

Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

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| Geography Topic: | Rivers of the World | Year 3 | Spring |
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| Key Knowledge | |
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| What I already know: | |
| I know about the River Thames and Amazon | |
| What is a river? | A flowing body of water traveling from high ground to low |
| Where does the water go? | Rivers usually flow into an ocean , a sea , a lake or another river (see tributary) |
| Where does the water come from? | From the rain. When rain hits the ground it flows down to the river (see watershed and river basin) |
| Rivers | |
| Flow | Rivers always flow downhill – this is because of gravity |
| Meander | Water will take the easiest route downhill, twisting and turning around obstacles. This is called meandering |
| Erosion | As it meanders , water flows faster on the outside of the river, eroding the banks on that side. |
| Deposition | Any materials the river erodes from the outside, it will deposit on the insides of river bends where it flows more slowly |
| Erosion and deposition makes the river meander even more | |

| The Water Cycle | |
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| What is the Water Cycle? | Water changing from a liquid to water vapour and back again. It has four stages |
| Evaporation | Heat, from the sun, turns water into water vapour. This is a gas and rises into the sky |
| Condensation | As it rises, the air is cooler. Cool air causes the water vapour to turn back into liquid water as tiny water droplets which make clouds |
| Precipitation | As clouds move into the wind they might travel higher, getting colder. When this happens, the water droplets get bigger and eventually fall as rain |
| Collection | Some Water collects in streams and rivers, flowing down to the sea |
| | Most water soaks into the ground. This is called groundwater. Some will find its way to rivers and seas. |
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| Major Rivers of the World | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Continent | River | Length (km) | Interesting Fact |
| Europe | Volga | 2,850 | Longest in Europe |
| | Rhine | 1,230 | The Source is in the Alps mountains |
| | Danube | 2,850 | Travels through the most countries (10) |
| Asia | Ganges | 2,525 | A sacred river to Hindus |
| | Yangtze | 6,240 | Longest in Asia. Third longest in the world |
| Africa | Nile | 6,695 | Longest river in the world |
| North America | Mississippi | 3,730 | At its widest, the river is over 7 miles wide |
| South America | Amazon | 6,400 | Largest river basin in the world (by far) |
| Australia | Murray-Darling | 3,680 | Longest in Australia. Actually two rivers joined together |

| Real-Life Outcomes | Key Skills |
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| <p>“The Water Cycle”</p> <p>Write the story of the water cycle from the point of view of a water droplet or design a poster explaining the water cycle</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use maps to locate rivers Use digital mapping to locate rivers and see the features mentioned |