

Marine Academy Primary, Trevithick Road, St. Budeaux, Plymouth PL5 2AF

T: 01752 213939 W: <http://www.marineacademy.org.uk/primary/>

E: primary@marineacademy.org.uk

Monday 23rd February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Marine Academy Primary **Year 4** pupils,

Each term, we will send you a letter to let you know what your child will be learning about in each subject. In Term 4, Year 4 will be learning about '**Rivers**' in their **Geography** lessons and will find answers to the below questions throughout the topic:

1. Where are the world's rivers?
2. How do rivers shape the land?
3. What landforms can a river create?
4. Why are rivers important to people?
5. What happens when a river floods?



Rivers provide us with food, energy, recreation, transportation routes, and of course water for irrigation and for drinking. River landscapes change as you go downstream from the source to the mouth. In the upper course of a river, steep gradients lead to rapid-flowing rivers. In the middle course, the river meanders through gentle gradients. In the lower course, the river braids over flat land. A knowledge organiser sharing all of the information – including key facts, diagrams and vocabulary – which the children will learn about is attached. Please feel free to use this with your children to develop their knowledge and understanding at home.

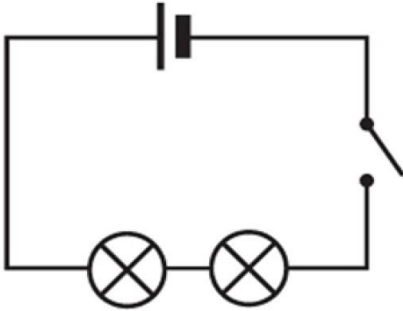


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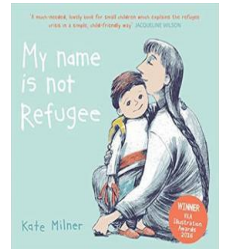
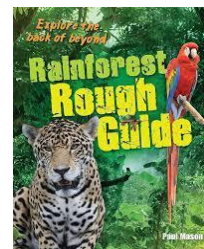
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In **Science**, the children will learn about electrical circuits. They will explore the parts of an electrical circuit, including using the relevant symbols to draw diagrams. The children will find out more about electrical conductors and insulators.

In **English**, the children's writing will be based on the descriptive story poetry 'A River' by Marc Martin and the text 'Rainforest Rough Guide' by Paul Mason. In their **Whole Class Reading** sessions, they will read 'My Name is Not Refugee' by Kate Milner.



In **Maths**, children will learn about decimals and the effect of dividing a one- or two-digit number by 10 and 100, equivalent fractions and solving simple measure and money problems involving fractions and decimals. In **RE**, the children will explore the question 'How do festivals and family life show what matters to Jewish people?' and in **SMSC** (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education) the children will learn about 'Rights and Responsibilities'.

In **Design Technology** lessons, the children will be designing and creating housing for a torch, while in **Spanish**, they will be learning to follow the written version of a text when listening to it and to recognise questions and negative sentences. This term, PE will take place on Thursdays - children should wear their PE kit to school on this day please.



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If you ever have any questions about this learning, please email year4@marineacademy.org.uk. We are really looking forward to another great term ahead!

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Louise Impey

Miss Chloe Whitby

Teacher

Teacher



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Knowledge Organiser - Rivers - Year 4

Vocabulary	Definition
River	A flow of fresh water across the land into a lake, sea or ocean.
Landscape	A part of the Earth's surface.
Lake	A large area of water, surrounded by land.
Sea	An area of salt water.
Ocean	A large area of sea. There are five oceans: Atlantic; Pacific; India; Arctic; Southern.
Source	The start of a river
Mouth	The end of a river, where it enters a lake, sea or ocean.
Erosion	The wearing away of the Earth's surface.
Transportation	The movement of sediment (material).
Sediment	Natural material that is carried and deposited by a river.
Deposition	The dropping of sediment.
Riverbed	The bottom of the river.
River banks	The sides of the river.
Landform	A feature on the Earth's surface that is part of the land.
Tributary	A smaller river that flows into a larger river.
Agriculture	Farming (growing crops, such as cereals, fruits and vegetables)



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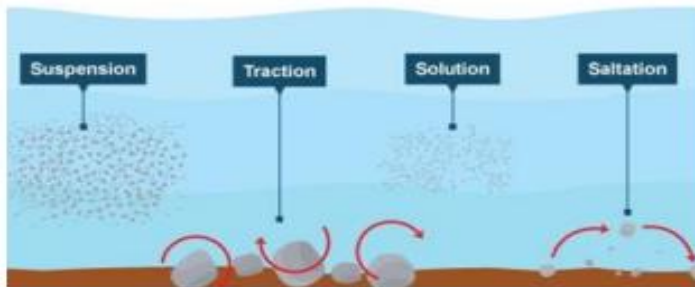
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Knowledge Organiser – Rivers - Year 4

Transportation

Traction	Tractor wheels: large rocks roll along the riverbed
Saltation	Jumping beans: pebbles bounce along the riverbed
Suspension	Hoverboard: small sediment is carried along in the flow of the river
Solution	Invisible material: the smallest sediment is dissolved into the water



Famous Rivers

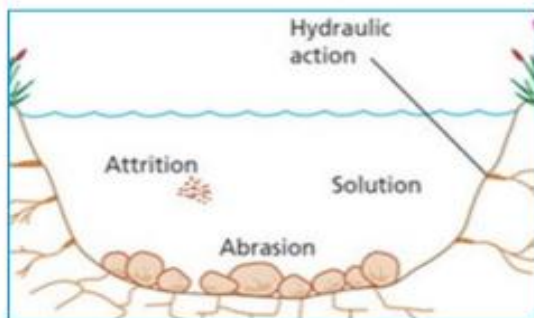
Amazon River, South America

Volga River, Russia

River Nile, Sudan & Egypt

Erosion

Abrasion	Sandpapering: rocks wear away each other and the riverbed and banks
Attrition	Crashing: rocks collide and break up
Solution	Chemical action: acids in the water dissolve the rock
Hydraulic action	Water power: the force of the water breaks down the riverbed and banks.



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