

Geography: Rivers

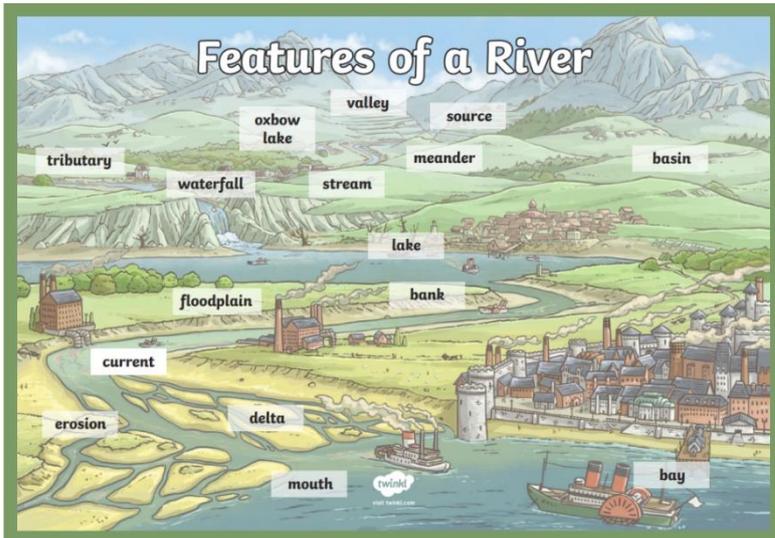
Unit Vocabulary – Join them up with the correct definition once you have learnt it.

source
mouth
meander
tributary
confluence
floodplain
estuary

the origin or starting point of a river
a river or stream flowing into a larger river or lake
the junction where two rivers meet or join
a place where a river meets the sea and fresh and salt water mix
where a river flows out into a sea or ocean
the winding curve or bend of a river
an area of low-lying ground next to a river

River Features – Look out for them in this unit!

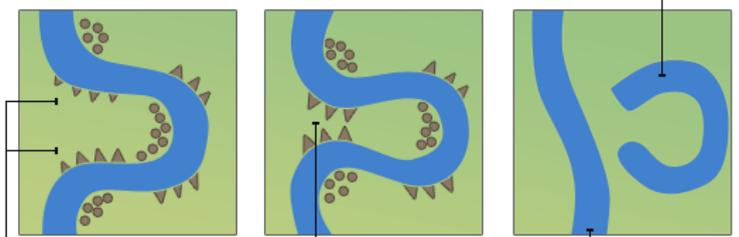
						
Source	Mouth	Meander	Tributary	Confluence	Estuary	Floodplain



The Course of a River	
<p>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.</p>	<p>The Middle Course Fast flowing water causes erosion making the river deeper and wider. Features include - meanders.</p> 
<p>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.</p>	

River Processes and formation of an Oxbow lake

		
erosion	transportation	deposition



Erosion makes the neck narrow

During floods river takes shortest course through the neck

New straighter river course

KEY

- Areas of deposition
- ▲▲▲ Areas of erosion