Know how to..

- Locate the key rivers of the UK and the world
- Describe the key features of a river system.
- Describe the ways rivers are used.
- Explain how water and weather can change the landscape - understanding key features of physical geography
- Understand how coastal features are formed; to identify coastal features of the UK.
- Explain how water and weather can change the landscape- understanding key features of human geography.

All rivers tend to follow the same pattern: as they flow from the source to the mouth, they start off narrow and end up wider; they start off straight and end up meandering.


The land near the source is high and steep. Heading towards the mouth the land gets lower and flatter. The narrow V-shaped valleys open out, eventually becoming wide, flat flood plains.



Key Ríver vocabulary

| erosion | The wearing away of rocks, stones and soil by rivers, waves, wind <br> or glaciers. |
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| source | Where the river/stream begins. This is usually high up. |
| tributary | Is a stream or river that flows into a larger river or lake. |
| confluence | The point where two rivers or streams join. |
| meander | A winding curve or bend in a river. They are typical of the middle <br> and lower course of a river |
| floodplain | Is the flat land of the river valley close to the river banks. It is <br> usually found in the lower course of a river. |
| delta | An area of low flatland where a river divides into several smaller <br> rivers before flowing into the sea. |
| estuary | Occurs near or at the mouth of a river, where the tide meets the <br> current and the fresh and salt waters mix. |
| mouth | The place where a river enters a lake, larger river or the ocean. |

## Coasts

The area where the sea and land meet is called a coast. The coasts of the world measure about 193,000 miles ( 312,000 kilometers) in total.


Over time, waves erode a notch at the base of a cliff in a process called undercutting. When this notch becomes too heavy it will break off and crash into the sea. Different parts of the rock face are eroded at high and low tide. If high winds meet a high tide, the erosion will be greater. Different coastal features such as caves, arches and stacks are all formed by erosion.

The water cycle

The water cycle is the journey water takes as it moves from the land to the sky and back again. It follows a cycle of evaporation, condensation and precipitation.


Key coast vocabulary

| weathering | The process where rock is dissolved, worn away or broken down <br> into smaller pieces. |
| :--- | :--- |
| erosion | When materials like soils or rocks are moved by wind or water. <br> These materials are called sediments. |
| deposition | When sediments are dropped off in a different location. |
| headland | The area of land that is high, steep and extends over a body of <br> water. |
| dune | A hill or ridge of sand piled up by the wind. |
| arch | A natural opening eroded out of a cliff face. |
| stack | A steep or vertical column of rock in the sea near the coast. |

Key water cycle vocabulary

| evaporation | Is the process by which water changes from a liquid to a gas. The <br> change of state is due to an increase in temperature/ |
| :--- | :--- |
| condensation | The process by which the water vapour in the atmosphere cools <br> and changes into liquid water. This is the result of hot air <br> becoming cool. |
| precipitation | Water that falls from the clouds towards the ground e.g. rain, <br> hail, sleet or snow. |
| collection | Precipitation is collected in bodies of water, such as rivers, lakes <br> and oceans. |
| runoff | Is precipitation that did not get absorbed into the soil and makes <br> its way from the surface into places where water collects. |

