Why is water movement significant?

Vocabulary – Geography

Topography	The shape and arrangement of physical features on a surface.
Physical feature	Things that have occurred naturally like seas, mountains, rivers and coastlines.
Human feature	Things that have been built by people like houses, roads and bridges.
Urban settlement	Less populated than rural settlements with the main land use being agriculture.
Rural settlement	Densely populated with more human features than an urban area. Land is typically used for building homes, industry and leisure facilities.

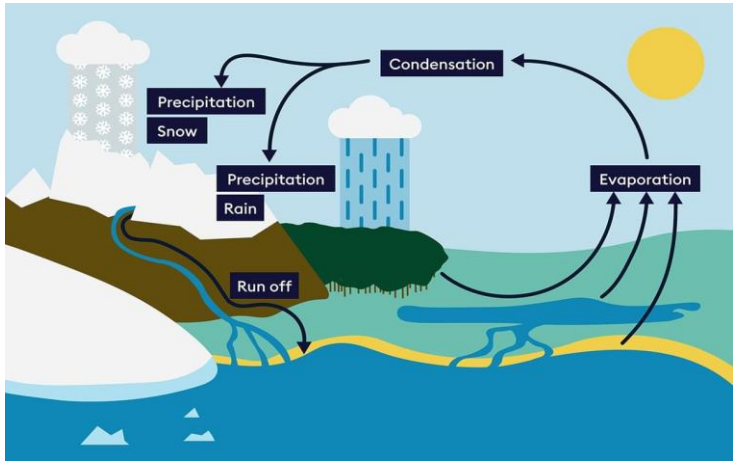
Sticky Knowledge

Rivers are formed from rainfall and springs at their **source** and change over time as **erosion**, **transportation** and **deposition** shape their course and features.

Living near a river provides benefits such as:
- **transport** and **trade**
- fertile soil for farming (**agriculture**)
- water for daily use
- opportunities for **recreation**,

Flooding usually occurs when **precipitation** falls faster than that water can be absorbed into the ground or carried away by rivers or streams. **Climate change** can increase flooding as a result of heavier rainfall, melting ice and stronger storms.

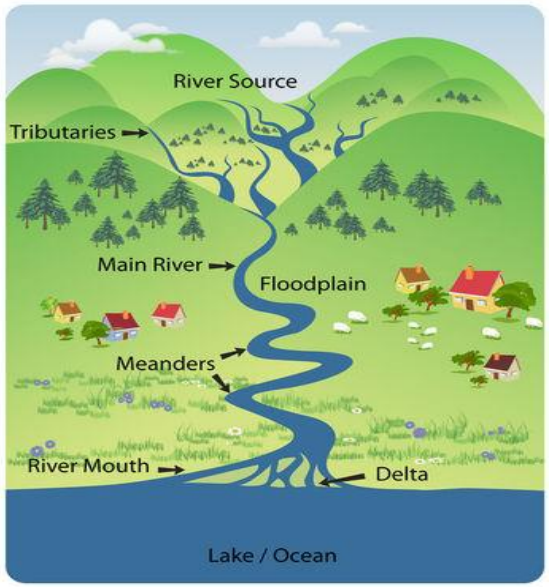
Rainfall in the local area can be measured and recorded using **rain gauges** and presented in graphs to show patterns and trends.



The worlds water moves between lakes, rivers, oceans, the atmosphere and the land. This is known as the **water cycle**.
Water is **evaporated** into the atmosphere where it **condenses**. **Precipitation** will then fall and soak into the soil and move slowly through the grown until it reaches a river or the ocean.

The Thames, Severn, Mersey, Trent, Derwent, Wye, Ouse and Tyne are major UK rivers.

Features of a River



Vocabulary – Rivers

Source	Where a river starts in higher ground, usually a spring.
River mouth	The end of a river where it meets the coast and drains into the sea, or sometimes a lake.
Tributary	A smaller river, or stream, which flows into a larger river.
Meander	A natural bend in the river.
Flood Plain	The area onto which a river floods, usually in the lower course.
Upper course	The beginning of a river where it flows fast and the land is steep.
Middle course	The part where the river becomes wider, deeper, and starts to bend.
Lower course	The end of the river where it flows slowly, is very wide, and reaches the sea.