

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School - Knowledge Organiser

Geography	Investigating Rivers	Year 5
<p><u>Vocabulary & Explanation</u></p> <p>Attrition - The wearing away of particles of rock as they bounce along the riverbed or knock against each other and wear away becoming more rounded.</p> <p>Bank - The ground at the side of a river.</p> <p>Bed (riverbed) - The riverbed is the ground at the bottom of the river - often made up of sand and stones.</p> <p>Cliff (river cliff) - A cliff is any steep slope that has been formed by natural processes. Cliffs related by rivers are called river cliffs.</p> <p>Current - The flow of the river.</p> <p>Confluence - Where two rivers or streams meet.</p> <p>Dam - A barrier built, usually across a watercourse, for holding back water or diverting the flow of water.</p> <p>Delta - A fan-shaped area of sediment built up at the mouth of a river.</p> <p>Deposition - A river lays down or drops the sediment or material that it is carrying such as sand, mud, and small stones or sticks</p> <p>Depth - How deep the water is.</p> <p>Erosion - The wearing away, in this case by water and rocks constantly rubbing</p> <p>Estuary - A drowned river valley in a coastal lowland area. Occurs near or at the mouth of a river, where the tide meets the current and the fresh and salt waters mix.</p> <p>Flood - Flooding happens when a river has too much water in its channel. The water breaks through the river banks and spreads over the surrounding land.</p> <p>Meander - A bend in a river - usually in the middle or lower course.</p> <p>Mouth - The end of the river. The mouth may be where the river meets the sea, a lake or a larger waterway.</p> <p>Precipitation - A general term for all forms of water particles rain, snow, sleet, dew, hail etc.</p> <p>Source - where the stream begins: usually where there is a spring, and quite high up.</p> <p>Waterfall - A place where the river course is interrupted by a tall step.</p>	<p><u>What should I already know?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A river is a large, natural stream of flowing water. • Rivers are found on every continent and on nearly every kind of land. • The water cycle and where our water comes from. <hr/> <p><u>Key Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rivers carry rainwater from hills downhill to other rivers, lakes or the ocean. • The start of a river is called the source and the end is called the mouth. • Many rivers and streams will join together before they reach the mouth of the river. The smaller rivers and streams are called tributaries. • A fast flowing river will carry soil and dirt from its banks and bed downstream and drop them when it gets wider and slows down. • When there is too much water in a river it floods and covers the area around it water. • Floods cause a lot of damage but they also deposit nutrients from the water on the flooded land. This makes land that floods good for farming on. • Rivers can be difficult and dangerous to cross. Towns often grow up where there are bridges or safe places to walk across. • 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. The Amazon carries 210,000 cubic metres of water into the sea every second. <hr/> <p><u>Oceans, Seas and Rivers - what is the difference?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oceans are very large areas of salt water that cover approximately two-thirds of the Earth's surface. • Seas are smaller areas of salt water that separate oceans and land. • Rivers are natural streams of fresh water that flow into seas, oceans and lakes. 	<p><u>Nile</u></p>  <p><u>Amazon</u></p>  <p><u>Thames</u></p> 

