

RIVER FEATURES

bank	The land at the side of the river.
bed	The ground at the bottom of the river.
channel	A groove in the land. Rivers flow along these grooves, cutting through the rock.
confluence	The place where two streams or rivers meet.
dam	A barrier that is built to hold back water or divert its flow.
delta	An area of sediment (in the shape of a fan) that builds up at the mouth of a river.
drainage basin	The area of land that is drained by a river and its tributaries.
estuary	The place where the fresh river water mixes with salty seawater, at the mouth of the river.
floodplain	A flat area of land near to the river banks, usually found in the lower course of the river. This area sometimes floods.
lake	A large area of water that is surrounded by land.
lower course	The lowest part of the river. It is wider and flows very slowly here.
meander	A bend in the river.
middle course	The middle part of the river, where other streams join the main stream. It has more water and begins to flow more slowly.
mouth	The end of the river, where it meets the sea.
river	A winding watercourse that drains water from a drainage basin.
sea	Large areas of salt water, surrounding the land.
source	Where a stream begins.
spring	A place where water comes out of the ground.
stream	A small, narrow river.
tributary	A stream that joins a main stream or river.
upper course	The first part of the river. It is usually a stream, rushing down steep slopes, with very little water in it.
waterfall	Where water in a river or stream falls from a height.

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