

## Geography: Why are rivers important? Y 4 Spring Term

### National Curriculum subject content:

**Locational knowledge**  
To name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features – rivers.

**Human and physical geography**  
To describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including river and the water cycle  
To describe and understand human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water

**Geographical skills and fieldwork**  
To use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied  
To use four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom.



### Key Vocabulary:

channel	The area a river flows in, with banks on each side.
economic activity	The amount of goods that a country makes and sells.
renewable energy	A source of energy that never runs out.
erosion	A fast-flowing river can damage the riverbanks and wash bits of them downstream, making the river wider.
estuary	Where a river reaches the ocean and the river and ocean mix. Estuaries are normally wide and flat.
flood plane	The flat area around a river that often gets flooded when the level of water in the river is high
levee	A levee is a natural or artificial wall that blocks water from going where we don't want it to go.
meander	A river that follows a winding course
mouth	The end of a river where it flows into the sea, another river or a lake.
oxbow lake	An oxbow lake is formed when a wide meander of a river is cut off, creating a free-standing, U-shaped body of water.
riverbank	The riverbank is the land at the side of the river.
riverbed	The bed is the bottom of a river. A riverbed can be made of sand, rocks or mud depending on the river.
source	The start of a river is its source. This could be a spring on a hillside, a lake, a bog or marsh.
tributary	A smaller river or stream that joins a big river.

### Sequence of Learning:

Objectives (key knowledge):					
Lesson 1 To learn the names of and locations of the UK's major rivers.	Lesson 2 To learn the names of and locations of the world's major rivers.	Lesson 3 To learn why people live near rivers.	Lesson 4 To learn that rivers can provide us with energy.	Lesson 5 To learn how rivers contribute to the water cycle.	Lesson 6 To learn to locate the features of a river on an OS map using grid references.