Year 4/5 Geography Knowledge Organiser – Rivers

Vocabulary			
1 water cycle	The water cycle is the journey water takes as it moves from the land to the sky and back again. It follows a cycle of evaporation, condensation and precipitation. It is called a cycle because water continuously moves around the system. Rivers are part of this cycle.	**12 source**	where something begins A river's source could be many things including a marsh, bog or spring.
2 atmosphere	gases surrounding a planet	**13 mouth**	the place where a river enters a lake, larger river, or the ocean
3 evaporation	the process of turning a liquid into a vapour (gas)	**14 delta**	A delta is a landform at the mouth of a river. Before entering the sea, a river deposits sediment which, over time, forms a delta.
4 condensation	the process of turning a vapour (gas) into a liquid	**15 valley**	the flat space between two mountains
5 precipitation	rain, snow, sleet or hail	**16 landform**	a feature on the Earth's surface e.g. a mountain, hill, valley
6 deposition	when something is deposited or put down A river can deposit sediment (sand, stones and rocks) on its journey.	**17 tributary**	a river or stream flowing into a larger river or lake
7 erosion	wearing away (moving water can erode rock over a very long time)	**18 waterfall**	water flows over different bands of rock and erodes (wears away) soft rock more quickly than hard rock, often creating a waterfall.
8 gorge	a narrow valley between hills or mountains, often with steep rocky walls and a stream or river running through it	**19 course**	the path a river follows across the land
9 meander	a bend in a river	**20 river basin**	the area of land drained by a river and its tributaries
10 indigenous	the people who originally lived in a place, rather than people who moved there from somewhere else	**21 oxbow lake**	a horse-shoe shaped lake at the side of a river, originally it would have been a meander
11 flooding	an overflowing of water onto land that is normally dry	**22 pollution**	harmful materials introduced into an environment