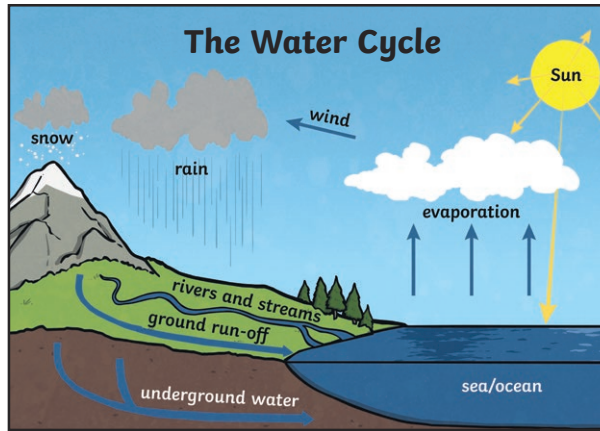


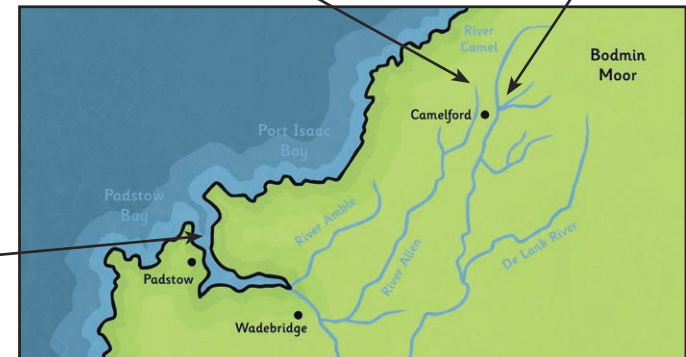
Key Vocabulary	
<b>channel</b>	The course in the ground that a river or water flows through.
<b>dam</b>	A barrier built to hold back water.
<b>deposition/ deposit</b>	When rocks and other materials that have been eroded are dropped off further along the river.
<b>discharge</b>	The amount of water flowing 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

**The Upper Course**  
Rain falling on high ground collects in **channels** 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 **valleys**.  
Features include - waterfalls and rapids.

**The Middle Course**  
Fast flowing water causes **erosion** making the river deeper and wider.  
Features include - meanders.



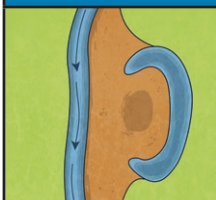
**The Lower Course**  
Rivers flow with less force due to being on flat land. The river **deposits** the eroded material that it has carried.  
Riverbanks have shallower sides.  
Features include - floodplains, deltas and estuaries.

## Meander - a curve in the river



Eroded materials are carried by the river and released, building up the land on the inside of the bend where the water flows more slowly.

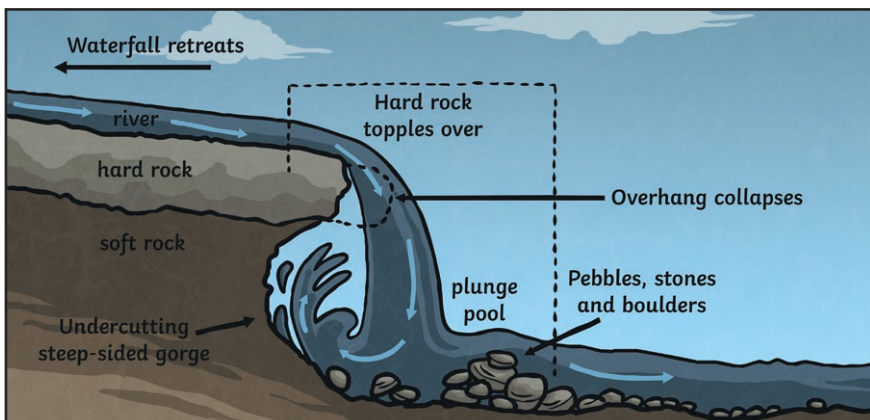
## Oxbow lakes - a U-shaped lake



As meanders grow, two meanders can merge together through **erosion**. The water takes this newer, shorter course. The river **deposits** eroded materials which block off the old part of the river forming an oxbow lake.

## How Do We Use Rivers?

Leisure e.g. fishing	+	Controlled population of fish
	-	May leave litter and pollute the water
Industry e.g. factories	+	Sections of rivers maintained
	-	Chemicals pollute the water and habitats
Tourism e.g. walking routes	+	Conservation and education about local wildlife
	-	Too many people near wildlife habitats



## Dams

**Dams** are built to hold water back, usually in a reservoir.

**Dams** might be built to:

- control the flow of a river to prevent flooding.
- generate power



## Hydroelectric Power

1. Water is held behind a **dam**.
2. When needed, some of the water is released and flows through a pipe (penstock).
3. The falling water turns a water wheel (turbine) which is linked to a generator which produces electricity.
4. The water continues into the river on the other side of the **dam**.

