

Share A Mighty River

An extension of "The trouble with dams"

The longest rivers in the world flow through more than one country. What one country does with its section of the river can affect all the other countries. "**The trouble with dams**" (page 19, *What's Up* April 2018) gives you an idea of some of the challenges of sharing a river.

To grow in your understanding of global water issues, pretend that your class is attending a Summit on Mighty Rivers. Half of you is representing the countries sharing the Nile, while the other half is representing those countries that the Mekong flows through.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Split your class into two halves: one for the River Nile, and the other for the Mekong River. Further divide yourselves into teams of delegates. Each team should represent a different country that your river flows through. For example, if your team is in the River Nile half of the class, you may wish to represent Egypt.
2. As a team, prepare your presentation for the Mighty Rivers Summit. Read the *What's Up* story carefully to give you your first points. Then, add more content. Jot down your team's key points in the table below.

Our team's chosen country:
Our focus: How we can work together to share our mighty river
Introduction: After addressing your audience formally, prepare a brief sentence that tells the audience what the focus of your speech is about. You may start your speech with an interesting fact, rhetorical question, or famous quote to capture the audience's attention. •
Body: Identify your key points. What are your key concerns? Your great ideas for how best to share the river? What is your country willing to promise? • • • •
Conclusion: Wrap up your speech by summarising the main points in the body. This is your last chance to give your audience something to think about. Leave a lasting impression by posing a rhetorical question or citing a famous quote. Remember to thank the audience for listening. •

Hold the Summit in class as if it were a real event, with each team presenting on behalf of its focus country. Then, discuss what this activity meant to you.