

Geography



Knowledge organiser — Rivers and the water cycle (LKS2)

What will we be learning?

The water cycle is the way in which water moves around the Earth. It never stops! Rivers have many uses around the world, including cleaning, cooking, growing crops, transport and creating power.

A river has three main stages: upper course, middle course and lower course.

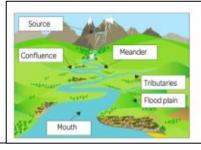
Flooding is caused by poor drainage around or close to a river.

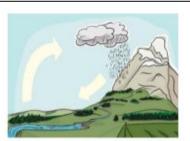
The world's ten longest rivers (the longest three first):

Nile (Africa), Amazon (South America), Yangtze (Asia), Mississippi (North America), Yenisei(Asia), Yellow (Asia), Ob-Irtysh (Asia), Paraná (South America), Congo (Africa), Amur(Europe/Asia). UK (Severn)

Key knowledge

- □ What a river is.
- ☐ How rivers are used.
- ☐ The features of a river.
- ☐ How rivers are affected by humans.
- ☐ The impact of flooding.
- ☐ Facts about the world's longest rivers.





Key Vocabulary

Physical

Confluence, floodplain, meander, mouth, source, tributary, altitude, estuary, lower course, middle course, upper course, drainage, erosion

Human

Flood management, irrigation

Location:

Longest Rivers: Africa (Nile), South America (Amazon), North America (Mississippi), Asia (Yangtze), Europe (Volga), UK (Severn)

Skills

Atlas work, River study: Aln

Glossary terms

drainage: how water flows away from an area through rivers and streams

erosion: how wind, water and waves break down and remove rock and soil

flood management: stopping or controlling floods

irrigation: the supply of water,

especially for growing crops