

# Year 3 UK Geography

## Rivers of the UK

### Key Learning



The UK has many rivers.  
The **River Severn** is the longest of all the rivers in the UK.  
The **River Thames** is the second longest river and flows through the capital city of London.

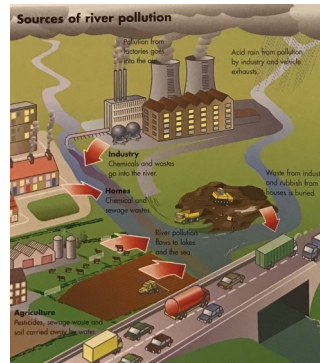
The **River Irwell** flows through Salford before joining the River Mersey.



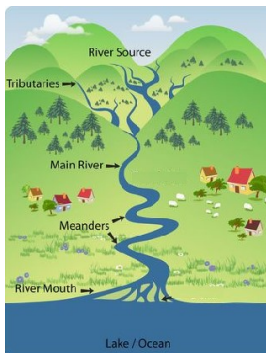
Rivers are important for lots of different reasons including:

Water for drinking and washing, agriculture, leisure, transportation and energy.

Because of this, **settlements** are often found near rivers.



Rivers often get polluted due to the actions of humans.



Rivers are formed in hills or mountains when water falls from the sky (this could be as rain, sleet or snow etc) or when water comes up from underground through a spring.

The water runs down hill towards the sea.

OS maps use symbols to show important things (other maps, like maps online, sometimes use different symbols) These are some of the symbols you might see near rivers :



### Key Vocabulary

Spring	A place where water comes up from underground.
Well	A hole dug into the ground to get water.
Source	Where the river begins.
tributaries	Smaller rivers that join the main river.
meander	Bends in the river.
mouth	Where the river ends.
riverbank	The sides of the river.
erosion	When the water slowly destroys the sides of the river banks.
transportation	Moving of things from one place to another.
leisure	Things that people do for pleasure in their free time when they are not working.
settlement	A place where people have chosen to live and start a community.
saltings	An area near of land that sometimes gets covered by the sea.
marsh	An area of land that is often very wet and sometimes gets flooded.
reeds	A tall, thin leaved plant that grows in water or marshland.