Year 4 Rivers

|  |
| --- |
| Context: Rivers are essential because they transport water, provide habitat and enable transportationConcepts: place •space •environment •interconnection •sustainability •change  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Facts  | Vocabulary |
| 1. A river is freshwater flowing across the surface of the land, usually to the sea.  | 1. Confluence - from Latin *confluere* ‘flow together’2. Sediment – from Latin *sedimentum* ‘settling’, from *sedere* ‘sit’.cid:e9a7d014-7cbe-40b9-8bb3-cc23ef62dcc0cid:811b0e3d-dbb6-4217-b7f4-6089234e8a1ecid:0ba255fe-1fb7-44b7-803b-95e83a9b3f1dcid:b0cbf1a3-e381-4a2e-876d-86f7d11f5ffcOxbow lakeRiver MerseyThe Water CycleThe Water Cycle |
| * 2. Course of a river:
* a) **Upper course** is closest to the source of the river. The land is usually high and mountainous, and the river has a steep gradient with fast-flowing water. It includes V-shaped valleys, rapids, waterfalls and gorges.
* b) **Middle course** is where the river starts to slow down. It gets wider, and travels in winding loops. It includes floodplains, meanders and oxbow lakes.
* c) L**ower course** is the last course of a river. The gradient is at its gentlest, as the river approaches the sea. It usually has a wide, smooth channel, and the water moves at its slowest.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

 |
| * 3. Parts of a river:
* a) Source – where the river starts from, usually a lake, snowfield or spring
* b) Banks – the edge or sides of the river that the water flows within
* c) Course – the path of the river
* d) Tributary - a stream or river that feeds into a larger watercourse.
* e) River bed – the bottom surface of the river, which the water flows on top
* f) Floodplain – an area of low lying ground adjacent to a river
* g) Meander - a bend in a river
* h) Oxbow – a crescent shaped lake lying alongside a winding river
* i) Mouth - a place where the river ends. It is where it usually meets the sea, ocean, a lake or a larger river.
 |
| 4. Use of rivers today :a) water supply, trade, transport, food source, irrigation, power, leisure |
| 5. River Mersey a) 70 miles/112km longb) formed by three tributaries – River Goyt, River Tane and River Ethrowc) Source of the River is in Stockportd) Mouth of the river is Liverpool Bay and then into the Irish seae) recently there has been huge efforts to clean up the quality of the water  |
| 6. World Rivers a) Amazon River – South Americab) Nile River –Africa, c) Yangtze River – Asiad) Mississippi River – North America, e) Volga River – Europef) Murray-Darlington River – Australiag) Onyx River – Antarctica |
| 7. Websites:General rivers <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/z7w8pg8>Tour of source to mouth <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zb39jxs>Water where does it all come from <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0078tdh>Ox bow time lapse <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGJXxAZPm8M>Animation river parts <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fdMmzY7XjFo> |