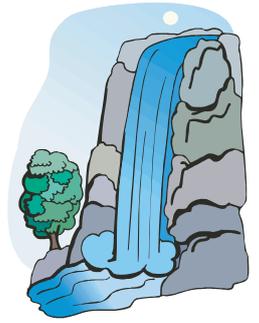




# Rivers - glossary of terms



**banks** - these are the sides of a river that the water normally flows through.

**brackish** - this is a mixture of salt water and fresh water.

**channel** - this is the path that a river takes over land.

**current** - this is the movement or flow of water.

**delta** - this is a large, silty area found at the mouth of a river. Deltas are often triangular shaped.

**deposition** - this is where material is laid down in another location.

**erosion** - this is the process where material is removed from one area and transported to another.

**estuary** - this is the area where a river meets the ocean or sea, causing fresh and salt water to mix together.

**floodplain** - this is the flat area next to a river that floods.

**meander** - this is a bend or curve in a river.

**mouth** - this is where a river ends, either in the ocean, sea or lake.

**ox-bow lake** - this is a meander that was cut off from a river and abandoned.

**plunge pool** - this is a deep pool below a waterfall.

**rapid** - this is when a river flows quickly and the currents swirl around.

**reservoir** - this is a man-made structure that stores fresh water for human use.

**river** - this is a large body of water that usually empties into an ocean or sea.

**river bed** - this is the bottom of a river.

**sediment** - this is a mixture of small particles of soil and rock.

**source** - this is the beginning (start) of a river.

**transportation** - this is where eroded material is moved downstream by the flowing water.

**tributary** - this is a smaller river that flows into a main river.

**waterfall** - this is a sudden drop in a river where the river meets softer rock lying over harder rock.