Year 4 Rivers and the Water Cycle



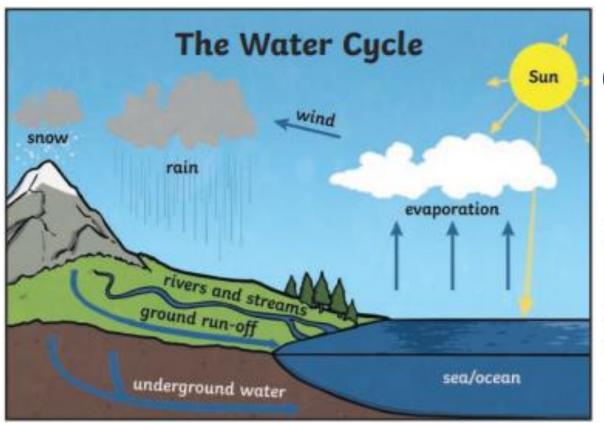


| Key Vocabulary | | | |
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Skills covered this half term:

- Explain what a river is and locate the world's longest rivers on a map, using coordinate grids and referring to map features such as lines of longitude and latitude
- Use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies
- Use a compass correctly to map the direction/location of our local canals and the direction water flows in
- Locate local canals on a range of maps, including ordnance survey

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| <u>Key Vocabulary</u> | | |
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| Channel | The course in the ground that a river or water | |
| | flows through. | |
| Dam | A barrier built to hold back water. | |
| Deposition/deposit | When rocks and other materials that have | |
| | been eroded are dropped off further along | |
| | the river. | |
| Discharge | The amount of water flowing along a river per | |
| | second. | |
| Erosion | Rocks and other river materials are picked up | |
| | by the water and moved to another place | |
| | along the river. | |



How do we use rivers?

Leisure eg fishing

- + Controlled population
- - May leave litter and pollute the water

Industry eg factories

- + Sections of rivers maintained
- - Chemicals pollute the water and habitats

Tourism eg walking routes

- + Conservation and education about local wildlife
- - Too many people near wildlife habitats

The River Mersey

It is 70 miles (112 km) long, it stretches from Stockport, Greater Manchester, and ends at Liverpool Bay, Merseyside. Water quality in the River Mersey has been severely affected by industrialisation.



Meander - a curve in the river

Eroded materials are carried by the river and released, building up the land on the inside of the bend where the water flows more slowly.

Oxbow lakes - a U-shaped lake



As meanders grow, two meanders can merge together through erosion. The water takes this newer, shorter course. The river deposits eroded materials which block off the old part of the river forming an oxbow lake.



| Key Vocabulary | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Mouth | The point where a river | |
| | joins the sea. | |
| Source | The place where a river begins | |
| Tidal bore | A strong tide from the | |
| | coast that pushes the | |
| | river against the Current | |
| | causing waves along the | |
| | river. | |
| Tributaries | Rivers that join up with | |
| | another river | |
| Valley | A long ditch in the earth's | |
| | surface between ranges | |
| | of hills or mountains | |