

Important Topic Vocabulary

deposition	The process where material being transported by a river is put down.
erosion	The process that wears away the river bed and banks.
lake	A large area of water surrounded by land
meander	A winding curve or bend in a river.
river	A large amount of fresh water flowing continuously in a long line across land.
source	The beginning of a stream of water.
stream	A small body of flowing water.
tributary	Where one river meets another and merge together.
Water Cycle	The continuous recycling process of water.

What you should already know

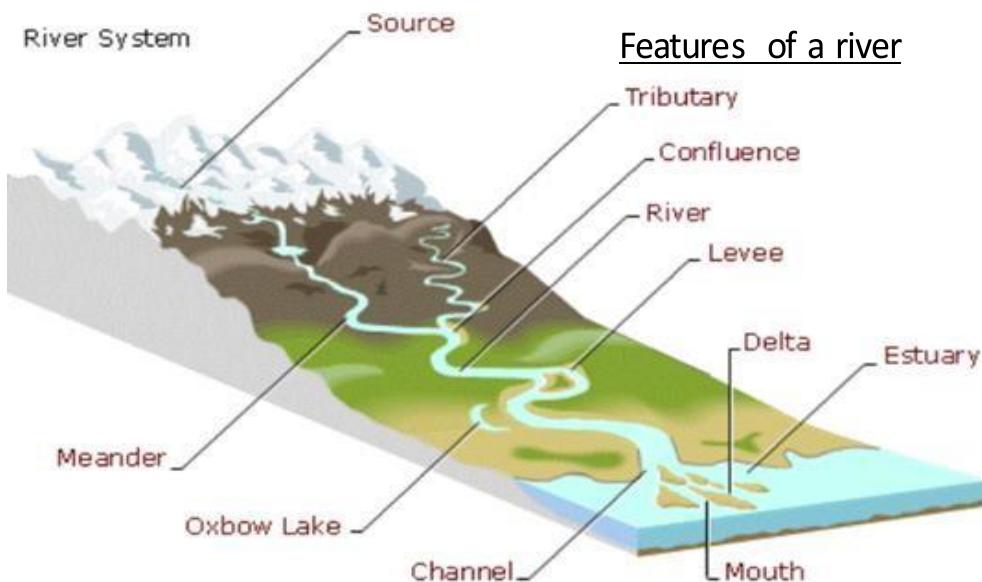
The UK is divided into four countries and what these are. Major cities of the UK, for example London, Cardiff, Edinburgh and Belfast.

The UK is an island and there are different bodies of water around it: English Channel, North Sea, Irish Sea and Atlantic Ocean.

Where the land meets the sea is called the coast and the features of a coastal region.

The seven continents of the world and that the UK is in Europe.

The River Thames is a well-known river that is in London.
The Loch Ness is a large body of water in Scotland.



Rivers usually begin in upland areas, when rain falls on high ground and begins to flow **downhill**. They always flow downhill because of gravity. They then flow across the land - **meandering** - or going around objects such as hills or large rocks. They flow until they reach another body of water

As rivers flow, they **erode** the land. Over a long period of time rivers create valleys, or gorges and canyons if the river is strong enough to erode rock. They take the sediment and carry it along with them.

Small rivers are usually known as **streams**, brooks or creeks. If they flow from underground, they are called springs.

Water Cycle is a journey water takes as it moves from the land to the sky and back again.

Energy from the sun, heats up the water in our rivers, lakes and oceans.

Water evaporates into the air, turning into a gas called water vapour.

The water vapour rises up into the sky where it cools.

The water vapour turns back into a liquid, forming clouds. This process is called condensation.

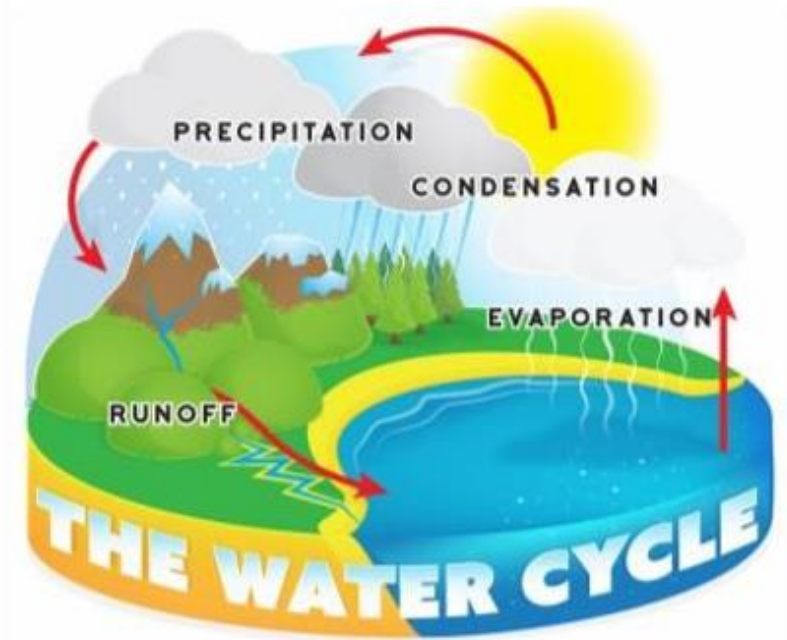
Eventually the water droplets in the clouds become too heavy for the air to hold them.

They fall back down to Earth as rain, snow, hail or sleet, a process known as

precipitation

The fallen precipitation is then collected in rivers that flow to the sea. This is called runoff.

The water cycle then begins again as the sun heats the water.



Rivers run through every continent of the world but Antarctica. Here are some of the major rivers.

Europe	Thames, Trent, Severn, Volga and Rhine
Asia	Ganges and Yangtze,
Africa	Nile and Congo
South America	Amazon and Panama
North America	Mississippi and Rio Grande
Australasia	Murray-Darling

Focus river - ***The River Thames.***

What can you find out about it?

<http://www.primaryhomeworkh>



Fun Facts about the River Thames:

Length – 346km. Longest river in England (but very short compared to others such as the Nile at 6650km).

Source – near the village of Kemble, Cirencester in Gloucestershire.

There is a 7 metre difference between low and high tides at London Bridge.



The River Thames.