



Connecticut River Museum Online River Fact Hunt

Turn in completed **Fact Hunt** sheet for a free prize at the front desk at our amazing museum (as soon as we are able to open)! Feel free to use any resources you have available, including books, school notes, or the Internet. But remember a good researcher always double-checks their findings with a second reliable source! Have fun and learn a little about the wonderful Connecticut River! We look forward to your visit in person!

1. The Connecticut River is the longest river in New England. How many miles long is the river?
2. A watershed, as defined by the Connecticut River Conservancy, is any area (both above ground and below) that drains to a particular body of water—such as the Connecticut River. How big is the watershed of the Connecticut River?
3. What famous Dutch explorer first discovered and sailed on the Connecticut River? (Hint: The museum has a replica of his famous ship (available for cruises), the *Orrust*, at its docks annually from April through October.)
4. The Connecticut River runs through four New England States. What are they?
5. The Connecticut River empties into which large body of water?
6. The “Age of Steam” found its way to boatbuilding in the 1800s, with the era of steamship building. Many steamships were built right in the river in front of our museum. What is the name of the one of the steamships built at Essex’s Steamboat Dock?
7. For decades, the Connecticut River and many of the US’s waterways were polluted. The development of industry and the people who came to live and dwell along the river were partially responsible for the previously poor ecological condition of the river. What important US environmental government act, signed in 1972, helped regulate the environmental clean-up of our nation’s waterways?
8. Name one dam and one bridge that cross the Connecticut River.
9. Name at least one ferry that crosses the Connecticut River.
10. How wide is the Connecticut River at its widest point? Where is that point? How narrow is it at its narrowest point? Where is its narrowest point?

11. What were the first four Connecticut settlements after the discovery of the Connecticut River?
12. Is the Connecticut River a fresh water or saltwater river?
13. Name four Connecticut cities or towns that the river runs through or along.
14. Name three types of animals that live in or along the Connecticut River.
15. The early European settlers settled into a variety of jobs in different industries along the river. Name two industries or livelihoods that were critical to survival for the early settlers.

The Connecticut River Museum is a private, not-for-profit, education institution that is fully accredited by the American Association of Museums and is a member of the Council of American Maritime Museums and the International Congress of Maritime Museums.

Our mission is to lead in the study, preservation and celebration of the cultural and natural heritage of the Connecticut River and its valley. By deepening understanding of the River's importance to past generations, the Museum will inspire the stewardship of future generations.