



Rivers Knowledge Organiser

UK Rivers



Thames - London river that is 184 miles long

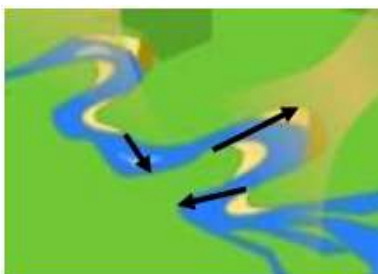
Severn - Britain's longest river (220 miles) from Wales to Bristol.

Test - Hampshire river that is 40 miles long

River features



Erosion & Deposition



The arrows show the direction of the river current which causes erosion over time. Sometimes, two meanders can join together to form a 'shortcut'. Water will flow down the shorter route, deposition will block off the old route and this will create an oxbow lake

Key vocabulary

River	A flowing, moving stream of water
Stream	A stream is a small body of flowing water
Canal	Waterways built by people used for shipping and transport.
Lake	Large bodies of water that are surrounded by land and are not part of an ocean
Source	The source of a river is where it begins, usually in high ground.
Channel	The path of a river
Tributary	When one stream meets another and merge together, the smaller stream is known as a tributary
Mouth	A river mouth is the part of a river where the river flows into another river, a lake, a reservoir, a sea, or an ocean.
Confluence	Where two rivers meet
Meander	A meander is a winding curve or bend in a river
Estuary	An estuary is an area where a freshwater river or stream meets the ocean.
Waterfall	Waterfalls form where water rushes down steep hillsides in upland areas and erodes the rocks.
Erosion	Erosion occurs when the fastest currents in the river carve intensely into the banks.
Deposition	Rocks and sediments eroded from one part of the river is deposited in another part
Ox-Bow lake	Ox bow lakes are created when the meander is so deep that it cuts off a piece of the meander

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.

River Test



Source



Middle course



Mouth