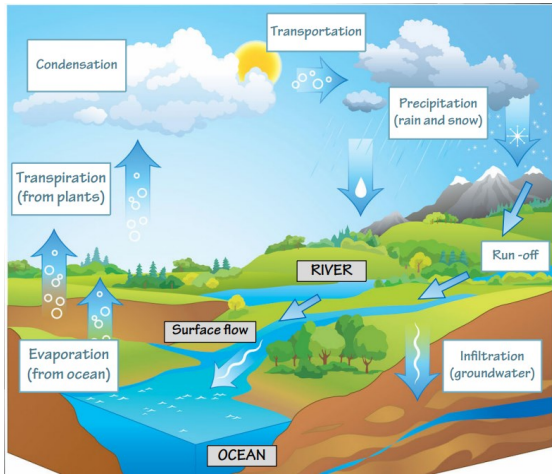


Year 6: Rivers

Key Vocabulary

channel	The river bed and banks in which water flows
delta	A wetland area that forms as river waters empty into a larger body of water
erosion	Moving water or wind causing tiny pieces of the Earth's surface to be moved from one
estuary	The point where the river meets the sea in the lower course
lower course	The land is flat, and the river is at its widest
middle course	The second stage of a river, where the land is flatter and the river wider
oxbow lake	A section of a meander that becomes isolated from the main river channel and eventually dries out
river basin	An area of land drained by a river and its tributaries
silt	Solid, dust-like sediment that water, ice and wind transport and deposit
spring	A place where fresh underground water comes to the surface
tributaries	Small streams that join the larger river
upper course	The first stage of the river, often located on high ground

What is the water cycle?



The water cycle is a naturally occurring process. It is the way water moves around our planet. Without this cycle of water, plants would not grow and humans and animals would not survive.

What can we learn about the River Trent?

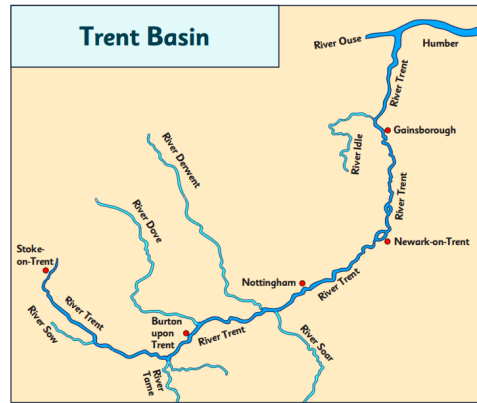
There are hundreds of rivers in the UK, so we can't label all of them! These are the longest rivers in England in length order:

- River Severn** (when you include the upper course in Wales)
- River Thames**
- River Trent**
- River Wye**
- River Great Ouse**

Be careful! The River Great Ouse and the River Ouse are two different rivers.

Trent Head Well, Biddulph Moor, Staffordshire

The source of the River Trent is a spring. The spring had a 'well' built around it in the 1930s and is fenced off from the surrounding fields.



The River Trent is a very long river. Along its journey, the water from 42 tributaries pours into it!



What are rivers and how are they formed?

A river is a moving body of water that drains the land. It flows from its source on high ground, across land



The river begins its journey at the source, and eventually, it widens as it passes through the middle course, twisting and turning (meandering) before entering the sea at the

Why are rivers so important?

- Transport** - Before the days of cars and lorries, rivers were used for trade and the transportation of goods.
- Habitats** - Rivers provide homes for many different animals such as otters, fish and ducks, and many other species rely on rivers to provide water and food.
- Energy** - Water energy is one of the oldest forms of renewable energy. It was used thousands of years ago for turning water mills.
- Farming** - Water from the rivers can be directed to the fields where it is needed using irrigation systems.

How does pollution affect our rivers?

- Agriculture** - Pesticides from farmers get washed into rivers with the rain
- Industry** - There have been many cases of factories dumping their waste illegally which causes bad river pollution.
- People** - Some people throw their rubbish straight into the rivers.