

Year 4 Medium Term Geography Planner
Rivers

NC link: Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: rivers and the water cycle. • Describe and understand key aspects of human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water.

Key Vocabulary

Water cycle, evaporation, condensation, precipitation, mouth, channel, overland flow, survival, crops, transport/transportation, settlements, hydro-electric power, recreation(al), water pollution, River Aire, dam, irrigation, flood(ing)

Oracy lesson: What Is Biodiversity?

To understand what the word biodiversity means. To consider the importance of biodiversity and how it benefits nature. To understand the important role birds play in biodiversity

Enquiry Question 1:

Do I live near a river?

Enquiry Question 2:

If I swim in a river will I travel to the sea?

Enquiry Question 2:

How can I use a river?

Enquiry Question 4:

How can I look after rivers?

Consider:

What rivers do children already know about? In Y2 they learnt of the River Thames during GFoL, In Y3 they learnt about the River Nile during Egyptians. Some chn may know of the River Aire. Teach what the water cycle is and how that contributes to the creation of rivers. What is the closest river to us called?

Geographical skills:

Geographical skills and fieldwork
Human and physical features

Consider:

What is a river? How are rivers formed? <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/z7w8pg8#zfsq4xs1>
Can you make a river with the children – a whole class playground river or a small one in groups (stem activity) and add labels.

Geographical skills:

Human and physical features

Consider:

How are rivers used around the world for survival, food, energy and transport. Why are settlements often near rivers? Why do people need rivers to survive? How do people use rivers for fun? Why is it important to protect rivers?

Geographical skills:

Human and physical features

Consider:

Teaching chn about river pollution. How can we protect the wildlife that live in them and keep the rivers healthy? Do all human activities have a negative effect on rivers – washing clothes, dams, irrigation, litter and pollution.

Geographical skills:

Human and physical features

Enquiry Question 5:

What is flooding and how could it affect me?

Enquiry Question 6:

What can I find out about the River Aire?

Making connections across subjects

English – Write a persuasive text about why rivers need to be protected.

Consider:

What is a flood? What causes flooding? How would a flood affect the children in our school? How do we try to prevent flooding?

Geographical skills:

Place knowledge
Human and physical features

Consider:

How long is the River Aire and how much water does it have? What wildlife lives near it? Where is the source and mouth of the River Aire? What kind of plants grow by it? What activities can you do on the River Aire? Why is it important for the people of Leeds?

Geographical skills:

Geographical skills and fieldwork
Human and physical features

Music – singing songs related to the water cycle -

To the tune of 'She'll be coming 'round the mountain':

Water travels in a cycle, yes it does,

Water travels in a cycle, yes it does,

It goes up as evaporation,

Forms clouds as condensation,

Then comes down as precipitation,

Yes it does!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/ks2-geography-rivers/zct996f>