

Etwell Primary School

Waterworld

The Course of a River

The Upper Course

Rain falling on high ground collects in **channels** and flows downwards forming a stream. Streams run downhill and join other streams, increasing in size and speed forming a river. The river here flows quickly and the channel has steep sides and runs through **valleys**. Features include: waterfalls and rapids.

The Middle Course

Fast flowing water causes **erosion** making the river deeper and wider. Features include—meanders

The Lower Course

Rivers flow with less force due to being on flat land. The river **deposits** the eroded material that it has carried. Riverbanks have shallower sides. Features include: floodplains, deltas and estuaries.



Vocabulary

Channels: The course in the ground that a river or water flows through.

Condensation: when a gas cools and changes to a liquid.

Dams: A barrier that blocks off flowing water.

Deposition/deposits: When rocks and other materials that have been eroded are dropped off further along the river.

Erosion: rocks and other river materials are picked up by the water and moved to another place along the river.

Evaporation: when a liquid changes into gas or water vapour.

Ocean: Large bodies of water surrounding a continent.

River: A long flowing stream of water which travels across the land.

Sea: A large body of salty (saline) water, which connects to an ocean.

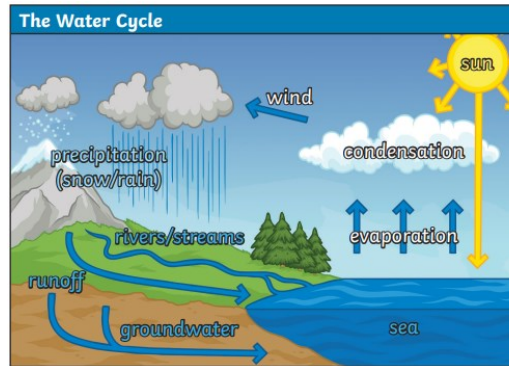
Valleys: A long ditch in the earth's surface between ranges of hills or mountains.

Water Vapour: Water that is in the form of a gas.

The Water Cycle.

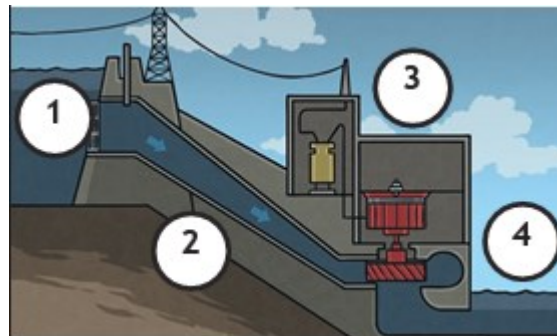
Clouds form when warm, moist air is cooled. When it is cooled, it **condenses** into tiny **water droplets** which appear as clouds.

Heat from the sun **evaporates** water into **water vapour**, which rises, **condenses** in the cool air and then falls back down to earth.



Hydro-Electric Power

1. Water is held behind **dam**.
2. When needed, some of the water is released and flows through a pipe.
3. The falling water turns a water wheel which is linked to a generator which produces electricity.
4. The water continues into the river on the other side of the dam.



Dams

Dams are built to hold water back, usually in reservoirs.

Dams might be built to:

- Control the flow of a river to prevent flooding.
- Generate power.