

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Grand Canyon

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions from the reading.



The Grand Canyon is a steep-sided gorge carved by the Colorado River in the United States in the state of Arizona. It is largely contained within the Grand Canyon National Park — one of the first national parks in the United States. President Theodore Roosevelt was a major proponent of preservation of the Grand Canyon area, and visited it on numerous occasions to hunt and enjoy the scenery.

Longstanding scientific consensus has been that the canyon was created by the Colorado River over a six million year period. The canyon is 277 miles long, ranges in width from 4 to 18 miles and attains a depth of over a (6000 feet).

Geologically it is significant because of the thick sequence of ancient rocks that are beautifully preserved and exposed in the walls of the canyon. These rock layers record much of the early geologic history of the North American continent.

Weather in the Grand Canyon varies according to elevation. The forested rims are high enough to receive winter snowfall, but along the Colorado River in the Inner Gorge, temperatures are similar to desert locations in Arizona. Conditions in the Grand Canyon region are generally dry, but substantial precipitation occurs twice annually, during seasonal pattern shifts in winter and in late summer.

Temperatures vary wildly throughout the year, with summer highs within the Inner Gorge commonly exceeding 100 °F and winter temperatures sometimes falling below 0 °F along the canyon's rims. Grand Canyon National Park is one of the world's premier natural attractions, attracting about five million visitors per year.

1. Which state is the grand canyon located? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What river that carved the canyon? \_\_\_\_\_

3. How many years did it take to carve the canyon? \_\_\_\_\_

4. How long is the canyon? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is the average high temperature? \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Which state is the grand canyon located?

Arizona

2. What river that carved the canyon?

Colorado River

3. How many years did it take to carve the canyon?

6 million years

4. How long is the canyon?

277 miles long

5. What is the average high temperature?

Over 100 °F