

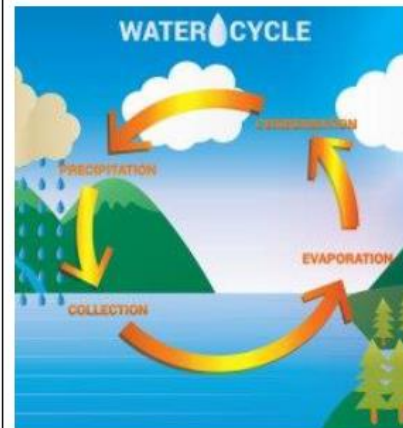
Year 4 Rivers Knowledge Organiser

Important vocabulary for understanding rivers

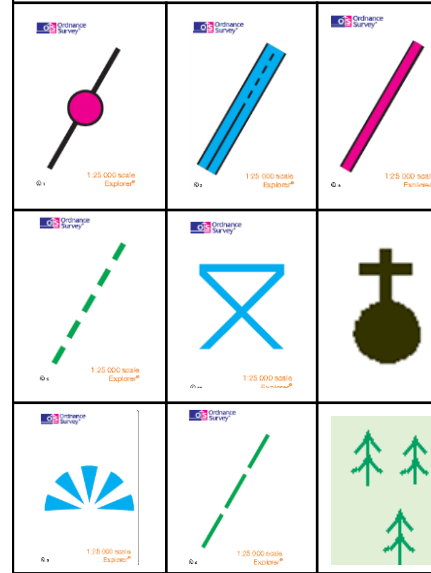
Bank	The sides of a river channel. A river channel has two banks
Bed	The bottom of a river channel
Confluence	When two or more bodies of water meet together
Delta	A deposit of sand or mud
Estuary	The wide mouth of the river where it meets the sea
Floodplain	An area of flat land either side, likely to flood
Gorge	A narrow valley with steep, rocky walls located between hills or mountains
Groundwater	The rain that soaks into the ground
Meander	A bend or winding curve in a river
Mouth	The end of the river. Where the river meets the sea
Rapids	A fast-flowing and turbulent part of the course of a river
Reservoir	A lake created by humans for storing water
River	A large natural stream of water
Sea	An area of salty water that covers much of the Earth's surface
Source	The beginning of a river
Spring	Groundwater that comes up to the surface
Stream	A small river
Tributary	A stream that joins a larger stream or river
Valley	A low area of land between hills or mountains, typically with a river or stream flowing through it
Waterfall	A cascade of water falling from a height, formed when a river or stream flows over a steep incline.

Important Vocabulary for The Water Cycle

- **Evaporation** – when water changes from liquid to gas due to heat.
- **Condensation** – when water vapour cools and turns into clouds.
- **Precipitation** – rain, hail, sleet and snow that falls from the clouds.
- **Collection** - when water that falls from the clouds, collects in the oceans, rivers, lakes, streams. Most will infiltrate soak into the ground and will collect as underground water.



How many of these map symbols do you know?-



Rivers run through every continent of the world but Antarctica. Here are some of the major rivers.

Europe	Thames, Trent, Severn, Volga and Rhine
Asia	Ganges and Yangtze,
Africa	Nile and Congo
South America	Amazon and Panama
North America	Mississippi and Rio Grande
Australasia	Murray-Darling

Fun facts about some rivers in the UK

- **River Thames** – The Thames flows through **London**, the capital city, and has played a central role in British history for some 2000 years.
- **River Severn** – During high tides a wall of water can travel upstream for over 25 miles. This tidal wave is known as the Severn Bore.
- **Liverpool** sits at the mouth of the **River Mersey**.
- **River Trent** –the third longest river in the United Kingdom. It is used to mark the boundary border between North and South England.

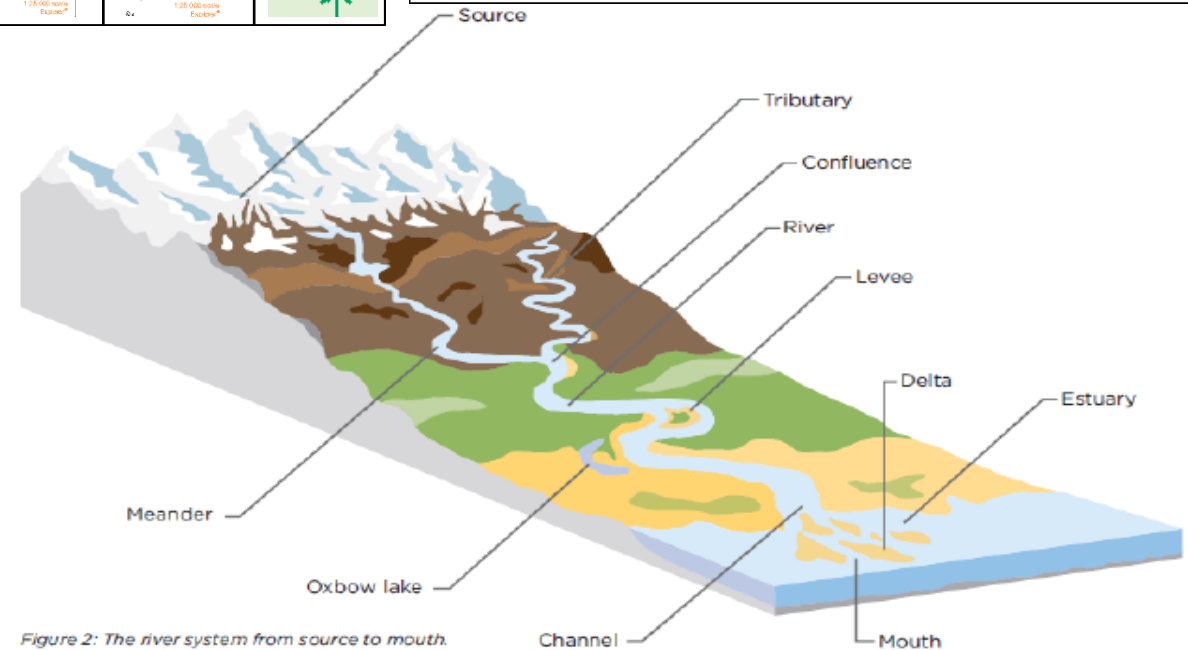


Figure 2: The river system from source to mouth.