

Y5 Geography — We are Anthropologists



Key Knowledge

What I Should Already Know

- The continents (KS1)
- The key rivers in the UK (Year 5)
- The key features of rivers (Year 5)
- What biomes and climate are (Year 3 and 4)
- What settlements and land use is (Year 3 and 4)
- What energy and minerals are (Year 4)
- The different types of farming (Year 4)
- What an aquifer is (Year 5)

What do Anthropologists do?



Anthropologists study humans. They look at our origin, our development and our behaviour.

In this unit, we will study the importance of rivers in the development of human settlements.

Key Vocabulary

	Word	Definition
	Transport	Take or carry people or good from one place or another by vehicle or ship.
	trade	The action of buying and selling goods and services.
	farming	The activity of growing crops and raising livestock.
	Timber	Wood prepared for use in building.
	port	A town or city with a harbour where ships load or unload.
	Climate	The general weather conditions in an area over a long period of time.
	Deforestation	The action of clearing a wide area of trees.

Longest River in each Continent

Mississippi River

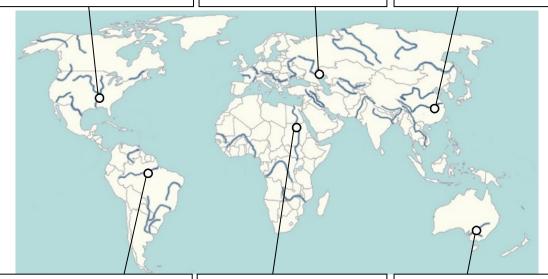
- •Longest river in North America (3,778 km)
- Country: United States of America

Volga River

- •Longest river in Europe (3,531 km)
- Country: Russia

Yangtze River

- •Longest river in Asia (6,300 km)
- Country: China



Amazon River

- •Longest river in South America (6,575 km)
- Countries: Brazil, Colombia, Peru

Nile River

- Longest river in Africa (6,650 km)
- Key countries: Egypt and Kenya

Murray River

- •Longest river in Oceania (2,508 km)
- Country: Australia

Significant People and Places

A mountain range which runs along the western side of South America. The second highest peak is found here as well as the three sources of the Amazon River.

The largest tropical rainforest in the world, producing 40% of the oxygen. The majority is located in Brazil and one in ten known species of animal lives there. The second longest river in the world (after the Nile) but the largest in terms of the water it carries to the sea. The river flows through the rainforest and has many different tributaries

The largest country in South America and where most of the Amazon Rainforest is found. The capital city of Brazil is Brasilia and the main language is Portuguese.

Human Geography and Rivers

- Rivers have been key to settlements since the earliest civilisations
- Key uses of rivers include: providing water for drinking, for industry and for farming.
- Rivers also provide transport of people, goods and animals and for recreation
- Today, rivers are also an important energy source through hydroelectric water turbines
- Rivers also provide excellent habitats and food for many creatures.



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Key Knowledge

Mississippi River



Early settlements

Early Native American settlers relied on the river for travelling and fish. Later, it became vital to European settlers to transport goods for trade. It still plays a major role in transport for trade—it enables people to transport goods more cheaply and in larger quantities compared to road or rail. Because of this, and the availability of water from the river and aquifers, the area around the river is widely used for farming.

The Upper Course

The upper course in the north flows through the deciduous forest and grasslands biomes in states like Minnesota. In the deciduous forest regions, there are warm summers and plenty of rain, which means tall trees grow, so this region is used for lumber production. In the grasslands, the climate is warmer and it is used for wheat production, as wheat thrives in warmer climates.

The Middle Course

The middle course flows through the grasslands in states like Missouri. As there is little rainfall in the grasslands, only short plants like grasses can grow.

The land here is commonly used for pastoral farming, because animals graze on the grasses.

The Lower Course The lower course in the south flows through the

deciduous forest biome in states like Mississippi.

Here many different types of crops are grown because the climate is warmer than the north but there is still plenty of rainfall. Near the mouth of the river, there is the major port city New Orleans, Louisiana, where goods are loaded and transported around the USA and the world from the Gulf of Mexico.

Amazon River

Land Use Over Time

Early

Lumber industry

Cattle pastures, hydroelectricity

Experience extreme weather as they are experiencing dry spells but also flooding.



The Upper Course

The source of the river comes from a glacier in The Andes mountain range in Peru, South America.

The river is 4000 miles long and passes through 9 countries. There are 1100 tributaries.

There are thermo rivers, waterfalls, white water rapids, deep pools and springs in the upper course of the river.

The Middle Course

The largest city on the Amazon river is

Manaus. The population is 2 million.

In the 19th century, it exported gold,
minerals and rubber.

The river banks are fertile and they used raised bed farming to grow their crops.

The crops grown are then sold on markets.

Cattle pastures in Para and Mato Grosso.

The Lower Course

Near the mouth of the river, there is the major port city Belem, Brazil.

River slows as it reaches the sea.

It widens out into a broad estuary.