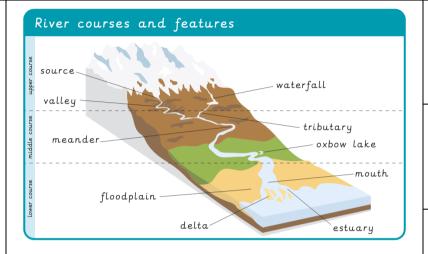
How does a river change on its journey from source to mouth?

Key knowledge (Fab 5)

- A river is the path that water takes as it flows downhill towards the ocean.
- 2. Rivers usually begin in upland areas. When rain water and melting snow collect on high ground, it begins to form little streams, which flow downhill because of gravity.
- 3. Small streams often join together on their way downstream to make bigger rivers.
- 4. As a river flows, it erodes (wears away) the land. Over time it shapes the surrounding landscape, creating valleys, gorges, waterfalls, meanders and oxbow lakes (a meander that is cut off from the rest of the river).
- Rivers provide habitats for wildlife, freshwater for settlements and agriculture, and transport for people and trade.

Models and Images to support learning



valley



meander



waterfall

gorge



Vocabulary (BIG 6)

Source

The place where a river starts.

Spring

Groundwater that comes up to the surface.

Tributary

A stream that flows into a larger stream or river.

Meander

A bend or curve in a river.

Mouth

The place where a river flows into the sea.

Estuary

The area where fresh water from a river meets salt water from the sea.