

What are the different stages of a river?

- Rivers have three stages: an upper course, a middle course and a lower course.
- They start in the mountains, or hills, and end at the sea.
- The place where rivers start is the source; the place where they end is called the mouth.
- Rivers travel fast in their upper course. They slow down and meander in their middle and lower courses.
- Rivers transport rocks, stones and minerals, dropping them off as they slow down.
- When rivers flood they can cause big problems for people.

When rivers flood they can cause huge problems for people animals.

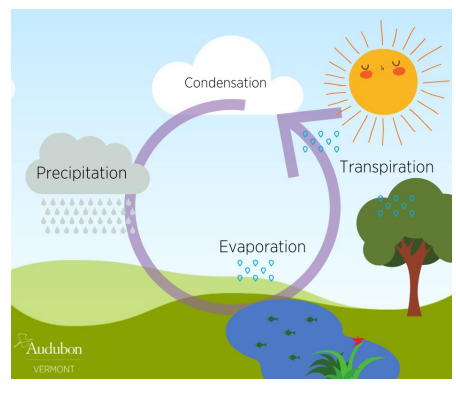


Y4 Geography Rivers



The Water Cycle

The water cycle is the continuous movement of water from the land and the oceans, up into the atmosphere and then back down to the land and oceans again.



The World's Greatest Rivers

- The River Nile is 6,650 km in length. It is located on the African continent. The Nile flows through 11 countries on its journey to the Mediterranean Sea.
- The Amazon is 6400 km in length. It is located in South America. The rivers flows through 9 countries before reaching the Atlantic Ocean.
- The River Severn is the longest river in the U.K. It is 349 km in length.

Key vocabulary

river	A river is a natural flowing watercourse, usually freshwater, flowing towards an ocean, lake or another river.
evaporation	Evaporation is the process that changes water to gas (water vapor)
precipitation	Rain, hail and snow.
condensation	Condensation is the process where water vapour becomes liquid.
source	The place where the river begins.
mouth	The place where a river enters a lake, larger river, or the ocean is called its mouth.
waterfall	The point in a river where water flows over a steep drop.
meander	A bend in the river.
gorge	A narrow valley.
flood	A large amount of water covering the land.
erosion	To wear down rocks.