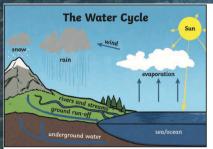
Year 6 - River Systems - Term 1



Rivers in England, at their mouth, will flow into either the:

North Sea, Irish Sea, English Channel or Atlantic Ocean.

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.

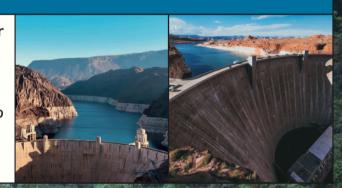


Dams

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



The Course of a River

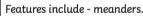
The Upper Course

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.





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.

Hydroelectric Power

- 1. Water is held behind a dam.
- 2. When needed, some of the water is released and flows through a pipe (penstock).
- 3. The falling water turns a water wheel (turbine) which is linked to a generator which produces electricity.
- 4. The water continues into the river on the other side of the dam.

Meander - a curve in the river

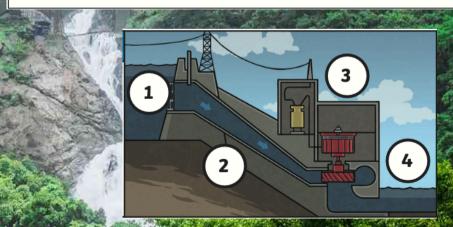


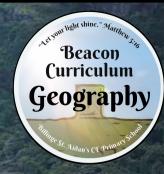
Eroded materials are carried by the river and released, building up the land on the inside of the bend where the water flows more slowly.

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.

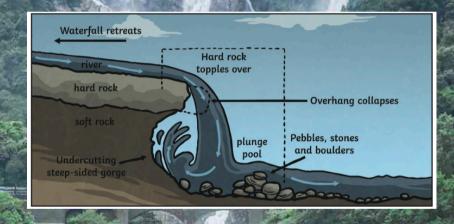




Key Vocabulary

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. Rocks and other river materials are picked up by the water and moved to another place along the river. The point where a river joins the sea. The place where a river begins. A strong tide from the coast that pushes the river against the current causing waves along the river.			
erosion				
mouth				
source				
tidal bore				
tributaries	Rivers that join up with another river.			
valley	A long ditch in the earth's surface between ranges of hills or mountains.			

	How Do We Use Rivers?								
	Leisure e.g. fishing	+	Controlled population of fish						
2		-	May leave litter and pollute the water						
8	Industry e.g. factories	+	Sections of rivers maintained						
		-	Chemicals pollute the water and habitats						
THE RESERVE TO SERVE THE PARTY NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PARTY NAMED IN COLUMN T	Tourism e.g. walking routes	+	Conservation and education about local wildlife						
		-	Too many people near wildlife habitats						



What can you remember from previous units?

What is the water cycle? How can flooding occur?

How can I find rivers on a map?

Anything else you have learnt? What have you enjoyed?

To know	√X
statements	
I know that the water cycle keeps going.	
I know how to use a legend to find rivers on a map.	
I know the sea a river flows into.	
I know the place in which the source of a river is found.	
I know how to compare the length of rivers.	
I know the features of a river at different points along its course.	
I know how meanders form.	
I know how waterfalls are formed.	
I know how to identify meanders on a map and photograph.	
I know the ways rivers are used.	
I know at least two reasons why dams are built.	
I know the advantages and benefits of building a dam.	
I know the disadvantages and risks of building a dam.	