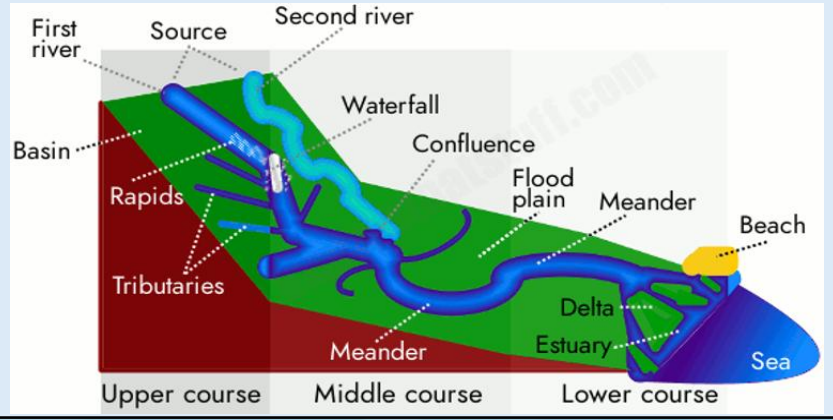
What makes rivers and mountains so powerful and important?

Key Vocabulary

Erosion	The process that wears away the riverbed and banks. Erosion breaks up the rocks that are carried by the river.
Deposition	The process where rivers drop off sediment (sand, silt, clay and other materials), which can lead to the formation of new landforms. This process is crucial for shaping landscapes, creating deltas, and enriching floodplains with nutrients.
Meander	A winding curve or bend of a river.
Tributaries	A stream or smaller river that flows into a larger stream (main stem or "parent"), river, or a lake.
Confluence	Where two or more rivers join. This is usually a tributary joining a main river.
Source	The starting point from which a river begins to flow.
Mouth	Where a river flows into a larger body of river, such as the sea, an ocean, or a lake.

Features of a river



Development of a River Course

Rivers form a clear path or course, carving valleys and shaping the land as it moves through different terrains. The river's course normally includes:

Upper course: Steep and fast-flowing with waterfalls and rapids.
Middle course: Wider and slower, with meanders (bends).
Lower course: Flat and slow, leading to a delta or estuary.

India

Continent: Asia
Capital: New Delhi
Other main cities:
Mumbai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad
Mountain Ranges:
Himalayas, Karakoram Range, Western Ghats, Eastern Ghats
Rivers:
Ganges, Indus, Brahmaputra
Economic areas:
IT and financial services, industry such as manufacturing, construction and mining, agriculture
Main exports:
Basmati rice, sugar, tea, coffee, spices



The Himalayas

- **Highest peak:** Mount Everest (8,846.86m)
- **Formation:** Collision of Indian and Eurasian tectonic plates
- **Name origin:** From the Sanskrit meaning "Abode of Snow"

Many rivers have their source in the Himalayas. These include the Ganges, Indus, Brahmaputra, Mekong, Yangtze and Yellow Rivers.
The Himalayas are home to many unique species, including the Snow Leopard, Red Panda, Blue Sheep and Red Langur.