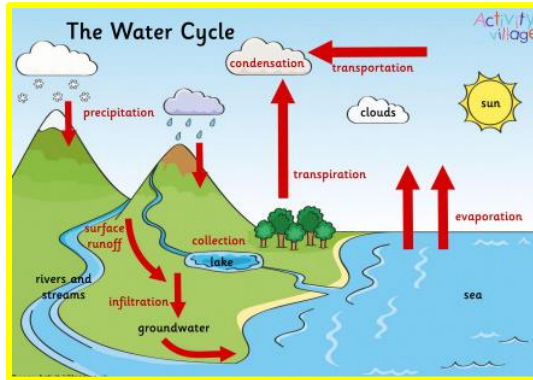


# Year 6 - Geography Knowledge Organiser - Rivers

The major rivers of the world include: Nile and Amazon  
The major rivers in the UK include: Aire, Wharfe, Thames, Severn and Ouse



## Essential Learning

All rivers start at the highest point in an area. As the river flows downstream, it gains more water from other streams, rivers, springs, added rainfall, and other water sources.

**What is a river?** - A river is freshwater flowing across the land, usually to the sea.

**The River Channel** - Rivers flow in channels. The bottom of the channel is the bed and the sides of the channel are the banks.

**Where do rivers begin?** - Rivers begin at their source in higher ground such as mountains or hills, where rainwater or melting snow forms tiny streams..

**How are rivers formed?** - When one stream meets another and they merge together, the smaller stream is known as a tributary. It takes many tributary streams to form a river.

## Key vocabulary

**Deposit** - the process where material is laid down in another area

**Flow** - move steadily and continuously in a current or stream

**Gradient** - a measure of how steep a slope is

**Lower Course** - where the it comes to meet the sea at the mouth, and starts at the relatively straightening path preceding it, surrounded by flat land

**Meander** - the bend or curve in a river.

**Middle Course** - the second stage of a river, where the land is flatter and the river wider

**Mouth** - where the river ends - either at a sea, ocean or lake,

**National Park** - areas to be managed for ecosystem protection and recreation

**Oxbow lake** - a meander that was cut off from a river

**Source** - the start of a river

**Stream** - a body of water that flows on Earth's surface

**Tributary** - a smaller river that flows into a main river

**Upper Course** - where the river begins its path toward the sea

**Waterfall** - a river or other body of water's steep fall over a rocky ledge into a plunge pool below

