

Major Rivers of the World



Rivers are natural streams of fresh water that flow into seas, oceans and lakes.

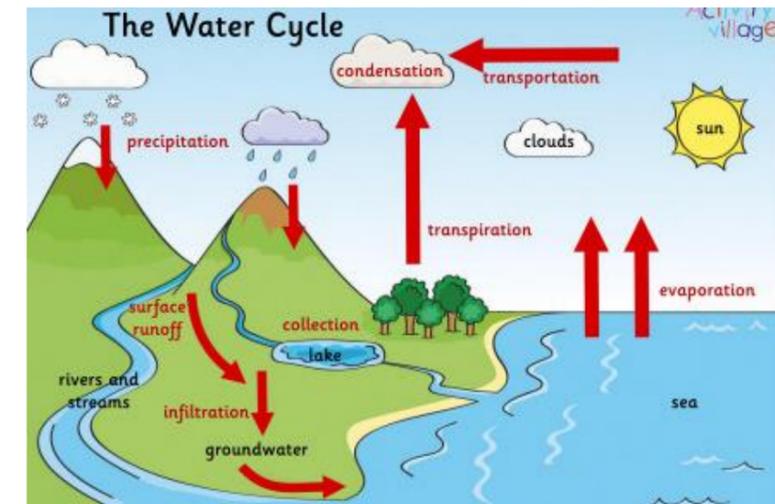
Can you name the countries that some of these rivers are located in?

Key Vocabulary

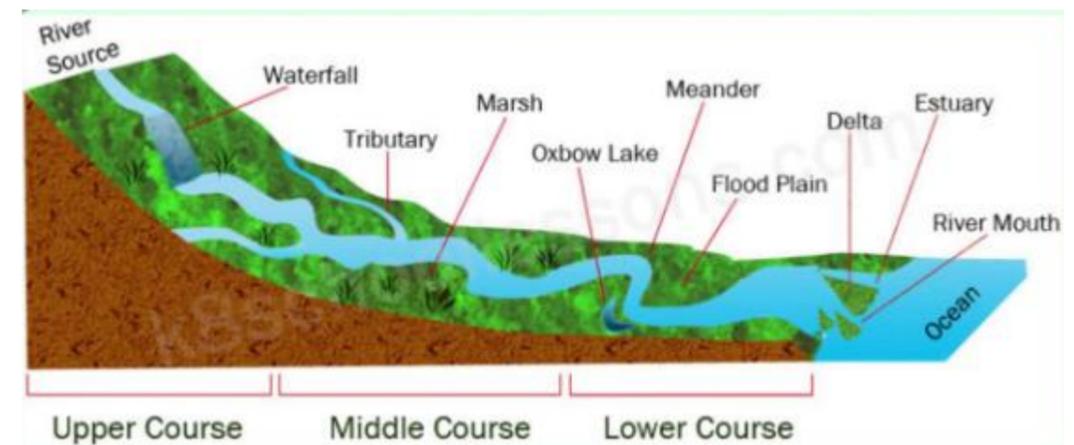
Confluence	Where two rivers join and become a larger river.
Delta	An area of low land where a river splits and spreads out into several branches before entering the sea.
Deposition	When a substance has been left somewhere as a result of a process.
Estuary	The wide part of a river where it joins the sea.
Erosion	The gradual destruction and removal of rock or soil in a particular area by rivers, the sea, or the weather.
Floodplain	A flat area of land next to a river.
Meander	A large bend in a river.
River Mouth	Where a river flows into the sea.
Source	The original point from which the river flows.
Spring	A natural outflow of ground water.
Tributary	A stream or river that flows into a larger river.
Waterfall	A place where water flows over the edge of a steep, high cliff in the upper course of the river and falls into a pool below.

Curriculum links: Geography

The Water Cycle

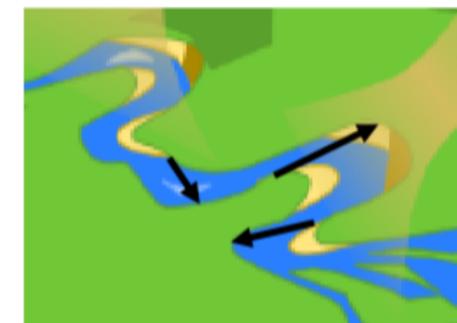


The Course of a River



Erosion and Deposition

Erosion and Deposition



The arrows show the direction of the **river current** which causes **erosion** over time.

Sometimes, two **meanders** can join together to form a 'shortcut'. Water will flow down the shorter route, **deposition** will block off the old route and this will create an **oxbow lake**.

Some questions to answer....

What is the longest river in the world?

Can you tell me 5 facts about the River Thames?

What are the three Courses of a river?

What features would I find in the Upper Course?

What do we call the place where a river begins?

What do we call the place where two rivers meet?

How is a waterfall created?

How is a meander created?

Useful websites

Primary Homework Help <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/rivers/websites.htm>

NatGeo Kids Rivers <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/home-is-good/fascinating-facts-about-rivers/>

The School Run – Rivers <https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/rivers>

WWF UK Rivers Map <https://www.wwf.org.uk/uk-rivers-map>

Norfolk River Trust <https://norfolkrivertrust.org/rivers/>

The River Trust <https://therivertrust.org/>

Canal and River Trust <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/>

A tricky read

Rivers and Lakes are the centre piece to many different stories. One famous story is Swallows and Amazons by Arthur Ransome. This is the first book in a long running series about the Walker Family. In this first book in the series, we meet the children as they set out for an adventure on Lake District in 1929 and their adventures setting up camp, sailing in storms, meeting pirates and eating all sorts of delicious food. Maybe it will inspire you to try and butter fry an egg? A book of its time with some interesting vocabulary.

You could also try Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson. Published in 2001, this modern title covers the adventure of orphaned Maia as she sets out to meet her long lost family in the depths of the Amazon jungle. We read a little of this story as part of our first English unit.

An investigation (choose one or both)

- Research a river of your choosing and make a presentation about it to share with the class. Think about the keys facts we would like to know. Such as: where is the source; what countries and continents does the river flow through; what are the major features that tourists will visit; how is the river used by the people that live along its banks?
- Research a river that is linked to your family.