

Year 4 Geography: Where does the river run?

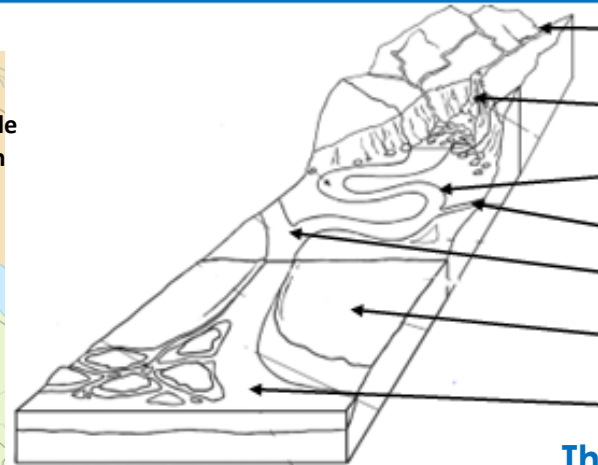
Word	Definition
Bodies of water	River, lake, sea, ocean, stream, canal, brook, dam, reservoir, waterfall, channel
meander	A curve in a river. Water never flows in a straight line. Even in a straight river channel, water will twist and turn around stones and other obstacles.
Flooding	This can occur at any point along the middle and lower course of a river. Too much water will force it to overflow its banks and spread across the floodplain.
erode	Material is cut away from river beds and banks by the water.

The course of a river		
Upper Course	Middle Course	Lower Course
First stage of a river, often located on high ground.	The second stage of a river, where the land is flatter and the river wider.	The land is flat and the river is at its widest.
How does human activity affect rivers?		
Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acid rain caused by gases in factories falls into rivers. Use of fertilisers on farms. 	
Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rivers can flood for many reasons Dams are built to block the flow of the river This can alter the flow and temperature of the river affective habitats. 	
Exotic species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced to river intentionally (fishing/ food for other species) and unintentionally (from boats/ flooding) They may compete with them for prey/ habitats. 	

What is a river?

- ◆ A river is a flowing, moving body 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.
- ◆ Water from a river can come from rain, melting snow, lakes, ponds, or even glaciers.
- ◆ Rivers flow downhill from their source.

What are the features of a river?



Source	The point at which a river starts its journey. Examples: Lake, bog, rainfall, spring, marsh
Waterfall	A place in a river where water falls suddenly downwards
Channel	The course in the ground that a river of water flows through. with banks on each side.
Tributary	A small river leading into a bigger river.
Confluence	Where two rivers join together.
Floodplain	An area of low land, next to a river, subject to flooding.
Mouth	Where a river enters the sea

The water cycle

