

River Journey

Source



- The start of a river is its source. It is where it begins its journey.
- This could be a spring on a hillside, a mountain, a lake, or a bog or marsh.
- A river may have more than one source.

Meanders



- A curve in a river which forms a snake-like pattern.
- The river erodes sediment on the outside of the curves and drops it on the inside of curves due to water moving fastest on the outside of a turn.

Mouth



- The end of a river where it flows into the sea, another river or a lake is known as the mouth of the river.
- Much of the river's gravel, sand, silt and clay are deposited here.

Geography - Rivers

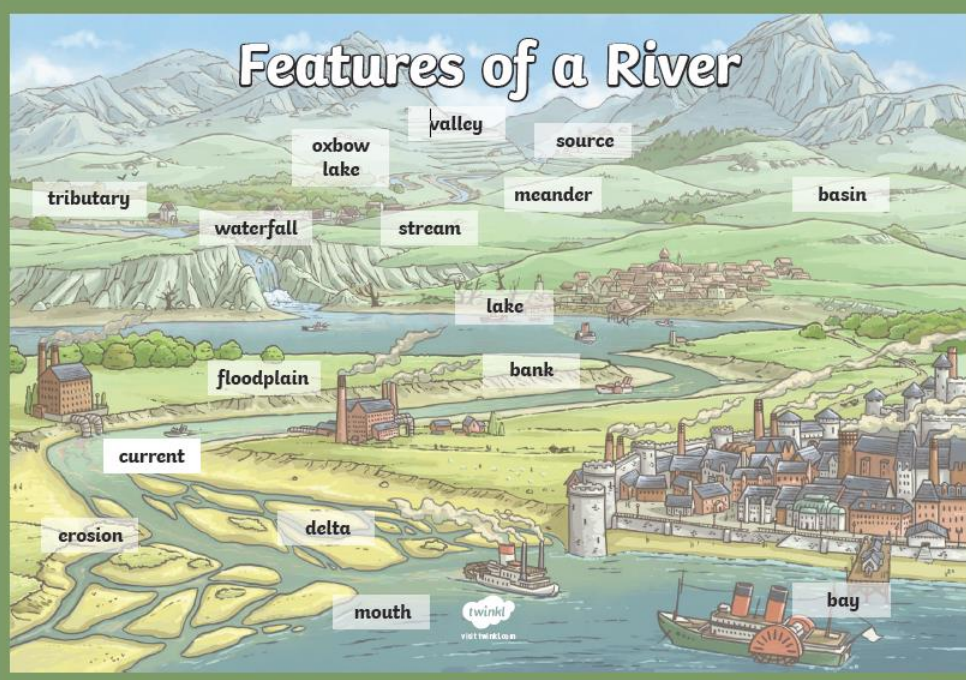
- A river is the path that water takes as it flows along a channel downhill with banks on both sides and a bed at the bottom.
- If there is lots of rain, snow or melting ice, rivers often overflow beyond the top of their banks and begin to flow onto **floodplains** at either side.

World's Longest Rivers

- Nile** – 6695km (Africa)
- Amazon** – 6516km (South America)
- Yangtze** – 6380km (Asia)
- Mississippi/Missouri** – 5969km (North America)
- Murray/Darling** – 3672km (Australia)

Key Vocabulary

channel	a path of a narrow body of water where water flows
estuary	mouth of a large river, where the tide meets the stream
bank	the land at the side of the river
tributary	smaller river which joins onto the main channel of a river
River Severn	Longest river in the U.K. (354km) through the city of Bristol
River Thames	346km long river running through the city of London



Erosion and Deposition

- **Erosion is when materials, like soil or rocks, are moved by water.**
- All these materials are called sediments.
- **Deposition is when those sediments are deposited, or dropped off, in a different place.**
- When rivers are flowing fast, they knock bits of earth from the banks and bed of the river (its sides and bottom) and carry it downstream with them.

The Water Cycle

