

Geography Focus

Rivers

Year 4

What? (Key Knowledge)

Names	Children can name a variety of rivers (Amazon, Thames, Nile)
Locations	Understand that rivers (through erosion) shape the landscape, valleys, deltas lakes et)
	Understand that many settlements are located by rivers, and that rivers are an important resource.
River system	Understand how a river's characteristics change as it moves downstream from source to mouth.
	Children can describe how river features (waterfalls, lakes etc) are formed.

What? (Key vocab)

Spelling	Definition
River	A body of water flowing towards the sea
Source	The place where the river begins
Mouth	The place where the river meets the sea
Tributary	A river or stream which flows into a larger river
Rivulet	Small streams of water leading into a river
Valley	A low area of land between hills/ mountains, often made through river erosion
Meander	The winding course of a river
Estuary	The tidal mouth of a large river
Current	The flow of water in a direction
Erosion	Where material is broken down and removed
Flow	The movement of water along a river
Deposition	The process by which material is left behind by a river

Possible experiences

Field work at a local river. Complete field sketches of the river at different locations and compare.
 Complete an investigation of river speed across the channel.
 Compare 2 different rivers, thinking about their processes etc
 Create your own river in a classroom
 Draw and label a diagram of the river system

Diagrams and Symbols

