

A River of Time!

Use the Timeline and Word Bank to help you fill in the blanks in this Western water story!

Some call it “western gold”— we call it water! While Feb. 14 is the 100th birthday of Arizona's statehood, people have lived around here for thousands of years, flowing like waves over the landscape and leaving behind layers of cultures and civilizations. Travelers followed rivers, staying close to the essential water.

The Hohokam Indians were some of the first people to settle in central and Southern Arizona. The Hohokam were _____. Using hand tools, they built more than 500 miles of canals to bring water to their crops! They moved away around A.D. 1450, perhaps due to an extended drought!

Their descendants, the O'odham and other tribes, now live in Southern _____ and Northern Mexico. Many O'odham people still live where their ancestors did, and some still use traditional methods of farming!

Spanish _____ began to travel into the area in the 1500s, from the south. Some of these explorers were looking for _____ and land to claim. Father Kino and other missionaries representing the Church of Spain began arriving in the 1600s.

WORD BANK

1993 • ARIZONA • DAMS • EXPLORERS
FARMERS • GOLD • HYDROELECTRIC
MINERS • MOUNTAIN MEN

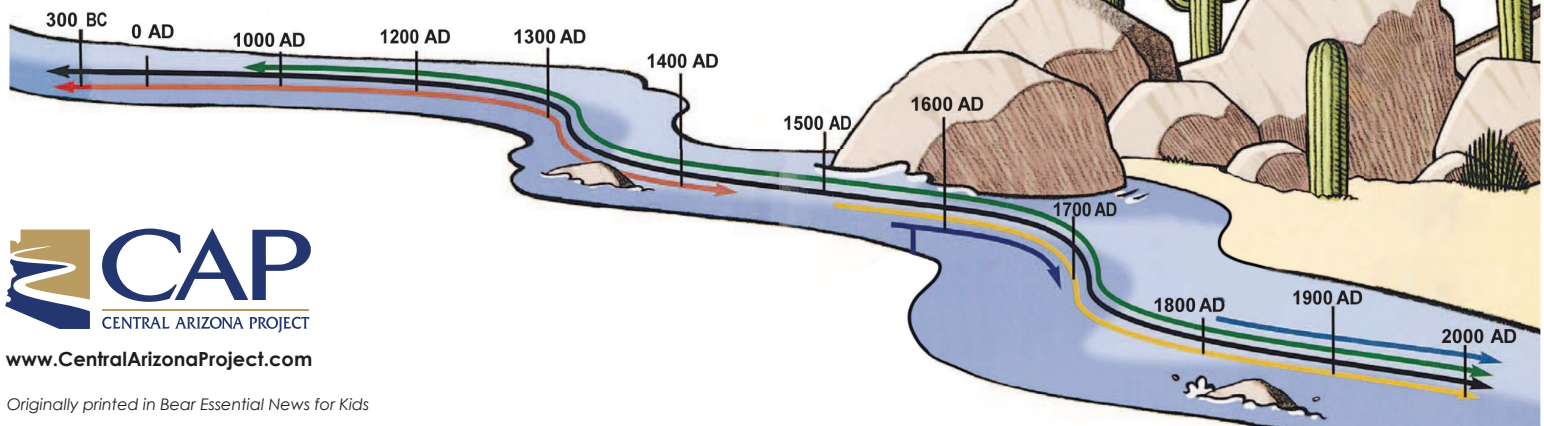
Between 300 to 400 years ago, people began to migrate in from the north. The Navajos and Apaches were some of the first. In the 1800s, Mormon farmers, _____, _____, and other settlers from the north and east began to arrive in greater numbers.

As more settlers moved in, they built elaborate structures to transport water to farms and cities. In 1911, Roosevelt Dam was completed. It was the first of six _____ that are now part of the Salt River Project. It generates _____ power (electricity made with water power).

Many more large dams have been built along the Colorado River. The Central Arizona Project (CAP) canal, completed in _____, actually lifts water from Lake Havasu to higher elevation cities!

Water managers also add CAP water to underground aquifers, where it is stored for people throughout the Southwest. The process is called water banking.

Today, Arizona's population is growing rapidly, but its water supply is limited. Cities, farms and businesses are seeking ways to conserve water so that there will be enough for everyone. What do you think the story of Arizona's water and people will be 100 years from now?



Cut out and tape or paste the circles to the timeline based on what you learned in the story above.

