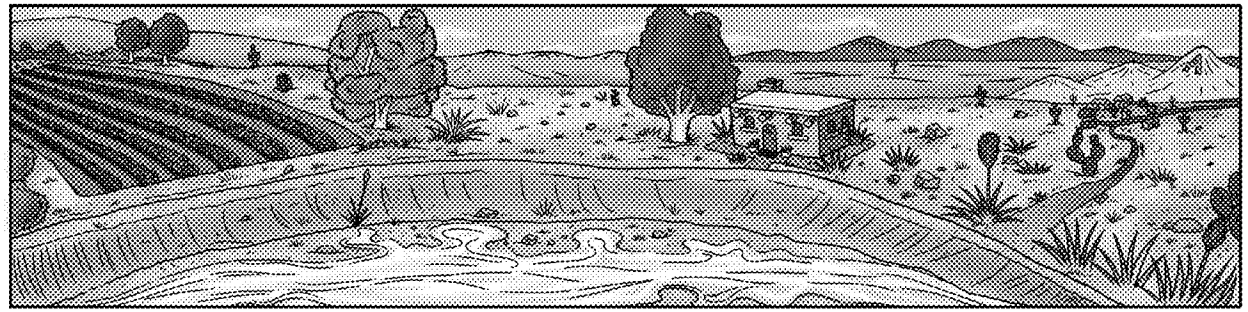
LANDS MAKEOVER

More people moved to Tucson. They used river water and dug wells. A turning point came. People began using more groundwater than was replaced by rainfall. The water table fell. The river stopped flowing regularly. Riparian and wetland habitats shrunk.

C

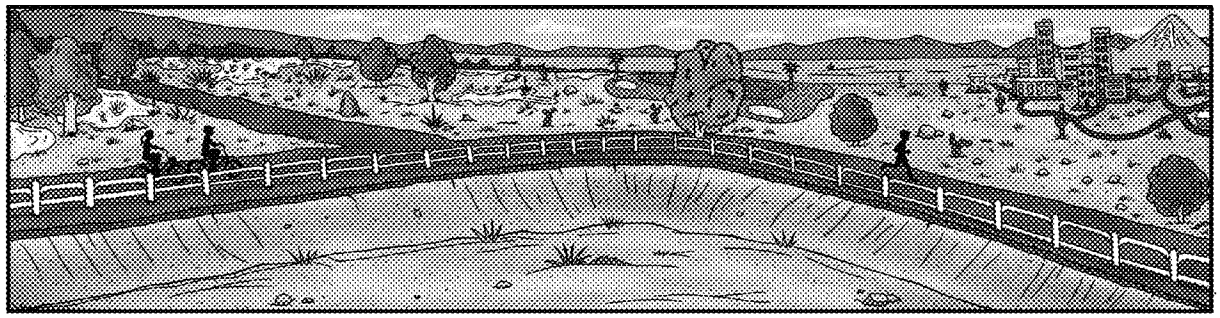


The river served as a reliable water source. This drew Native Americans and other people. These early settlers did not use much water. The water they did use was replaced by the water cycle. The water table stayed close to the surface.

D

Tucson started using Colorado River water. And now many parks, golf courses, and schoolyards use reclaimed water. Less groundwater is needed. The water table is rising! Sweetwater Wetlands was built beside the Santa Cruz River. This constructed wetland purifies treated sewage water and provides wildlife habitat.

E



Answers on page 9.