

# Evresham's Rivers - Fact Sheet

## Did you know?

- **Water always flows downhill.** When rain falls, it runs down the sides of hills into rivers in the bottom of the valleys between the hills. Rain and rivers are part of the water cycle.
- When it rains some of the water is absorbed into the soil and helps plants to grow, some of the water sinks deep into the ground and some of it flows into rivers and down to the sea.
- The end of a river is called the mouth. Some rivers flow into the sea but other rivers flow into lakes or bigger rivers.
- The start of a river is called the source. The source of a river is the furthest point on the river from its mouth.
- Many rivers are formed when rain flows down from hills but sometimes the source is a lake, sometimes it is a marsh or a bog and sometimes it is a spring where water comes up from the ground.
- Most of the water we drink is taken out of rivers as they pass through our towns. We have to clean it first though, before we can drink it.
- When rivers are flowing fast, they knock bits of earth from the banks and bed of the river (its sides and bottom) and carry it downstream with them. When earth is taken from the banks of the river this is called erosion, and the soil that is carried downstream is called silt.
- When the weather is rainy for a long time, the ground will become waterlogged and not be able to absorb any more water. This means that all the water has to flow into the rivers. But, there may be too much water for the rivers to take, which means they overflow and flood the land around them.



The River Nile in Egypt.

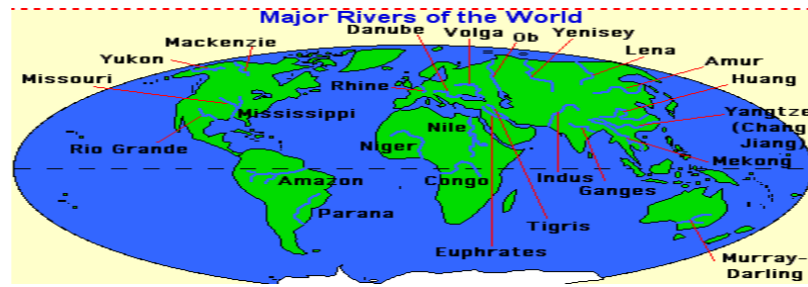


The Amazon River in South America



In 2007, there was a major flood in Evresham where the River Avon burst its banks.

Claude Monet is a famous impressionist painter who painted famous pictures of rivers, lakes and ponds.



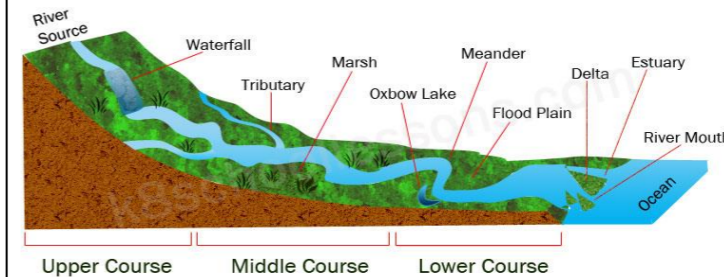
A lot of rivers' sources start at the top of mountains.

The River Avon and Isbourne run through Evresham.

## River Top Facts.

1. Rivers carry rainwater from hills downhill to other rivers, lakes or the ocean.
2. The start of a river is called the source and the end is called the mouth.
3. Many rivers and streams will join together before they reach the mouth of the river. The smaller rivers and streams are called tributaries.
4. A fast flowing river will carry soil and dirt from its banks and bed downstream and drop them when it gets wider and slows down.
5. When there is too much water in a river it floods and covers the area around it water. Sometimes this water is as deep as a person or a house is tall.
6. Floods cause a lot of damage but they also deposit nutrients from the water on the flooded land. This makes land that floods good for farming on.
7. Rivers can be difficult and dangerous to cross. Towns often grow up where there are bridges or safe places to walk across.
8. The longest river in the world is the Nile in Africa. It is 4,130 miles long.
9. The longest rivers in Britain are the Severn (220 miles long) and the Thames (215 miles long).
10. The river that carries the most water in the world is the Amazon in South America. The Amazon carries 210,000 cubic metres of water into the sea every day.

Vocabulary	Definition
Bank	The riverbank is the land at the side of the river.
Basin	Rainwater that falls on hills flows down the side of the hills into rivers. A river basin is the group of hills, valleys and lakes that water flows into the river from.
Bed	The bed is the bottom of a river. A riverbed can be made of sand, rocks or mud depending on the river.
Canal	A man-made waterway that is used so that boats can transport goods across bits of the country where there are no rivers they can use.
Current	The strength and speed of the river. Water always flows downhill; the steeper the ground is, the stronger the current will be.
Delta	A wide muddy or sandy area where some rivers meet the sea.
Erosion	When a river flows fast it damages the riverbanks and washes bits of them downstream. This makes the river wider.
Estuary	Where a river reaches the ocean and the river and ocean mix. Estuaries are normally wide and flat.
Floodplain	The flat area around a river that often gets flooded when the level of water in the river is high.
Fresh water	Rainwater that falls from the sky has no salt in it. We call this fresh water.
Mouth	The end of a river where it flows into the sea, another river or a lake.
Salt water	The water in the sea is full of salt, so 'salt water' refers to water in seas and oceans.
Silt	Small bits of dirt or sand that are carried along by a river.
Source	The start of a river is its source.
Stream	A small river
Tributary	A smaller river or stream that joins a big river is called a tributary.
Upstream	The opposite direction to the way the water in a river flows



A river is the path that water takes as it flows downhill towards the ocean. Rivers can be long or short, wide or narrow and they often join together on their way downstream to make bigger rivers. Lots of animals live in or by rivers and people often find them a good place to live too.

Rivers can be used for lots of good things, like sailing boats on them to trade goods with other towns on the river, and farming on land that has been made fertile by the river, but when there are heavy rains and the river is very full they can be dangerous and do a lot of damage when they flood.