

## Key question for the topic

How are rivers formed?

## KEY VOCABULARY

river- a flowing, moving stream of water.

source- where the river's journey begins.

mouth- where the river enters the sea.

tributary- a small stream or river that meets a larger river.

meander- a winding bend in a river.

estuary- an area of wide, flat land and a wide channel into the sea in the final section of the river.

Oxbow lakes- a U shaped lake that forms when a wide meander of a river is cut off.

deltas- mud and sediment deposits that are formed at the mouth of a river that cannot be washed away.

confluence- where two rivers meet.

erosion- when the fastest flow of water carves into the river banks, causing them to collapse.

transportation- eroded material is taken downstream.

deposition- eroded material is taken downstream and left on the river bed.

The Water Cycle- the journey of water on the Earth.

waterfall- where water rushes down steep hillsides in upland areas and erodes the rocks.

## Further Reading

Check out: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zc3gp4j> where you can find some great videos, activities and quizzes all about rivers.

## KEY FACTS

The longest river in the UK is the River Severn which is 354km long. Other significant rivers in the UK are the River Thames (356km long), River Trent (297km long), River Great Ouse (230km long) and the River Wyre (215km long).

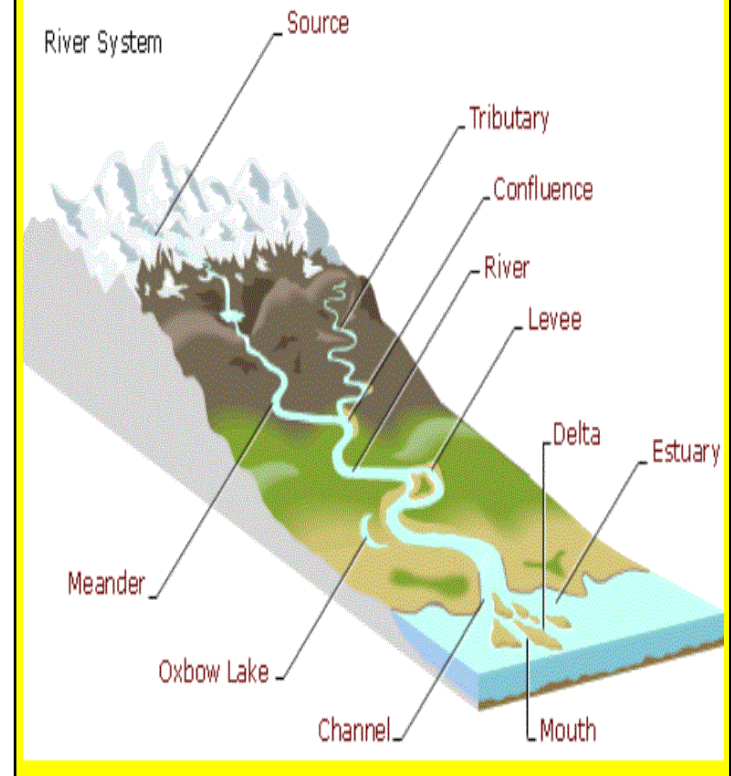
These rivers play a key part in the Water Cycle as they carry the rain-water back to the sea.

However, not all of the water flowing down a river is returned to the sea. Some of the water is used for different purposes, such as for drinking water, bathing, washing, as a source of food and for making hydropower.

Rivers can also serve other purposes for example, transporting goods, transporting people, disposing waste and for driving machinery.

### QUESTIONS TO DEEPEN YOUR LEARNING

## The Journey of a River



## You might like to...

Choose a river in the UK or the world to research. Present your facts in an interesting way for example, in a PowerPoint, fact-file, drawing, video etc. Upload any work onto Class Dojo for your teacher to see and Dojo points will be rewarded!

Character	Critical Thinking	Creativity	Communication	Citizenship	Collaboration
Which parts of this do I need to understand?	Why do I need to know about this?	What am I curious about?	How could I present what I understand?	How could this information help people?	What can I learn from others about this?