St Francis CEP School Geography		
Unit: Rivers and the Water Cycle	Year group: Year 3	

What should I already know?

- The names of rivers in the UK.
- A canal is a waterway but not a river.
- Rivers are a physical feature of our environment.





What will I find out by the end of the unit?

- The river in Blackburn is called the River Blakewater.
- Where is its source?
- Famous rivers in Europe and around the world.
- Where are their sources and mouths?

Water	Recreation
Rivers provide drinking water and are home to fish which can be used for food. Habitat	Lots of people like to use rivers for recreational activities as well, such as: fishing, bird watching,
Rivers provide homes for many different types of wildlife.	walking, canoeing, sailing and windsurfing.
Energy	Transport
Rivers can provide hydroelectric power. The fast flow of rivers can generate large amounts of electric power.	Rivers can be used to transport goods and people from one place to another.
Farming	Settlements
Used to irrigate farm land. Some floodplains are great for farming because they provide fertile land.	Many early settlements were located and grew by rivers due to the other reasons in this table.



Vocabulary	
river	a large natural stream of water
sea/ocean	an expanse of salt water
source	where the river begins in the mountain
mouth	where the river flows into the sea/ocean, a lake or other body of water
floodplain	land on the side of a river
river bank	the edge of a river
meander	a river bend
tributaries	streams running into the main river
delta	an area of sediment at the mouth of a river
estuary	where the tide meets the river mouth
sediment	materials (pebbles, sand, grit) that are carried by the river
fertile soil	soil good for growing crops
irrigation	supply of water from river to land and crops
evaporation	when liquid changes to a gas after it has been heated
condensation	when gas changes to a liquid
precipitation	another word for rainfall

Geography skills and fieldwork

- Use maps to locate rivers' sources and river mouths.
- Use an atlas to locate the world's famous rivers e.g. Reine and Seine.
- Use aerial photographs to recognise features of rivers.
- Use 4 and 6-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps).