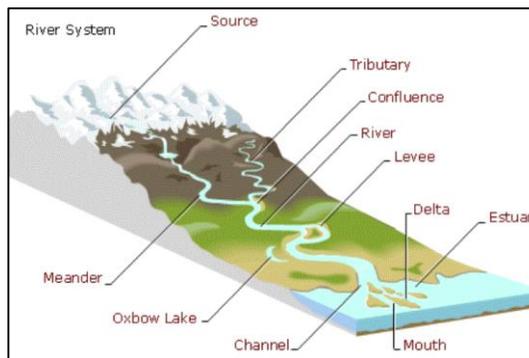
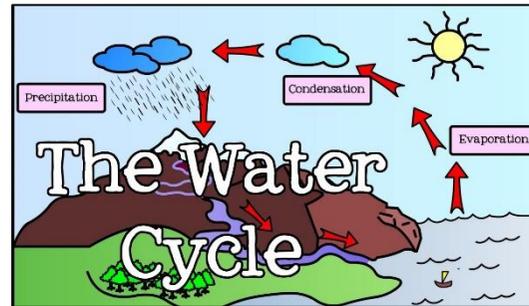




Rivers – Spring Term 2 Year 3 Geography

Key vocabulary	Explanation/ definition	Key knowledge
River	A large natural stream of flowing water.	<p><u>What is a river?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A river is a moving body of water that flows from its source on high ground, across land, and then into another body of water, which could be a lake, the sea, an ocean or even another river. The longest river in the world is the Nile in Africa. It is 4,130 miles long. The longest rivers in Britain are the Severn (220 miles long) and the Thames (215 miles long). The river that carries the most water in the world is the Amazon in South America. When it rains some of the water is absorbed into the soil and helps plants to grow, some of the water sinks deep into the ground and some of it flows into rivers and down to the sea.
Reservoir	A large artificial lake used as a source of water supply.	
Source	Where a river begins its journey. This normally happens on higher ground and can be due to rain, melting snow or ice or a natural spring.	
Confluence	Where two rivers meet and merge together to create one river.	
Deposition	When rivers drop materials it has been carrying, such as rocks, sand and mud.	
Tributary	A small river or stream which flows into a large river.	
Mouth	Where the river enters the sea.	
Meander	A winding bend or curve in the river.	
Waterfall	An area of a river where the waterfall flows over a steep drop and into a plunge pool.	
Erosion	Where land is worn away by the force of the river.	



1. Water evaporates into the air
The sun heats up water on land, in rivers, lakes and seas and turns it into water vapour. The water vapour rises into the air.
2. Water vapour condenses into clouds. Water vapour in the air cools down and changes back into tiny drops of liquid water, forming clouds.
3. Water falls as precipitation
The clouds get heavy and water falls back to the ground in the form of rain or snow.
4. Water returns to the sea
Rain water runs over the land and collects in lakes or rivers, which take it back to the sea. The cycle starts all over again.