

Finn's River Expedition: Year 4 Geography Flashcards

Learning objective: To identify and define the key stages and features of a river's journey from source to mouth.

Read each question carefully. Use these cards to test your knowledge of how rivers are formed and how they change as they travel towards the sea. Keep an eye out for clues from Finn the dolphin!

Source

The beginning of a river, often found high up in the mountains or hills where rainwater or snowmelt collects.

Mouth

The point where a river enters the sea, an ocean, or a large lake.

Tributary

A smaller river or stream that flows into a larger, main river.

Confluence

The specific location where two or more rivers or streams meet and join together.

Meander

A winding curve or bend in a river that forms as it flows across flatter land.

Erosion

The process where the river wears away the land, soil, and rocks along its banks and bed.

Deposition

When a river slows down and drops the sand, pebbles, and sediment it was carrying, creating new landforms.

Channel

The path or course where the water flows, usually between two banks.

Estuary

The wide part of a river where it meets the sea and fresh water mixes with salty ocean water.

Upper Course

The section of the river nearest the source, usually steep, narrow, and fast-flowing.

Middle Course

The section of the river where the land becomes flatter and the river begins to curve and widen.

Lower Course

The final section of the river near the mouth, where the water is at its deepest and widest.