# **Geography: Rivers**

# What runs but never walks, has a bed but never sleeps, has a mouth but never eats?

#### **National Curriculum for Driver Topic**

#### Human and physical geography

 describe and understand key aspects of: physical geography, including: rivers and the water cycle

#### Locational knowledge

- locate the world's key physical and human characteristics, countries using maps
- name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers)
- identify the position and significance of the Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere

#### Geographical skills and fieldwork

- use maps, atlases, globes and digital/ computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied
- use fieldwork to observe, measure record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies



### **Key Vocabulary**

**Estuary** An estuary is an area where a freshwater river or

stream meets the ocean.

**Mouth** A river mouth is the part of a river where the river

flows into another river, a lake, a reservoir, a sea, or an

**Source** The source of a river is where it begins, usually in high

ground.

**Meander** A meander is a winding curve or bend in a river.

**Waterfall** Waterfalls form where water rushes down steep

hillsides in upland areas and erodes the rocks.

**Erosion** erosion occurs when the fastest currents in the river

carve intensely into the banks.

**Disposition** rocks and sediments eroded from one part of the river

is deposited in another part

**Tributary** When one stream meets another and merge together,

the smaller stream is known as a tributary.

**Ox bow lake** Ox bow lakes are created when the meander is so deep

that it cuts off a piece of the meander.

**Deltas** Deltas are often found at the mouth of large rivers.

**Stream** A stream is a small body of flowing water.

**Evaporation** The process by which water changes from a liquid to a

gas

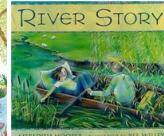
**Condensation** The process by which water vapour changes from a gas

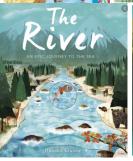
to a liquid.

**Precipitation** The release of water from the sky. Can be liquid or sol-

id form.









'Go Wild on the River' by The National Trust

'The River: An Epic Journey To The Sea' by Patricia Hegarty

'The Rhythm of the Rain' by Grahame Baker-Smith'
'A River Story' by Meredith Hooper

## **Key British Rivers**

**Thames**—London river that is 184 miles long

**Severn -** Britain's longest river (220 miles) from Wales to Bristol.

**Mersey**—Liverpool river that is 70 miles long

**Goyt** - Local river to New Mills & Goyt Valley

# **Key World Rivers**

**Amazon**—Situated in Brazil, it is 4000 miles long. Runs through the Amazon rainforest.

**Nile—**The world's longest river (4,160 miles long) and runs into the Mediterranean.

**Yangtze** — longest river in China. Largest hydro-electric power station in the world.