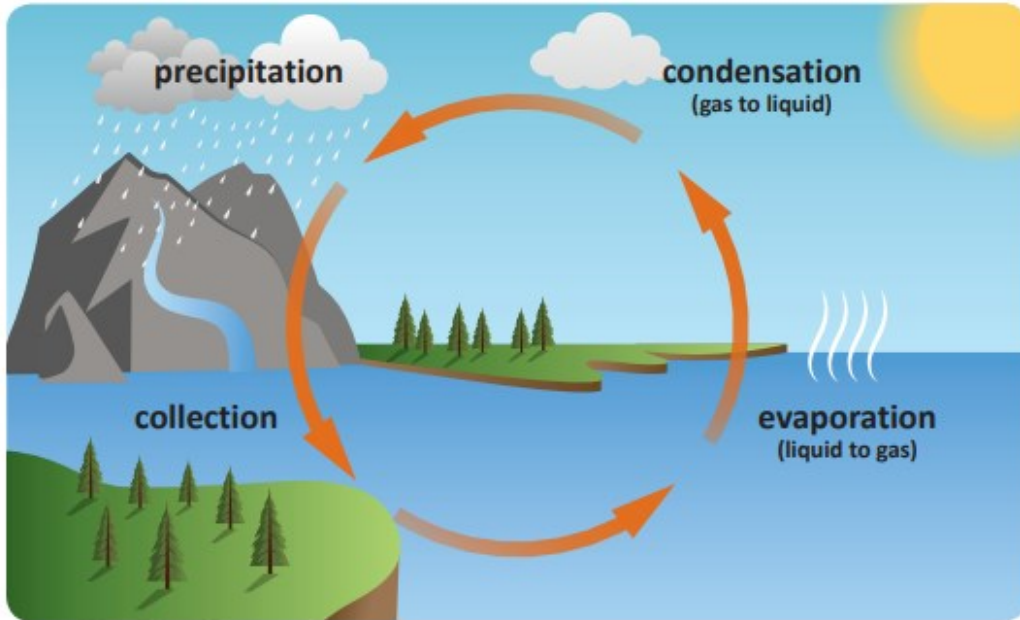


Overview



A river is a body of water that flows downhill, usually to the sea. Rivers start in mountains or upland areas and flow downstream, collecting water from small, narrow streams, springs, rainfall or other water sources on the way to the sea. Mountain is a large, raised part of the Earth's surface. A mountain's highest point is called its peak or summit. Mountains are at least 610m in height. A mountain range is a chain of mountains that are close together. They are usually arranged in a line connected by ridges.

The Water Cycle



Glossary

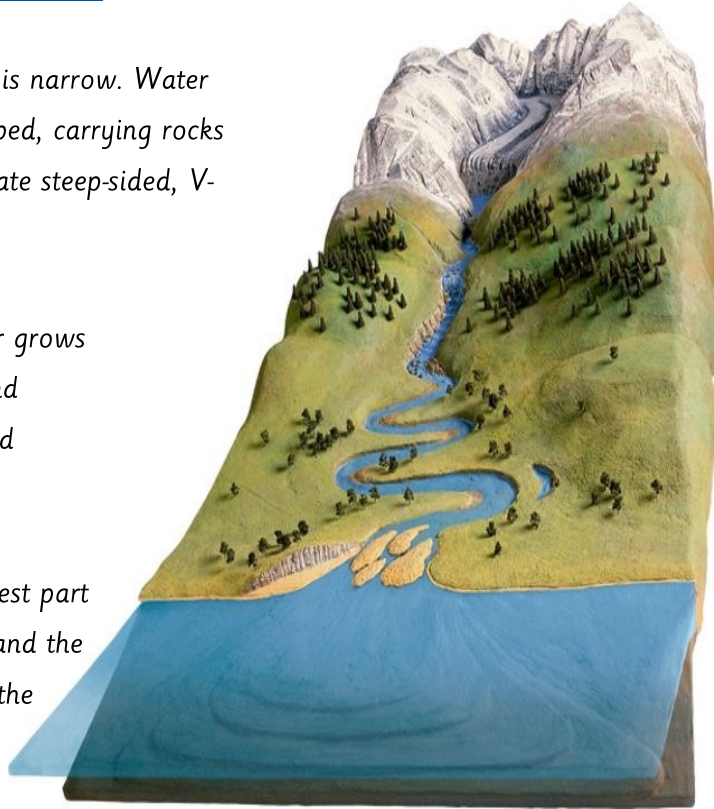
altitude	the height of an object or point above sea level
mountain range	a chain of mountains that are close together
ridge	long, narrow sections of rocky ground that connect mountains
source	the start of a river. These are usually on elevated ground such as a hillside
mouth	the place where a river enters a lake, larger river, or the ocean
condensation	the process of a gas or vapour cooling down and changing state into a liquid
evaporation	the process of a liquid heating up and changing state into a gas or vapour
precipitation	water released from clouds in the form of rain, freezing rain, sleet,

A river's journey

The upper course of a river is narrow. Water flows quickly over the riverbed, carrying rocks that erode the land and create steep-sided, V-shaped valleys.

The middle course of a river grows wider and deeper as the land becomes flatter. Bends called meanders form.

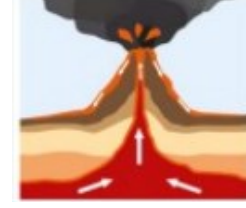
The lower course is the widest part of a river. The land is flat, and the water flows into the sea at the river's mouth.



Types of mountains



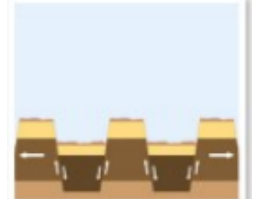
Fold



Volcanic






Dome



Fault

Highest mountains in...

United Kingdom	Europe	The World
		
Ben Nevis (1,345 m)	Mount Elbrus (5,642 m)	Mount Everest (8,849 m)

Longest rivers in...

United Kingdom



River Sever (354 km)

Europe



Volga River (3,530 km)

The World



The Nile (6,650 km)

Useful links



BBC Bitesize- Rivers



BBC Bitesize- Mountains



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