

Rivers and Waterways

Learning objective: Year 4 Geography: Understand the importance of rivers and their role in shaping the landscape.

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

Rivers are an essential part of our landscape. They carry fresh water from the mountains to the sea, providing drinking water for people and animals. The River Wye in England is a great example of a river that flows through a beautiful countryside. It starts high up in the mountains, where it's narrow and fast-flowing, and then widens out as it reaches the floodplain. Along the way, it passes through a stunning waterfall and eventually empties into the sea at an estuary. This is where the freshwater from the river meets the saltwater from the ocean. Bea, the busy honeybee, loves to visit the estuary to study the different types of plants and animals that live there. She's fascinated by the way the river changes as it moves through the landscape.

Word bank: river · waterfall · estuary · floodplain

1. What is the name of the river mentioned in the passage? (1 mark)

2. What is the name of the busy honeybee that loves to visit the estuary? (1 mark)

3. Why do rivers carry fresh water from the mountains to the sea? (2 marks)

4. What do you think Bea, the busy honeybee, learns from visiting the estuary? (2 marks)

5. What do you think is most important about rivers? Do you agree or disagree with this statement? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a river as it flows through a landscape, including a waterfall and an estuary.



Extension challenge: Research and create a list of the different types of plants and animals that live in and around a river estuary.