

Worksheet GS2

Activity 2: Tools, and Buttons, and Layers, Oh My!

Open Activity 2 from the Student Projects tab.

(Remember: from the Student Projects tab, then Get Started bubble)



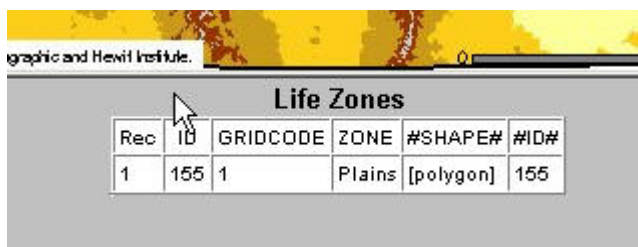
Click on **Activity 2: Tools, and Buttons, and Layers—OH MY!!**



Make Visible the **Denver** layer (by putting a checkmark on the box next to **Denver**), and *Make Active* the **Life Zones** layer (by putting a dot in the circle next to **Life Zones**). Only ONE layer can be *Active* at a time. You can make as many layers *Visible* as you like, but only one can be *Active*. The Layers box should look similar to the left. Then click the *Refresh Map* button.


A green star should appear for Denver. When you *Make Visible* a layer, and *Refresh Map*: you can SEE the layer.

When you *Make Active* a layer, you can then use certain tools with it. For example, click the **i** *Identify* button and then click on the map anywhere near Denver. You should get an Identify box that looks something like:




Gridcode, zone, #shape#, #id#, etc. are “fields”. You’ll notice that Denver is in the “Plains” ZONE (life zone). You won’t always be able to figure out

what each field means. For example, the #SHAPE# field is just something that the GIS has to use to find where you clicked. Sometimes you might get 2 or more records when you use the **i** *Identify* button. You might have clicked close to a boundary between two zones.

But, it would be nice to have a legend telling us what the different colors for the Life Zones map mean! In the toolbar click on the  *Toggle between Legend and LayerList* button (upper left button). You should see the Legend for the currently *Visible* layers, and it should look like:

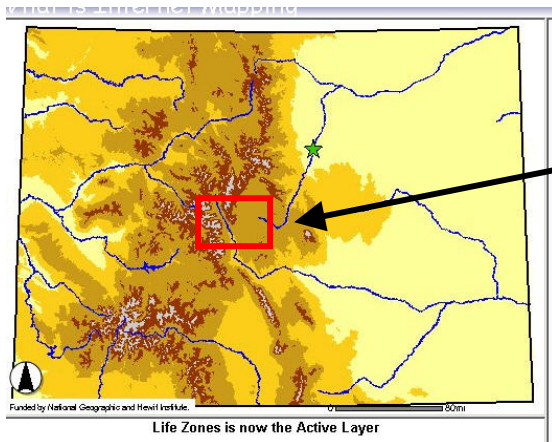



You should see the symbol for **Denver**, **Colorado Outline**, and the various **Life Zones** categories. So, Alpine areas are gray, the Plains zone is yellow, and so on.

Now lets go back to the layer list:  *Toggle between Legend and LayerList* button (upper left button). Check on or *Make Visible* the **Rivers** layer and *Refresh Map*. The Layer list should look like:




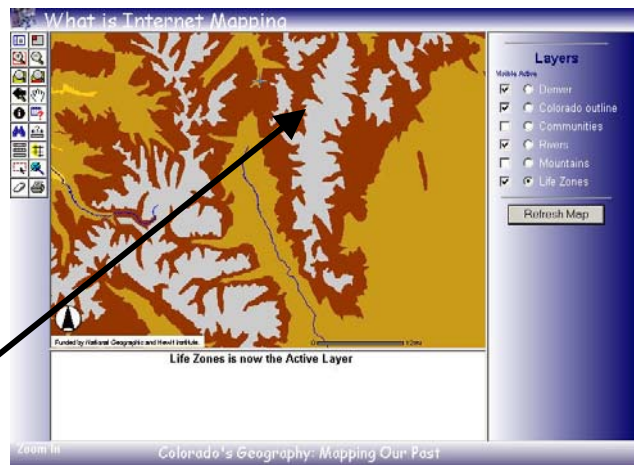
Your map should now show the Rivers layer.







You can also zoom in and out of areas. Click the  *Zoom In* button and DRAG a box around the upper Arkansas River similar to the size shown.

Your map should look somewhat similar to the one on the right:

Hey, see if you can find Leadville! *Make Visible* and *Active* the **Communities** Layer, and *Refresh Map*. Then use the  *Identify* button to click on the city that should be about where the arrow points. It might take a couple of clicks!



If you want to Zoom back out to the entire map you can click either the  *Zoom to Full Extent* (usually the entire state) or the  *Zoom to Active Layer* button (out to the size of the current active layer). Usually these two buttons will do the same thing. Like wise, you can use the  *Zoom to Previous Extent* button or just move the map around a little by choosing the  *Pan* button and then click and HOLD on the map and move it around. It's hard to mess it up because you can always just reload the map by clicking on the **Activity 2: Tools, and Buttons, and Layers—OH MY!!** Internet link.

There are lots of other buttons. Experiment: just put your cursor over a button and a label will pop up. Go ahead, experiment!

This is the end of Activity 2.