

Geography – Rivers

Locational knowledge
Geographers can recall and locate locations around the world.

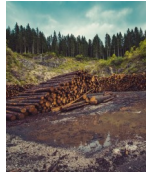
Place knowledge
Geographers explore how a places' location affects its geographical features.

Human and physical geography
Geographers know and describe the human and physical features of an environment

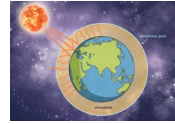
Geography skills and fieldwork
Geographers collect, analyse and communicate a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork.

What should I already know?

How people try to sustain environments.



How physical processes have changed the characteristics of a landscape, country or continent.



What am I going to learn?

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.



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.

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 or generate power



Key Vocabulary	Definition
source	The place where a river begins.
meander	A curve in a river.
erosion	Rocks and other river materials are picked up by the water and moved to another place along the river.
tributary	Rivers that join up with another river
estuary	The tidal mouth of a large river, where the tide meets the stream.
flow	The quantity of water passing a point in the river over a certain amount of time.
mouth	The point where a river joins the sea.
deposition	When rocks and other materials that have been eroded are dropped off further along the river.
valley	A long ditch in the earth's surface between ranges of hills or mountains.

Map

