

# Year 3/4: Why Are Rivers Important?

## FAMOUS RIVERS:



AMAZON RIVER

6,992km

The longest river in the world and it has the largest capacity. It is located in South America and it runs through the largest rainforest.



RIVER NILE

6,650km

The second longest river in the world. It is located in Africa and it flows into the Mediterranean Sea.



VOLGA RIVER

3,530km

The longest river in Europe. It is located in Russia and is used for transporting and shipping goods.



RIVER THAMES

346km

The longest river in England and the second longest in the United Kingdom. It is located in England's capital city, London.

## WHAT DO WE ALREADY KNOW?

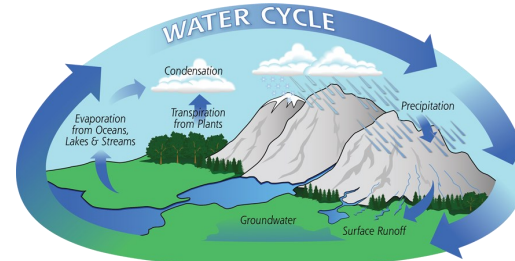
There are 5 major oceans of the world: Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic and Southern Ocean.

The United Kingdom is surrounded by the Irish Sea, North Sea, English Channel and is part of the Atlantic Ocean.

The River Thames is a major river in the United Kingdom.



## THE WATER CYCLE:



Water on Earth is constantly moving. It is recycled over and over again and this process is called the water cycle.

## KEY VOCABULARY:



**BANK:** The sides of a river channel. A river channel has 2 banks.



**MEANDER:** A winding curve or bend in a river.



**BED:** The bottom of a river.



**MOUTH:** The point where a river ends and meets the ocean.



**CONDENSATION:** Process where gases or vapour becomes liquid.



**PRECIPITATION:** Process of all liquid being released from clouds.



**ERODE:** The wearing away of rock, stone and soil.



**RIVER:** Is a large, natural stream of flowing water.



**ESTUARY:** The wide mouth of the river where it meets the sea.



**SOURCE:** Original point from which the river flows.



**EVAPORATION:** Process where liquid becomes a gas or vapour.



**TRIBUTARY:** A freshwater stream that feeds into a river.

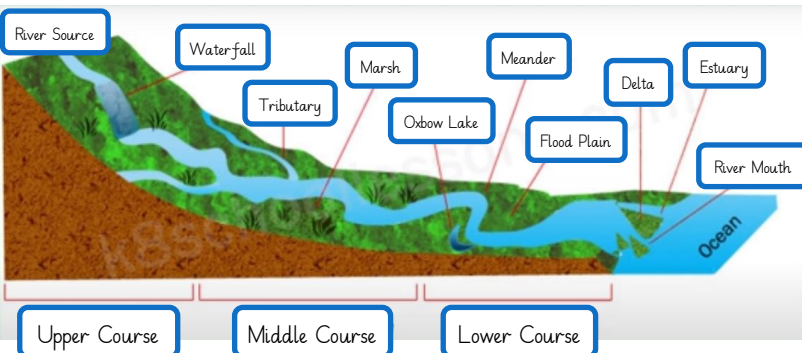


**FLOODPLAIN:** Area of low-lying ground adjacent to a river.



**WATERFALL:** A cascade of water falling from height.

## FEATURES OF A RIVER:



A river is a moving body of water which flows along a channel and can be split up into 3 main parts: Upper Course, (where the river starts) Middle Course (where it flows through) and Lower Course (where it ends). A river will flow downhill due to gravity. The end of a river is called the mouth and this is where it meets the sea.

## THE RIVER TRENT:



The River Trent is the third longest river in the United Kingdom as it is 298km long. The river's source is in Staffordshire and it passes through Stoke-on-Trent, Nottingham and Burton, making it the biggest river near us!

Throughout history, the River Trent was a main route for trade and travel. However, the river is for leisure activities, alongside transporting boats and people.

