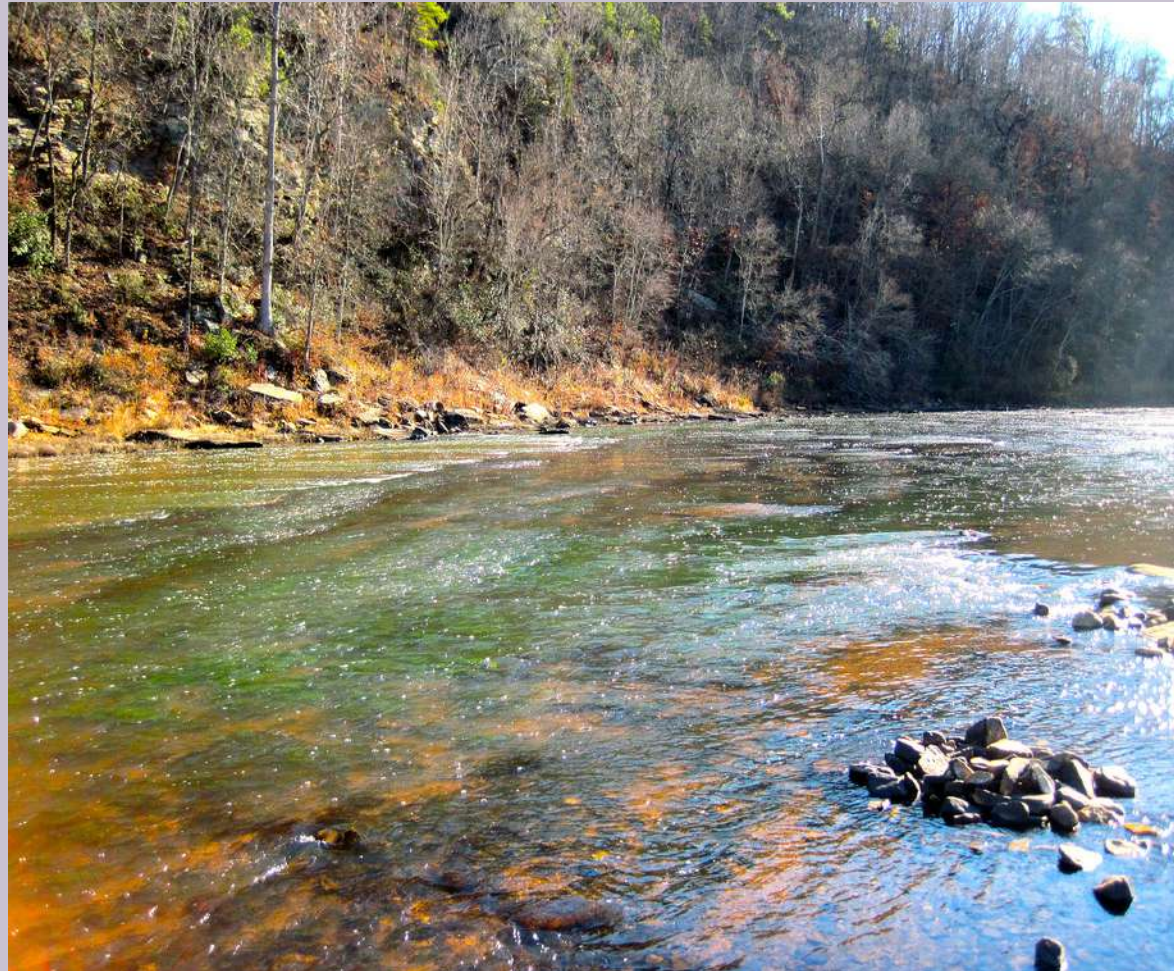
Flint River



- The Flint River begins at Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport with the upper portion of the river flowing through the Georgia Piedmont region.
- Below the Fall Line(where waterfalls usually begin) the river flows through soft, sandy limestone that make up the Coastal Plain.

Another “Creek” River

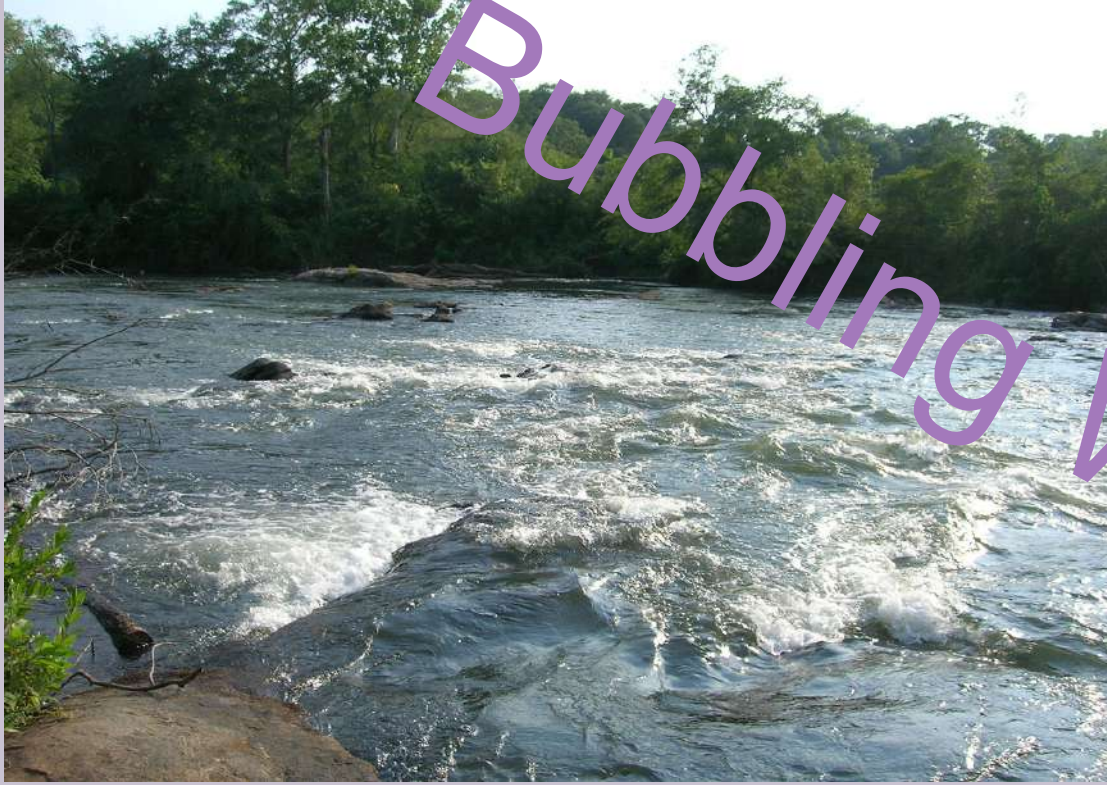
- The Creek Indian name for the river was Thronateeska, which meant flint-picking-up place.
- Flint is a hard form of rock and was used for making arrowheads or spear points. It was highly valued.
- The name comes from the Creek word ronoto, which means flint, and hachi, which means stream.



Ocmulgee River



- The Ocmulgee River is formed in North Central Georgia, just southeast of Atlanta.
- The Ocmulgee River begins in the Valley and Ridge region and then flows into the Coastal Plain, where it becomes a gentle river.
- The gentle part of the river makes it a popular place to go canoeing. It is also used for fishing. The Flint is known especially for catfish and bass.



- Sections of the Ocmulgee River can create rapids, or fast flowing water. It was because of this, the river got it's name.
- Ocmulgee comes from the Creek word that means boiling or bubbling water. It is the combination of "oki", which means water, and "mulgis", which means bubbling or boiling.

Oconee River



- The Oconee River begins in Hall County in Northeast Georgia. Georgia.
- The Oconee River travels south and joins the Ocmulgee River.
- Together, both rivers form the Altamaha River, which is the largest river in Georgia.

Oconee River Wildlife

- The Oconee River is home to a number of state-protected species such as the Robust Redhorse and many others.
- If a species is state-protected that means that it can't be hunted, caught, trapped, or harmed in any way.



The fish above is a Robust Redhorse.

This fish was said to be extinct for more than 100 years.

Scientists rediscovered this fish in the Oconee River.



[Click here for a peek at a live video of a Robust Redhorse Sucker](#)

A scenic view of the Savannah River flowing through a dense forest. The river is a calm, light blue color, reflecting the sky. The surrounding forest is lush and green, with tall trees lining both banks. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

Savannah River

- The Savannah River begins as a stream in the Blue Ridge Mountains.
- The Savannah River forms most of the border between the states of South Carolina and Georgia. It is around 301 miles long. The river eventually flows into the Atlantic Ocean.
- Two major cities are located along the river, Savannah, Georgia, and Augusta, Georgia. They were the central part of English Settlements in early Georgia history.
- In 1733, James Oglethorpe built the first Georgia settlement in Savannah.

- Savannah means “River of the Shawnees,” named after the remaining part of the Shawnee Indian tribe that lived on the river in early Colonial days.
- The Savannah River is now one of Georgia’s largest and longest waterways.

Check out the view of
the Savannah River
from a Tybee Island
bridge!



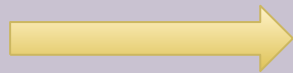


St. Marys River

- St. Marys River is named after a Spanish mission, Santa Maria de Guadeloupe, located near the river.
- The river was home to early Spanish settlers and it has been said that it was the location for some pirate activity.
- The Indian name for the river is Thalthlothaguphka, which means rotten fish.

- St. Marys River begins as a tiny stream in the Okefenokee Swamp and forms part of the border between Georgia and Florida. It empties into the Atlantic Ocean.
- The river is used mainly for recreation and sightseeing purposes. Camping, canoeing, fishing, and boating are a few of the ways that the river is used for recreation.
- More than 65 different species of fish have been identified in the river.

Sailing on
St. Marys



Resources

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