

Delving into a River

BIG question *Why are rivers important?*



Vocabulary dozen		
River: a large natural stream of water flowing in a channel to the sea, lake, or another river.	Estuary: where a river meets the ocean and the river and the ocean mix.	Current: the strength and speed of a river.
Stream: a small, narrow river. artificial or man-made river channel	Mouth of a river: is the end of a river, where it meets the sea, a lake or another river.	Tributary: a small river or stream that joins a bigger river.
Ocean: larger than the sea.	Riverbed: the bottom of the river and it is usually made of sand, rocks or mud.	Canal: a man-made waterway, which is used by boats and ships to transport goods across land.
Downstream: water always flows downhill towards the sea.	Source of the river: where it starts.	Waterfall: a place where the river course is interrupted by a tall step

Habitats

A place where animals and plants live, where they can find everything they need to stay alive.

Urban - areas with lots of buildings for people to work. Some of the living things in urban habitats are here because people have put them there.

Woodland - an area where lots of trees grow close together. Most British woodlands are deciduous. Common trees that grow here include English oak, ash and beech,

Pond – a still body of fresh water. Some ponds are man-made and appear in gardens; others are natural dips and hollows in land that have filled with water.

Coastal – places where the land meets the sea. These habitats can be sandy, marshy or they can be high, rocky cliffs.

The World's Longest Rivers		
River	Location	Length
The River Nile	Africa	6,650 km
The Amazon River	South America	6,400 Km
The Yangtze	Asia	6,300 Km
The Mississippi	North America	6,275 Km

The River Thames
The Thames flows through London, the capital city, and has played a central role in British history for some 2000 years.

- Length 346 km
- Source is about a mile north of the village of Kemble, near Cirencester.
- There are 47 locks.
- 75 bridges cross over the non-tidal Thames.
- 29 bridges cross over the tidal Thames.
- More than 100 fish species have been recorded in the Thames estuary.