Ocean Academy Poole
an Aspirations Academy
Self-Worth | Engagement | Purpose

Learning Journey Map

Year: **5** Term: **SUMMER 1**

Subject: **GEOGRAPHY** Topic: **RIVERS**

Driving Question: See Science 'Wateraid'
Power Skill: **Communication -** See Science 'Wateraid'

National Curriculum Learning Objectives

- describe and understand key aspects of: physical geography, including:, rivers, mountains and the water cycle

Key Vocabulary

erosion	deposition	meander	evaporation	condensation
precipitation	collection			

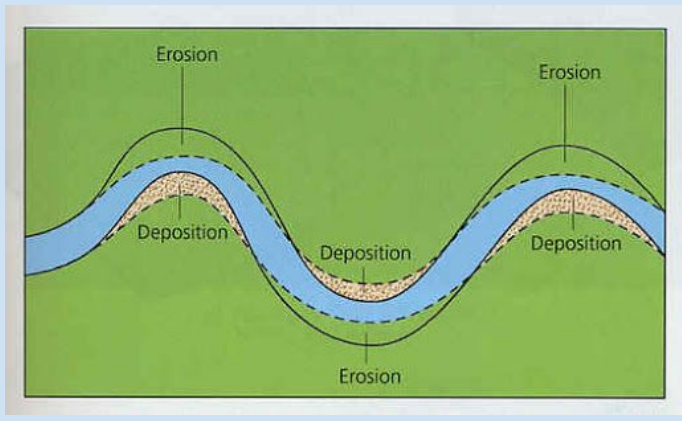
Key Learning

Rivers
A river is a flowing, moving stream of water. Usually, a river feeds water into an ocean, lake, pond, or even another river. Rivers can vary in size and there is no hard definition or rule on how big a flow of water must be to be categorised as a river.

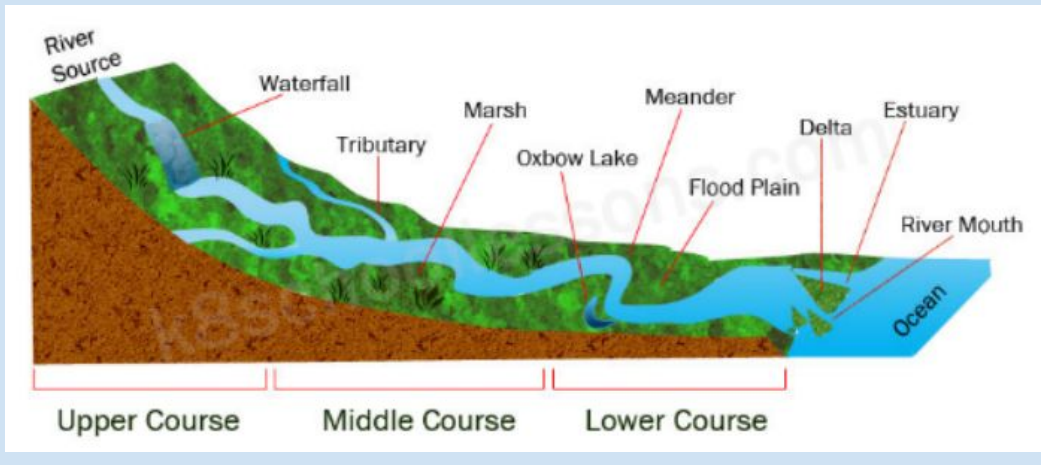
The Upper Course:
In the upper course, precipitation feeds the emerging river. Rivers typically start on highland. The point where a river starts is called the source. The river in the upper course flows through steep gradients and flows quickly. Because of the steep gradients and fast flow of the water, waterfalls often form in the upper course of a river.

The Middle Course:
In the middle course, rivers become wider and deeper. While the water is less turbulent than in the upper course, the water is actually moving with greater speed. With a wider river bed and deeper water there is also less friction. As such, the river has a greater energy to erode the river bank. In the middle course, the shape of the river is under constant change. The moving water erodes, transports and deposits soil and other material to determine the shape and size of the river – they are constantly changing because of the following:

- Erosion: Occurs on the outside of the meander (bend) where the water is moving at its fastest. This will cause a deeper channel to be formed and so the water on the outside of a meander (bend) will be deeper than on the inside.
- Deposition: This occurs where water lacks the energy to transport the load it is carrying so the rocks/stones are deposited/left in place. In the middle course, this happens on the inside of a bend or meander, where the water flows slowly.
- Meanders: Because of these processes, meanders are created. The continuous flow of water and constant process of erosion, transportation and deposition, will result in areas of faster and slower moving water and the river will gradually begin to flow a more winding course.



The Lower Course: In the lower course of the river, the land is flatter and the river wider. The water is at its deepest in the lower course. Many rivers have estuaries, which are characterised by wide, flat land where the river flows into the sea. This is known as the mouth of the river.



Thinking Point
How do you think the living things in the river vary, depending on which part of the river they are in?



Fieldwork
Investigate meanders: either through exploring a river in the local area, or by creating a river model using a sand tray and a hose pipe.

Resources:
Atlases,

Power Skills

	Represent river features and processes by creating models, diagrams, or annotated maps that show the upper, middle, and low
	Analyse river processes (erosion and deposition), compare river features, and interpret maps and digital data to understand river length and course.
	Develop curiosity, perseverance, and responsibility when studying global rivers and their environmental and social impact (e.g., Water Aid).
	Work together to research rivers, discuss features, and share findings using maps, diagrams, and digital tools.
	Explain river features, processes, and global river issues clearly using OS maps, grid references, symbols, diagrams, and geographical vocabulary.