

Environment & Sustainability

Europe & the rest of the world

* Tributaries (smaller rivers & streams) come together (a confluence) so that a river grows in size – width and depth.

*rivers are freshwater and never salt water.

*global warming increases the amount of evaporation which in turn increases the amount of rain – leading to more extreme weather.

*when there is too much rainfall, rivers can burst their banks and cause flooding, made worse in modern times when people have built on natural flood plains.

*rivers erode the rock they flow over – the nature of the rock determines the level of erosion and how the landscape changes. Rivers pick-up sediment from the riverbed.

*human use of rivers has led to increased pollution

*river water should never be drunk until it is cleaned and that in some places, river water is toxic

River Facts

*World’s longest river: The Nile River (North Africa) length: 6,695km

*UK’s longest river: The River Severn (England) length 354km

*Europe’s longest river: The Volga river (Russia) length 3,740 km

*Major rivers around the world include: Egypt (Nile), Brazil (Amazon), America (Mississippi River), Russia (Volga), China (yellow river), China (Yangtze).

*The *Danube travels through* - Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova and Ukraine

River Nile Study

River source: Blue Nile River, White Nile, Atbarah (though sometimes argued Lake Victoria)

River mouth: Egypt draining into the Mediterranean Sea

countries it flows through: 11 countries: Tanzania, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan and Egypt.

*In Ancient Egyptian times, people lived and farmed along the Nile, using the soil to produce food for themselves and their animals.

*Ancient Egyptians traded along the river Nile with other civilizations and traded in Europe by travelling through the Nile Delta into the Mediterranean Sea.

- Today 95% of Egyptians live within a few kilometres of the Nile.

*When the Nile floods it provides nutrients and water to the land, making it possible to grow crops for food. It is green on one side where it floods and barren dessert on the other side where the land is higher.

*Canals bring water from the Nile to irrigate farms and support cities.

*The Nile supports agriculture and fishing as well as being a transport route and an income for tourism.

Being a Geographer

*rivers and other waterways are usually marked as blue on maps.



*Combining information from different sources (fieldwork, internet, documentary, statistics, maps, aerial photographs etc) helps give a more rounded picture of geographical issues.

Geographical information is often presented in graphs and charts.

Use diagrams, charts, images, maps and text to present geographical information.

Economy & Trade

*cities and civilizations are built around the freshwater supplied by rivers and streams.

- most of the major cities of the world are situated on the banks of rivers. This due to :
- they are or were used as a source of water
- for obtaining food
- for transport of people and resources
- as borders
- as a defensive measure
- as a source to drive machinery (water wheel)
- for bathing
- means of disposing of waste.

These are all important in enabling people to live and industry to work as well as the movement of goods and people.

United Kingdom

River Nene Study- Nene

*The Nene is the main river that runs through Northamptonshire (as well as flowing through Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire and Norfolk). It is 169km long.

*Settlements on the Nene: Daventry, Northampton, Wellingborough, Oundle and Peterborough.

*River source: Arbury Hill near Badby/Daventry.

*River mouth: The Wash at Crab’s Hole.

*The River Nene provides the land with water a nutrients, the region is famous for growing cereals (wheat, oats) and provides tens of thousands of jobs to the area.

*The River Nene provided transport to other towns and trade since the Roman times.

Flood study- Tewksbury

*The River Avon joins the River Severn in Tewksbury.

*In 2007, it was the wettest year on record since 1766 and there was little sunshine. This led to significant floods in Tewksbury.

Impact: 13 people died; 50,000 homes were flooded and damaged by the floods; roads were cut off, no power (electricity) to over 50,000 homes for two days. It cost the UK 3.2 billion pounds to recover and prepare for future flooding.

Subject: Geography

Unit: Rivers

Year: 5

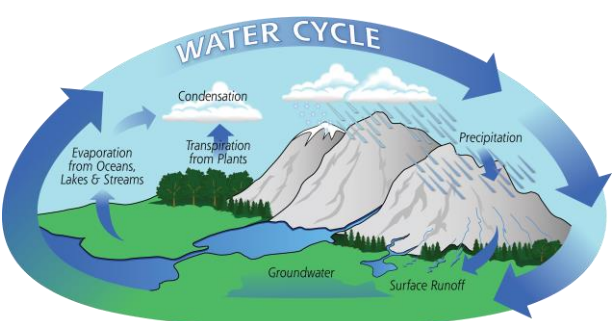
What do we know already:

- Year 1 - rivers that run through the capital cities of the UK.
- Year 2- the River Thames in the context of the Great Fire of London in History
- Year 3- countries in Europe and some of the rivers that flow through them (Danube, Dneiper, Rhine, Elbe, Vistula, Tagus, Loire, Oder, Rhone, Shannon, Po, Severn. In sciences, types of and the formation of rock were studied.



- Year 4- study of the River Nene (Northampton) and the River Tiber (Rome).
- In Science and geography, the water cycle was studied.

The Water Cycle



What's next:

- location of rivers around the world
- physical geography: how they are formed, the key parts, the change in landscape from the source of a river to the mouth and erosion.
- human geography: the impact of settlements on a river, flooding and how rivers are used as part of trade.
- River studies (local, national and international) including the River Nene, River Severn and the River Nile.
- Fieldwork- visit to our local river.

Tier 1 Vocabulary

city erode flows lake rivers steam

Tier 2 Vocabulary

- bank** – Edge of a river.
- barren** – Land is of poor quality and unable to produce vegetation.
- borders** – Boundary of something.
- civilisation** – A society or way of life.
- continent** – Expanse of land e.g. Europe, Asia, Africa.
- crops** – Plant that is grown on a large scale e.g. cereal, fruit, vegetables.
- drought** – Prolonged period of little to no rainfall.
- erode** – Gradually wear away.
- fertile** – When soil/ land is capable of producing vegetation or crops.
- floods** - Large amount of water moves or spreads beyond its normal boundary.
- fresh water** – Naturally occurring water that is not salty.
- igneous** – solidified lava.
- irrigate** – supply water to land or crops to help growth.
- landscape** – visible features of an area of land.
- originates** – Where/ when something starts.
- sediment** – Material that has been deposited by wind or water.
- sedimentary rock** - Rock type formed by small pieces of land that is broken down (sediment).
- trade** – Exchange of goods for money.
- transport** – When something is moved.

Tier 3 Vocabulary

- channel** - The area a river flows in.
- confluence** – Where two or more rivers meet.
- deltas** – At the mouth of a river as it enters a lake or the sea.
- estuary** – Where an area of fresh water meets salt water.
- flood plains** – An area of flat land alongside a river. This area gets covered in water when the river floods.
- meander** – Lops and curves of a river.
- mouth**- the point where the river empties into a larger body of water, such as a sea, ocean, lake or another river.
- oxbow** – Lake formed as a river curves.
- silt** – Created when rock is eroded away by water or ice.
- source** – Where a river begins.
- tributaries** – Small freshwater streams that feed into a larger stream or river.
- waterfall** - Water which falls over a steep rocky ledge into a plunge pool.
- wetlands** - Wetlands are areas that are filled or soaked with either freshwater, saltwater or a mix of the two.