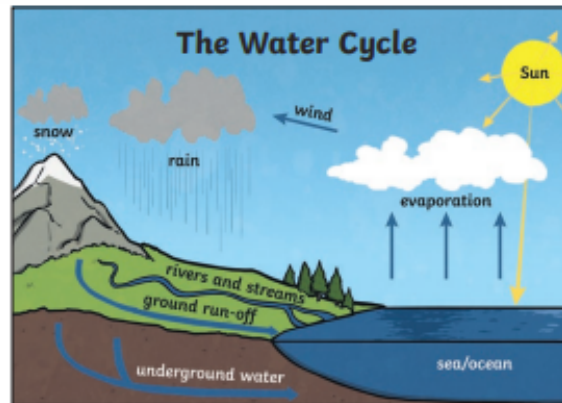


# What is a river? – Year 6 Geography

Key Vocabulary	
<b>channel</b>	The course in the ground that a river or water flows through.
<b>dam</b>	A barrier built to hold back water.
<b>deposition/ deposit</b>	When rocks and other materials that have been eroded are dropped off further along the river.
<b>discharge</b>	The amount of water flowing along a river per second.
<b>erosion</b>	Rocks and other river materials are picked up by the water and moved to another place along the river.
<b>mouth</b>	The point where a river joins the sea.
<b>source</b>	The place where a river begins.
<b>tidal bore</b>	A strong tide from the coast that pushes the river against the current causing waves along the river.
<b>tributaries</b>	Rivers that join up with another river.
<b>valley</b>	A long ditch in the earth's surface between ranges of hills or mountains.




Rivers in England, at their **mouth**, will flow into either the: North Sea, Irish Sea, English **Channel** or Atlantic Ocean.

Some rivers join up with other rivers (**tributaries**). The point where they meet is called a **confluence**.

The **source** of most rivers is on high ground or in the mountains.



The Course of a River	
<p><b>The Upper Course</b></p> <p>Rain falling on high ground collects in <b>channels</b> and flows downwards forming a stream. Streams run downhill and join other streams, increasing in size and speed, forming a river. The river here flows quickly and the channel has steep sides and runs through <b>valleys</b>. Features include - waterfalls and rapids.</p>	<p><b>The Middle Course</b></p> <p>Fast flowing water causes <b>erosion</b> making the river deeper and wider. Features include - meanders.</p> 
<p><b>The Lower Course</b></p> <p>Rivers flow with less force due to being on flat land. The river <b>deposits</b> the eroded material that it has carried. Riverbanks have shallower sides. Features include - floodplains, deltas and estuaries.</p>	