

# River City Application Technical Checklist

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## **HARVARD UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION THE RIVER CITY PROJECT**

River City Project  
Activeworlds, Inc.  
95 Parker Street  
Newburyport, MA 01950

River City is an interactive computer simulation for middle school science students to help them learn about disease transmission and scientific inquiry. The River City Research Project is supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation. Access to the River City simulation, curricular materials, and professional development is provided by the River City team at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

**This CD contains the River City application and a ReadMe file. Please make sure your technical support specialist reads this technical checklist and follows the instructions in the ReadMe file before installing River City.**

**Minimum Workstation Requirements:** Verify these requirements before you begin using the River City Application

- Operating System: Windows XP (2000 or Vista may work but are unsupported)
- RAM: At least 256 MB
- DirectX: Version 8.1 or higher
- Video Card: 3D accelerated capability and at least 32MB RAM
- Hard Drive space: 150MB
- Sound Card: Any (headphones optional, but desirable in group setting)
- Microsoft Internet Explorer version 6.0 or higher
- Flash plug-in: Version 9.0 or higher (website: <http://www.adobe.com>)

### **Installing and Testing River City**

To determine if all the plug-ins listed above are properly installed and functioning, please complete the following steps.

**NOTE:** If River City was installed on your computers last year, you should uninstall it before installing this new version.

1. Install the River City application.
2. Launch the application and login as a visitor.

**Note:** Use a visitor account to test the River City application, but **DO NOT** use visitor accounts with students!!

- a. Use one of the following login names: 1Vistor, 2Vistor, up to 18Vistor
  - i. Two people cannot enter the simulation with the same account. In the event that someone else is using a given account, please try an alternative.
  - ii. Note that there are no spaces in the login name, 'V' is capitalized, and the name is "vistor" not "visitor".
- b. The password is RiverCity
  - i. Note that there are no spaces in the password and 'R' and 'C' are capitalized.
  - ii. Users 1-3Vistor are on Team 1; 4-6Vistor are on Team 2; and so on.
  - iii. Users on the same team can communicate through the Team Chat.

### Plug-in Verification Checklist

3. Enter April 1879 from the timeport.
4. Right click on any of the River City residents and select "what's new." The resident should respond in the Team Chat Window.
5. Right-click on any of the River City residents and select "where am I?" An interactive map should open in the right-hand pane.
6. Click on "show water stations," then click on one of the water stations to be transported to that location.
7. Click on the water station in front of you. A screen with little microbes floating on it will appear on the right.

NOTES: (After installing the River City application)

- When starting the first time, let the application auto-configure its Internet connection.
- Restart the application if it freezes upon entry into a world for the first time. This should not happen a second time.
- Please do not attempt to move around inside the world while the blue progress bar indicates the world is loading!

For Technical Support, Email the Research Team at [rivercity.support@gmail.com](mailto:rivercity.support@gmail.com).

*The River City Team*

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