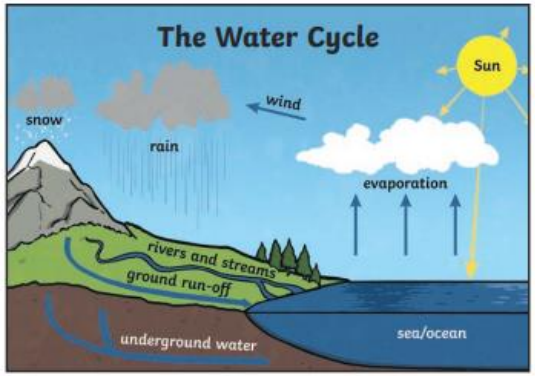
Year 5 Summer 2: Is the journey of a river always the same?

The Course of a River

The Upper Course
Rain falling on high ground collects in channels and flows downwards forming a stream. Streams run downhill and join other streams, increasing in size and speed, forming a river. The river here flows quickly and the channel has steep sides and runs through valleys.
Features include - waterfalls and rapids.

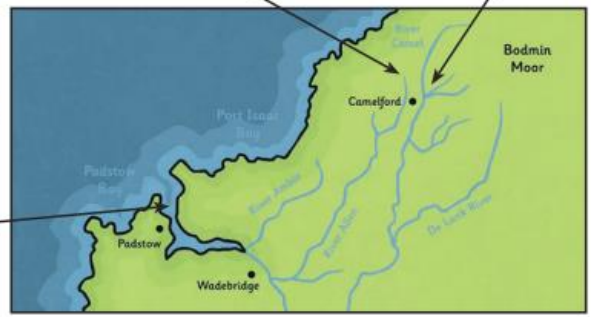
The Middle Course
Fast flowing water causes erosion making the river deeper and wider.
Features include - meanders.

The Lower Course
Rivers flow with less force due to being on flat land. The river deposits the eroded material that it has carried.
Riverbanks have shallower sides.
Features include - floodplains, deltas and estuaries.



Some rivers join up with other rivers (**tributaries**). The point where they meet is called a confluence.

The source of most rivers is on high ground or in the mountains.

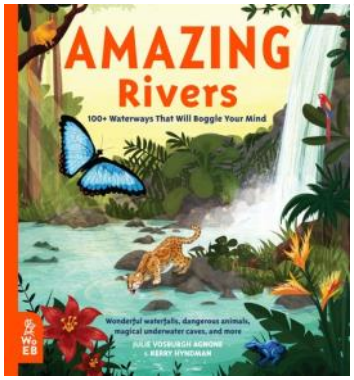


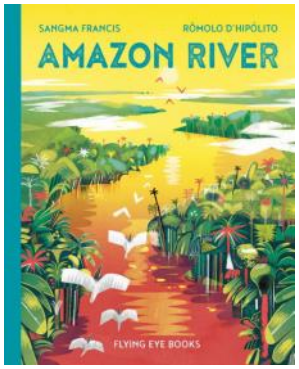
Rivers in England, at their mouth, will flow into either the:
North Sea, Irish Sea, English Channel or Atlantic Ocean.

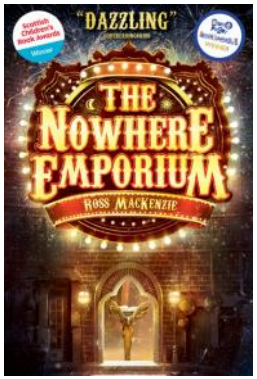
Key Vocabulary

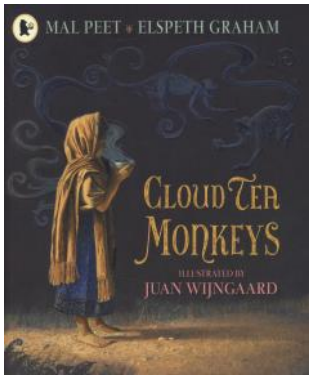
channel	The course in the ground that a river or water flows through.
dam	A barrier built to hold back water.
deposition/ deposit	When rocks and other materials that have been eroded are dropped off further along the river.
discharge	The amount of water flowing along a river per second.
erosion	Rocks and other river materials are picked up by the water and moved to another place along the river.
mouth	The point where a river joins the sea.
source	The place where a river begins.
tidal bore	A strong tide from the coast that pushes the river against the current causing waves along the river.
tributaries	Rivers that join up with another river.
valley	A long ditch in the earth's surface between ranges of hills or mountains.

Key texts





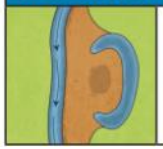




Meander - a curve in the river

Eroded materials are carried by the river and released, building up the land on the inside of the bend where the water flows more slowly.

Oxbow lakes - a U-shaped lake



As meanders grow, two meanders can merge together through erosion. The water takes this newer, shorter course. The river deposits eroded materials which block off the old part of the river forming an oxbow lake.

How Do We Use Rivers?

Leisure e.g. fishing	+	Controlled population of fish
	-	May leave litter and pollute the water
Industry e.g. factories	+	Sections of rivers maintained
	-	Chemicals pollute the water and habitats
Tourism e.g. walking routes	+	Conservation and education about local wildlife
	-	Too many people near wildlife habitats

Dams

Dams are built to hold water back, usually in a reservoir.

Dams might be built to:

- control the flow of a river to prevent flooding.
- generate power

Geography

- To understand the water cycle.
- To understand how rivers are formed.
- To understand the features of a river from source to mouth.
- To explore erosion and deposition.
- To conduct a river study.
- To investigate river flooding.

RE

- To know about the Prophet Muhammad's teaching in Islam.
- To make links between Muslim teachings and the environment.
- To know the meaning of 'via negativa'.

Science

- To know the changes as humans develop to old age.
- To know how babies grow and develop.
- To know the main changes which occur during puberty.
- To know about the changes which occur during old age.
- To know about the gestation periods and life expectancy for humans and other animals.

Computing

- To explain how selection is used in computer programs.
- To relate conditional statements connect to an outcome.
- To design and evaluate a program that uses selection.

DT

- I know how different shapes can affect the strength of a design.
- I know how to design a structure using an exploded diagram.
- I know how to join materials for a complex structure.
- I know how to strengthen a more complex structure.

Maths

- To know how to add, subtract, multiply and divide decimals.
- To understand negative numbers.
- To understand and convert measurement units, including: kilograms, kilometres, metric and imperial units, time and volume.

Spelling

- Year 5/6 Spelling Word focus.
- Revision of Year 5 spelling rules from previous terms.