

Raging Rivers

Journey of a River



Learning Objective

To understand the journey a river makes from the hills to the sea.

Success Criteria

- To identify the different landscapes that a river might pass through.
- To extend your geographical vocabulary by learning key rivers terms.
- To make informed choices using newly-gained knowledge.

Starter

How many rivers can you name?
Think about local rivers as well as
rivers in other countries.



Meet Rosie Raindrop!

This is Rosie Raindrop. One rainy day, Rosie fell to the ground at the point where the River Thames starts. She eventually travelled all the way to the North Sea. It was an incredible journey!



Now, you need to describe all the things that she saw and heard along the way. In each box on your activity sheet, write down what Rosie might have seen and heard as she passed through.

We will have a look at her journey together now.

The Source of the River Thames



A stone marker has been placed on the spot where a spring provides the source of the River Thames. Rosie fell into the water here and began her journey downstream.

Describe what she saw...

Key Terms

Spring – a place where water naturally emerges from the ground.



The River Thames Starts to Grow



The river started to get bigger and passed through countryside. Describe what Rosie saw. What would she have heard?



Through Villages and Towns...



As the Thames got even bigger, Rosie began to travel through small settlements, such as villages and towns. Describe how the scenery has changed. What sounds could she hear now?



Through Cities...



The River Thames passes through Oxford as it gets bigger. Rosie had to dodge the rowers! Many tributaries have now joined the Thames.

What could Rosie see and hear on this stretch of the river? Can you think of any problems Rosie might have in towns and cities?



Through Cities...



What would Rosie have seen and heard as she went through the centre of London? How do people use the river here?



Rosie Makes It to the Sea



What sights and sounds would she have experienced here?



Discussion!

Which part of the river would you choose to live near? Why?



Drainage Basin

Click each point on the diagram to learn more.

Watershed – an imaginary line separating one drainage basin from another.

River channel – the area a river flows in, with banks on each side.

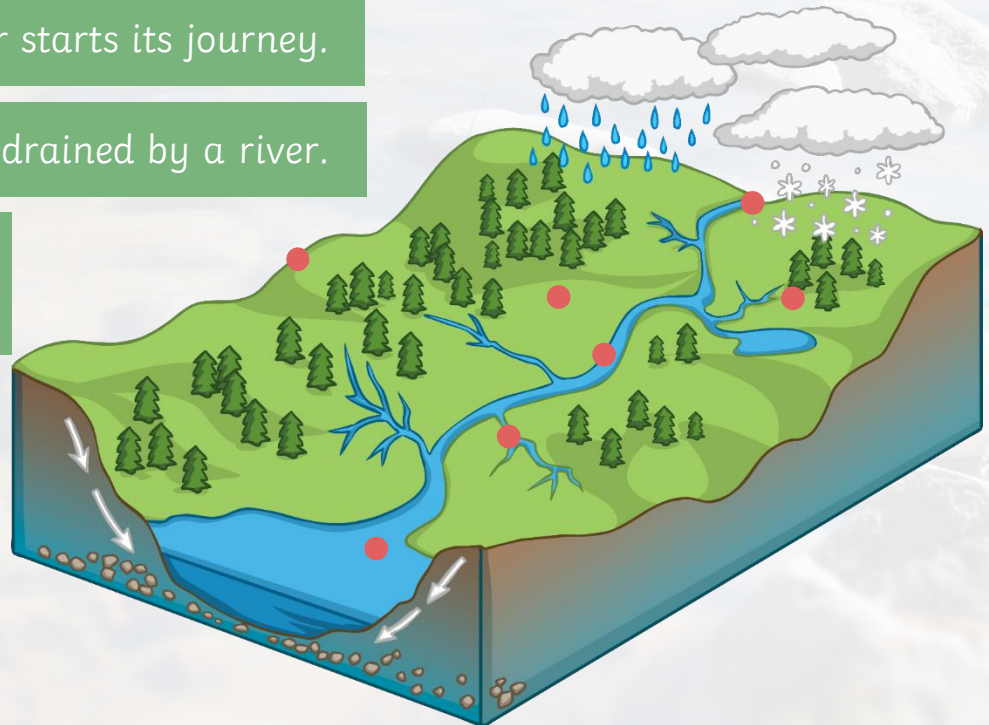
Source – the point at which a river starts its journey.

Drainage basin – the area of land drained by a river.

Tributary – a small river leading into a bigger river.

Confluence – where two rivers join together.

Mouth – where a river enters the sea.



What River Feature is This?



Clue

Answer

What River Feature is This?



Clue

Answer

What River Feature is This?



Clue

Answer

Time to Develop Your Rosie Raindrop Work!

Return to your description of Rosie's journey. Add four sentences to your work and make sure that each contains one of the following words:

- Source
- River channel
- Confluence
- Mouth



Can You Name...



3 key river terms?

2 landscapes a major river might pass through?

1 major UK river?

