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Activities

The Mississippi Delta

Name: _____ Date: _____

A big river like the Mighty Mississippi dumps heavy loads of sediment into the ocean. Over time, these deposits can build up at the river's mouth to form a delta. In this Planet Diary activity, you'll take a look at how the Mississippi Delta formed. You'll also learn about threats the delta faces.

Directions

- Start with a look at Rise and Disappearance of Southeast Louisiana. This program takes you back 6,000 years to trace delta formation at the mouth of the Mississippi. Click *Begin* to see the first time period, then *Next* to advance through the others.
- Take a closer look at how and why the delta's changed since 1930. Watch the animation. After it stops, click the black boxes along the top to learn more about these threats:
    - Levees and jetties
    - Canals and channels
    - Land subsidence
    - Saltwater intrusion
    - Invasive species
    - Sea level rise
- Summarize what you learned about each of these threats to the delta in the Workspace table.

Workspace

Threat	How Does It Threaten the Mississippi Delta?
Levees and jetties	
Canals and channels	
Land subsidence	
Saltwater intrusion	
Invasive species	
Sea level rise	

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