



Subject	Geography	Theme	Rivers	Term	3 & 4
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What should I already know?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The location and names of the main continents of the world. - The name and location of the four countries of the united Kingdom and their capital cities. - Know and understand key geographical features such as: coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil and valley.

Locational Knowledge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Rivers in the UK</u>; River Thames (SE England), River Severn (SW England), River Trent (Central England). - <u>Rivers around the world</u>: River Nile (North Africa), Amazon River (South America), Mississippi (North America)

Geographical Skills and Enquiry
<p>Observe, sequence and describe how the physical features of rivers change from source to mouth.</p> <p>Understand the stages and features of rivers, including parts of the upper, middle and lower courses.</p> <p>Research and investigate facts about the River Severn and how its course flows through the local environment.</p> <p>Investigate reasons for the River Severn flooding and the preventative measures put in place.</p>

What should I know by the end of the unit?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The names and location of three of the world’s famous rivers (Mississippi, Amazon, Nile) and the three longest in the UK (Severn, Thames, Trent) • The main features of a river basin including the source and the mouth. • The causes for a river to flood – both human (urbanisation, deforestation) and physical (rainfall, snowmelt, rock type, steep slopes, saturated soil) • Facts about the River Severn – features, uses, reasons for flooding, flooding case study of 2007, methods put in place to prevent further flooding. <p><u>Uses of the River Severn</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides food, energy, recreation, transportation routes, and water for irrigation and for drinking.

Geographical Features

Flood Causes

The man-made and natural causes of flooding:

- Increased Urbanisation:** The reduced ability of flood to absorb water through the concrete surfaces of roads, roads and pavements. The impermeable surface is less able to absorb water. This can lead to an increase in the amount of water that runs off the ground.
- Bad Farming Practice:** Some farmers have created soil and water to drain into rivers. This has led to soil erosion. The soil is washed away, leading to silt being deposited in rivers. This can lead to a narrowing of the river.
- Deforestation:** Deforestation is responsible for the loss of vegetation and soil. The vegetation holds soil and water in place and absorbs part of the water that falls.
- Storms:** Large storms, whether driven by heat energy or cold front systems, cause heavy rain and high winds. This can lead to flooding.
- Ice and Snow Melting:** As temperatures rise, snow and ice melt and break up in the spring. This leads to a large amount of water being added to rivers and streams.
- Moon Phases:** High tide levels can cause increased water levels in the estuaries and rivers. This can lead to flooding, especially during high tide. The force of the wind can also contribute to flooding.

Key Vocabulary	
channel	A groove in the land that a river flows along.
course	The route a river flows.
v-shaped valley	V-shaped valleys are usually found in the mountains and hills. They are so called because they have very steep sides.
stream	A small, narrow river
flood	When a river bursts its banks and water covers land which is normally dry.
flood plain	The flood plain is the flat land of the river valley close to the river bank. It is usually found in the lower course of a river.
meanders	A bend in the river. Created by the river finding the fastest route.
mouth	The end of a river, where the sea begins.
river	A large natural stream of water flowing in a channel from the source to the sea, a lake or another river.
source	The start of a river, usually on high ground.