

Sequence of Learning and Key Questions

|                                |                                                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The stages of the river        | We will investigate the many stages that a river follows on its journey from the mountains to the sea.<br><i>What are the stages of a river?</i>                              |
| The stages of the river (2)    | We will investigate the many stages that a river follows on its journey from the mountains to the sea.<br><i>What are the stages of a river?</i>                              |
| The water cycle                | To study the main phases of the water cycle and look at how water is in continuous movement across the seas, rivers and mountains.<br><i>What happens in the water cycle?</i> |
| To prepare for fieldwork       | We will prepare for our fieldwork by analysing<br><i>What is the River like in Bury St Edmunds?</i>                                                                           |
| To conduct our fieldwork       | We will conduct our fieldwork by walking to the River Lark in Bury St Edmunds.<br><i>What is the River Lark like?</i>                                                         |
| To analyse our fieldwork data. | We will study our findings from our river walk to the river Lark.<br><i>What did we find out about the River Lark?</i><br><i>Was the river different to how we expected?</i>  |

Key Vocabulary

|            |                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| confluence | This is where two rivers meet and join together.                                                                                                                                |
| course     | Lower course– the slow wider river section nearer to the sea.<br>Middle course – the meandering middle section of the river.<br>Upper course – fast flowing start of the river. |
| estuary    | The section of the river where it widens before it meets the sea.                                                                                                               |
| erosion    | The process of wearing away something through abrasion.                                                                                                                         |
| gorge      | A steep narrow valley usually containing rapids and waterfalls.                                                                                                                 |
| mouth      | Where the river meets the sea.                                                                                                                                                  |
| meander    | A winding section of river.                                                                                                                                                     |
| oxbow lake | A part of a river that has been cut off from the main river course through erosion and deposition.                                                                              |
| pollution  | Man-made substance getting into a natural place.                                                                                                                                |
| sediment   | Small stones and earth removed by erosion and floating along in the river.                                                                                                      |
| source     | The start of the river.                                                                                                                                                         |
| tributary  | A branch of a river from the main river course.                                                                                                                                 |
| waterfall  | A vertical drop in a river.                                                                                                                                                     |

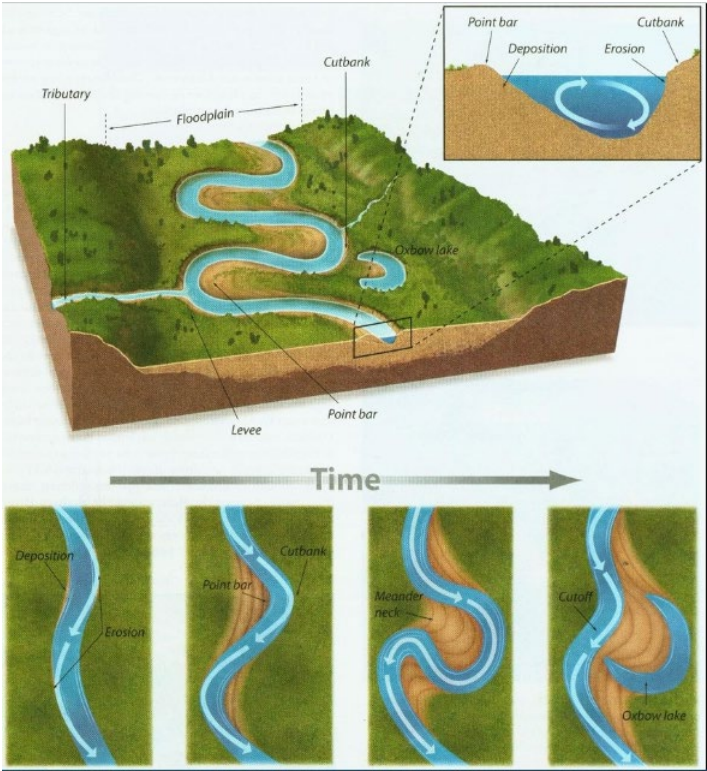
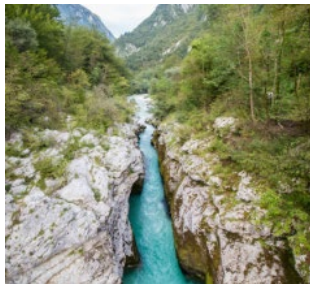


Diagram of how an oxbow lake is formed by erosion and deposition.



Waterfall



Gorge



Meander



Oxbow Lake



Estuary

## Key Facts

- The stages of a river differ from each other with fast moving water in the upper course to slow moving water in the lower course, each have different features.
- Water always runs downhill from mountains to the sea.
- In the mountains glaciers might exist, which are large permanently frozen rivers.
- Rivers nearly always contain fresh water, not salty water.
- The key features of rivers in the upper course include waterfalls, gorges, rapids and V shapes valleys.
- The longest three rivers in the world are the Nile (in North Africa), the Amazon (in South America) and the Yangtze (in China).
- Settlements formed by rivers as this was the easiest way for people to get hold of fresh water throughout history.
- Rivers have been used for transporting goods for a long time, which is why so many towns are by rivers.
- A floodplain is a flat area of land where the water often comes up over the banks of the river.

## Key Rivers of the World

|             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Nile        | 4132 miles long |
| Amazon      | 3976 miles long |
| Yangtze     | 3917 miles long |
| Mississippi | 3902 miles long |
| Yenisey     | 3445 miles long |
| Huang He    | 3395 miles long |
| Ob-Irtysh   | 3362 miles long |
| Parana      | 3030 miles long |
| Congo       | 2922 miles long |
| Amur        | 2763 miles long |

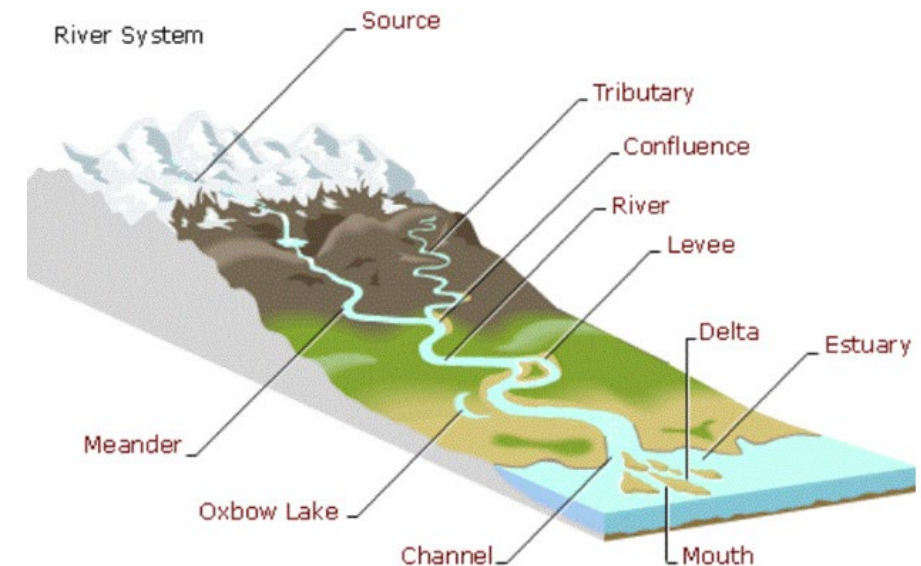


## UK River Facts

- The longest river in the UK is the River Severn 220 miles long.
- River Thames is 215 miles long
- Our local rivers are The Linnet and The Lark, which is a rare chalk stream.



*The Water Cycle*



*Diagram of a river system*



**Guildhall Feoffment**  
Community Primary School