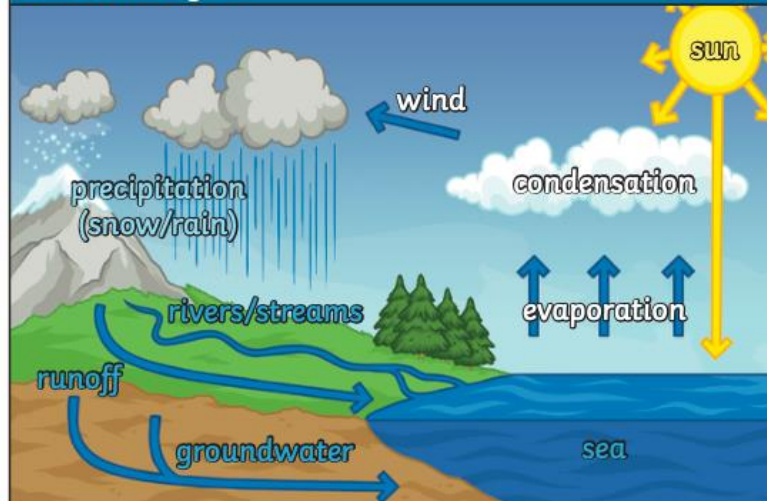


Wild Water - Rivers (Y3 & Y4)

Key Vocabulary

Condensation	The process in which water vapour rises in the air, cools down and turns into small water droplets.
Delta	A wide area near where a river meets the sea.
Estuary	The area where fresh water from a river meets sea water from the sea.
Evaporation	The process in which warm water turns from a liquid to a gas in the air (water vapour).
Floodplain	Areas of flat land on either side of a river that can become flooded if the river bursts its banks.
Meander	A bend or curve in a river.
Oxbow lake	A bend in the river that has been separated from the main river.
Precipitation	The process in which water falls from clouds to the ground, in the form of rain, sleet, snow or hail.
Source	The place where a river starts.
Tributary	A stream that flows into a larger stream or river.

The Water Cycle



Water evaporates into the air, condenses into clouds, falls as precipitation, absorbs into the ground, and flows to the sea via rivers.

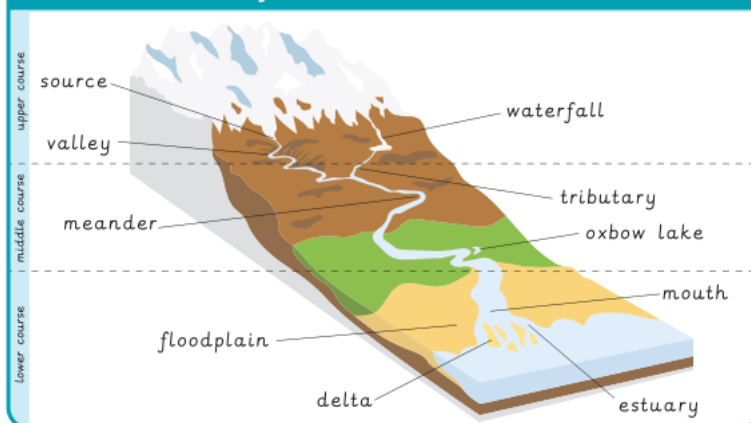


Earth is nicknamed the 'Blue Planet' as over 70% of it is covered in water.

How are rivers used?

- Rivers are important habitats for plants and animals.
- They are an integral part of the water cycle.
- Provide food and drink for humans and animals.
- Disperse nutrients for fertile soil needed for crop growth.
- They offer transport routes for people and goods.
- Leisure activities such as swimming, fishing, and canoeing.
- Many towns and communities are built along rivers.
- Water from rivers can be used for irrigation on farmland.
- Renewable energy, called hydroelectric power, can be generated by moving water.

River courses and features



The River Wye

- Welsh name - 'Gwy' (crooked hills)
- Source - Plynlimon, Mid Wales
- Mouth - Chepstow, the river flows out into the Severn Estuary.
- Length - 155 miles (250km)
- Location - Southeast Wales
- Wildlife - Salmon, shad and lampreys



The longest river in the UK is the River Severn.