Rivers KO

<u>Context:</u> Rivers are essential because they transport water, provide habitat and enable transportation <u>Concepts:</u> place •space •environment •interconnection •sustainability •change

Facts

- 1. A river is freshwater flowing across the surface of the land, usually to the sea.
- 2. Course of a river:
- a) **Upper course** is closest to the source of the river. The land is usually high and mountainous, and the river has a steep gradient with fast-flowing water. It includes V-shaped valleys, rapids, waterfalls and gorges.
- b) **Middle course** is where the river starts to slow down. It gets wider, and travels in winding loops. It includes floodplains, meanders and oxbow lakes.
- c) Lower course is the last course of a river. The gradient is at its gentlest, as the river approaches the sea. It usually has a wide, smooth channel, and the water moves at its slowest.
- 3. Parts of a river:
- a) Source where the river starts from, usually a lake, snowfield or spring
- b) Banks the edge or sides of the river that the water flows within
- c) Course the path of the river
- d) Tributary a stream or river that feeds into a larger watercourse.
- e) River bed the bottom surface of the river, which the water flows on top
- f) Floodplain an area of low lying ground adjacent to a river
- g) Meander a bend in a river
- h) Oxbow a crescent shaped lake lying alongside a winding river
- i) Mouth a place where the river ends. It is where it usually meets the sea, ocean, a lake or a larger river.
- 4. Use of rivers today:
- a) water supply, trade, transport, food source, irrigation, power, leisure
- 5. River Mersey
- a) 70 miles/112km long
- b) formed by three tributaries River Goyt, River Tane and River Ethrow
- c) Source of the River is in Stockport
- d) Mouth of the river is Liverpool Bay and then into the Irish sea
- e) recently there has been huge efforts to clean up the quality of the water
- 6. World Rivers
- a) Amazon River South America
- b) Nile River Africa,
- c) Yangtze River Asia
- d) Mississippi River North America,
- e) Volga River Europe
- f) Murray-Darlington River Australia
- g) Onyx River Antarctica
- 7. Websites:

General rivers https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/z7w8pg8
Tour of source to mouth https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zb39jxs
Water where does it all come from https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0078tdh
Ox bow time lapse https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGJXxAZPm8M
Animation river parts https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fdMmzY7XjFo

Vocabulary

- 1. Confluence from Latin *confluere* 'flow together'
- 2. Sediment from Latin *sedimentum* 'settling', from *sedere* 'sit'.











Oxbow lake



River Mersey

