

Year 3 Geography Knowledge Organiser - Rivers

Vocabulary

1. Mountain	A mountain is greater than 600m high
2. Mountain range	More than one mountain together
3. Himalayas	A mountain range in Tibet
4. Stream	A trickle of water which comes from snow and ice
5. River Indus	One of the longest rivers in the world
6. Glaciers	A large area of thick ice
7. Monsoon	The rainy season between June and September
8. Channel	The area a river flows in, with banks on each side
9. Tributary	A small river that flows into a bigger river
10. Arabian Sea	The River Indus flows into the Arabian Sea
11. Riverbed	The bottom of the river - it might be rocky
12. Turbulent	When a river is moving in a rough or bubbling way
13. Course	The route a river takes on its journey
14. River level	The height that a river gets to
15. Dam	A dam can be built across a river to capture water
16. Reservoir	A big lake of water
17. Canal	A stretch of water that has been built by humans
18. Irrigation	Spreading water around crops to make them grow
19. Turbine	A machine that turns fast because of the power of water
20. Hydro-electric power	A term to describe water that is used to make electricity
21. Parched	Land that is too dry to grow anything
22. Palla	A type of fish found in the province (area) of Sindh
23. River Severn	The longest river in Wales

Where is the River Indus?



Did you know.... the River Indus is 3,200 kilometres long.

How are meanders formed?

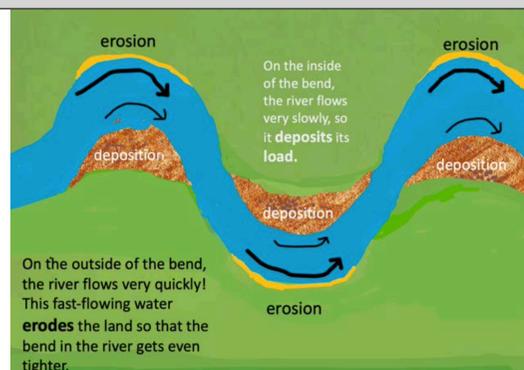
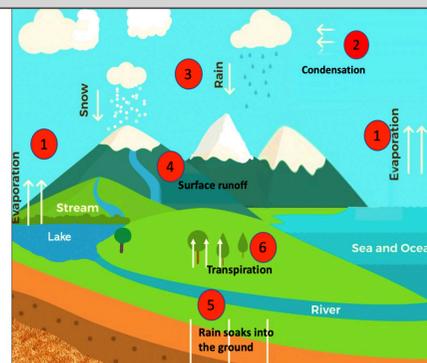


Diagram of the Water Cycle



How does a river shape the land?

- As a river moves away from the mountains, the ground is less rocky, so the the river can flow more quickly
- The river carves out its own course by moving away tons of rock and soil. This widens and deepens the river
- Tributaries join the river making it wide, deep and curving and this is called a **mature river**
- Fast flowing water moves stones and bits of rock and gravel as it travels
- As a river reaches flatter, lower land, it becomes curved because it is wiggly and bendy. This is called a **meander**
- Meanders are formed because of **deposition** (the dropping of a rivers load) and **erosion** (the wearing away of land)
- When a river **deposits** (drops) its load, the deposited load is called **sediment**
- Sediment builds up making new **meanders** and the land has a new shape to it
- Land is shaped all the way from the **river mouth** (where the river meets the sea) to the **estuary** (the part of the river that flows into the sea)

The Water Cycle

- The water in seas and oceans warms up and turns into water vapour. This is **evaporation** and the water vapour rises up in to the air
- Water vapour cools down (**condenses**) and turns into drops of water which will fall as rain
- When rain reaches the ground some if it runs over the ground into streams. This is called **surface runoff**
- Some water soaks into the ground. This is **ground water**. Plants soak up this water and give out vapour from their leaves (**transpiration**)