



Key Facts
Rivers carry rainwater from hills downhill to other rivers , lakes or the ocean. The start of a river is called the source and the end is called the mouth. Many rivers and streams will join together before they reach the mouth of the river .
The three longest rivers in the world are: The Nile , Africa, 7088km; The Amazon , South America, 6992km; The Yangtze , China, 6418km. (The longest river in the UK is the River Severn, 354km)
A river is a physical mechanism for returning excess precipitation from the land to the sea, where it originated.
River flooding - caused by humans and naturally- can result large problems in many parts of the world.
Estuaries are one of the richest ecosystems to be found anywhere in the world. They are incredibly important for wildlife especially wading birds that feed on the invertebrates living in the mud banks that are exposed at low tide.

Bedřich Smetana	
	<p>In 1874 Bedřich Smetana composed one of the most famous pieces of music written about a river. He was working during the Romantic era of classical music and the river about which he composed this piece is called the Vltava (pronounced the val'tava), which is the longest river in the present-day Czech Republic.</p>

Vocabulary Dozen	
Erosion	Gradual breaking of something
Estuary	Mouth of the river, where it meets the sea.
Hydrological / Water cycle	the cycle of processes by which water circulates between the earth's oceans, atmosphere, and land,
Meander	A river following a winding course.
Mud bank	Where mud settles on the side of a river
Oxbow lake	A small lake caused by the river eroding a new route.
Rapids	A fast-flowing part of the river
River	A large natural stream of water, flowing into a sea, lake or another river.
Sediment	Matter that settles to the bottom of a liquid (such as a river)
Source	Where the river starts from
Stream	A small, narrow river
Waterfall	Where water falls down a vertical drop

Home Geographer	
Research the River Stour in our local area. Where is the source of the river? Where does it meet the sea? Can you find any examples from the vocabulary dozen using The River Stour?	

The Source of a river	A Meander	An Estuary
		

The River Thames (London Docks highlighted)	The London Docks
