

Theale Primary School



Geography: Spring Term Year: 4/5 Topic: Rivers

Vocabulary		
confluence	Where two rivers meet	
condensation	The water vapour is lifted into the sky. As height increases, temperature drops and cools the gas. This	
	causes the particles to condense (come together) and	
	form droplets of water.	
precipitation	As soon as the water droplets reach a certain size,	
	their weight is too great to stay in the air and they	
	fall down to the ground. This is called precipitation.	
	If the air is very cold, the water falls as ice or sleet.	
	Otherwise it galls as rain.	
evaporation	When the heat from the sun warms the water, the	
	liquid turn into a vapour (gas) and rises because it is	
	lighter.	
collection	Wherever the water lands, this is called the	
	'collection' stage of the water cycle. Rain and snow	
	returns to the Earth in rivers or lakes, on the ground	
	or on houses and roads, where it soaks down towards	
	the rivers. Eventually, most of this water flows into	
	the seas. The water cycle can now start again!	
delta	A landform that forms from deposited sediment by a	
	river as the flow leaves its mouth and enters slow-	
	moving or standing water	
estuary	The last section of the river before the sea	
evaporation	When heat warms water and turns the liquid into a vapour (gas) that rises because it's lighter	



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meander	A winding bend in a river
mouth	Where the river enters the sea
precipitation	As soon as water droplets reach a certain size, their weight is too great to stay in the air and they fall to the ground
reservoir	The store of water that is held back by a dam
tributary	A small river or stream that meets a large river
source	Where a river begins its journey



