

What does a river see on its journey?

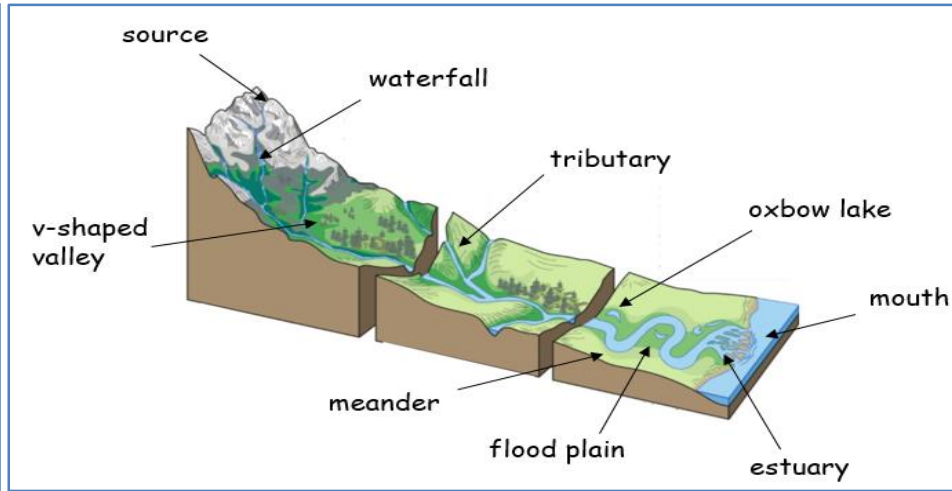
The course of a river

Rivers are bodies of water that move across land. The **course** is the journey the river takes.

All rivers can be split into three sections:

- Upper course**
- Middle course**
- Lower course**

The key features of a river



What can make flooding worse?

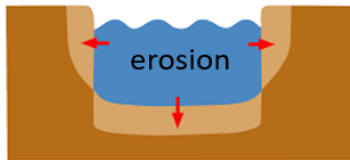


Key Vocabulary

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| source | the start of a river. It can come from runoff rain water, snow, a spring or a lake. |
| v shaped valley | the shape of the valley for most upper course, young rivers. |
| tributary | where a stream or river joins the main river. |
| waterfall | where the river flows over a vertical drop. |
| channel | the width of a river. Its bottom is the bed and the sides are the banks. |
| meander | a bend in a river. |
| oxbow lake | a lake formed when a meander is cut off from the river. |
| floodplain | usually a low flat area of land around a river which becomes flooded |
| mouth | where a river meets the sea. |
| estuary | where freshwater from a river mixes with salt water from the sea. |

Erosion

As a river reaches its middle course, the fast flowing water causes **erosion**. This makes the channel deeper and wider.



Deposition

As river slows down in the lower course, it **deposits** or drops rocks, mud and other material. This is called **sediment**.



What benefits can a river bring?



survival



food



energy



transport



fun

Use your knowledge organiser to learn the key vocabulary for this unit.

Homework – Geography - Rivers

We want you to produce a fact file all about a river. Some ideas could be the river Nile or the Amazon river or you could pick a local river?

Your research can be any form you would like, poster, video, slideshow. Please can you upload your homework to the padlet using the QR code. We will upload our podcasts at the end of the unit onto the padlet to share with you all.

Some information on rivers can be found on BBC Bitesize or via the Royal Geographical Society via the QR codes below. We also have some books in our classroom library that the children are welcome to borrow.

