



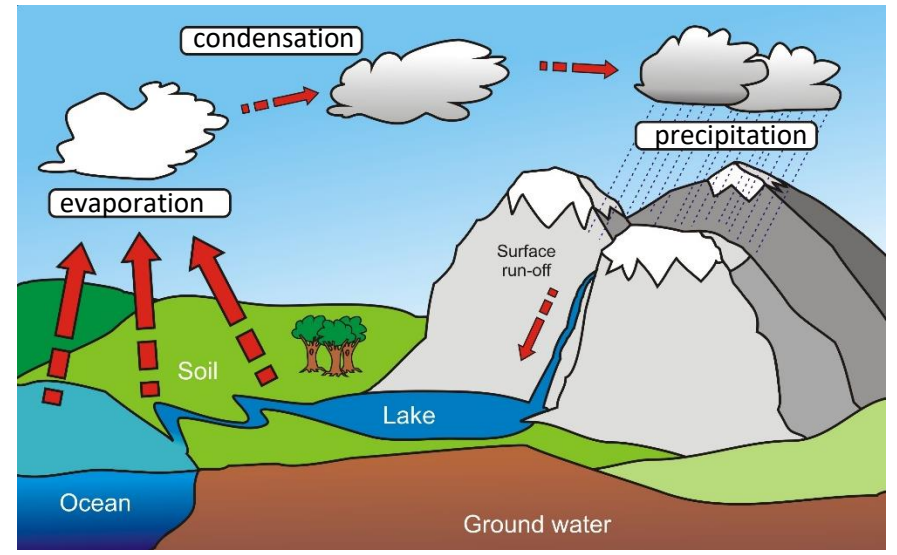
From the River to the Sea – geography 2

How are rivers formed?

**YEAR 5
Term 1/2**

Key Vocabulary

The water cycle



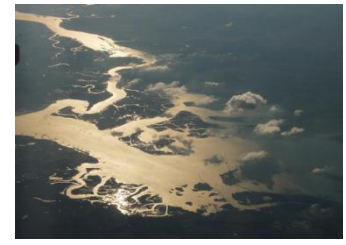
- About 71% of the earth's surface is covered in water
- 96% of the world's water is found in the seas
- Rivers usually have their source in higher land
- The upper course is usually fast flowing and can create v shaped valleys through erosion
- In the middle course the land is flatter and the river becomes wider and deeper
- A meander can occur where a river meets an obstacle



upper course

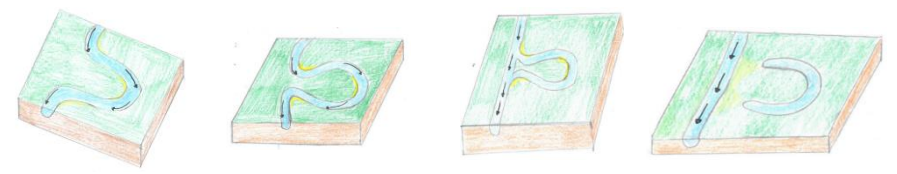
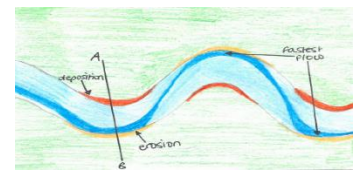


middle course



lower course

- Erosion is caused as the weight and speed of the water moves material from the bank and river bed
- Erosion can also be caused through corrosion, where the water reacts with minerals in the rocks that it flows over
- Eroded material is "transported", carried by the river and is eventually dropped. This is called deposition.
- Deposition occurs when the water begins to move more slowly, such as in a meander.
- Continuous erosion and deposition can create an oxbow lake



river
source
meander
riverbed
sediment
current
erosion
floodplain
mouth
deposition
transportation
water cycle
estuary