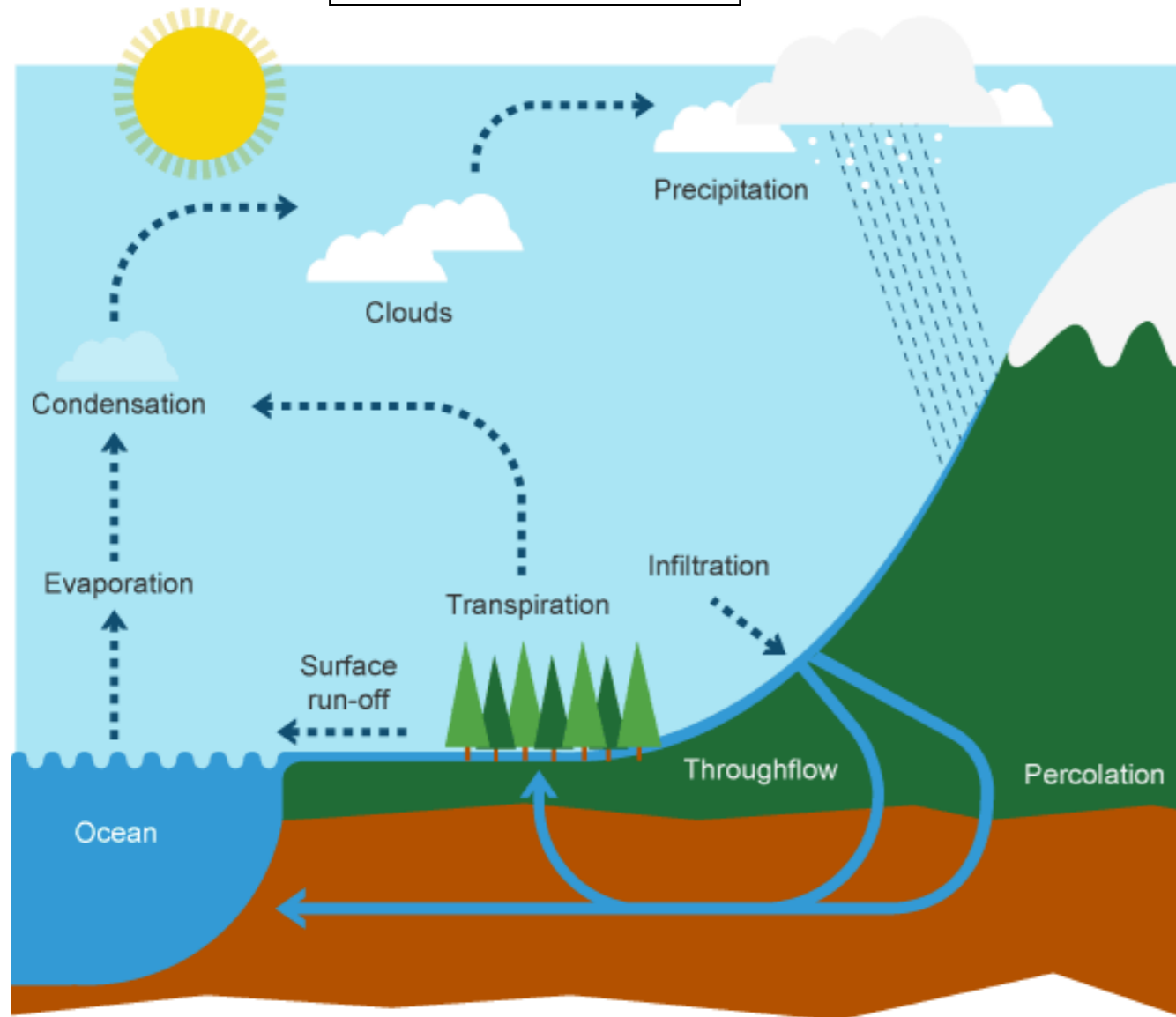
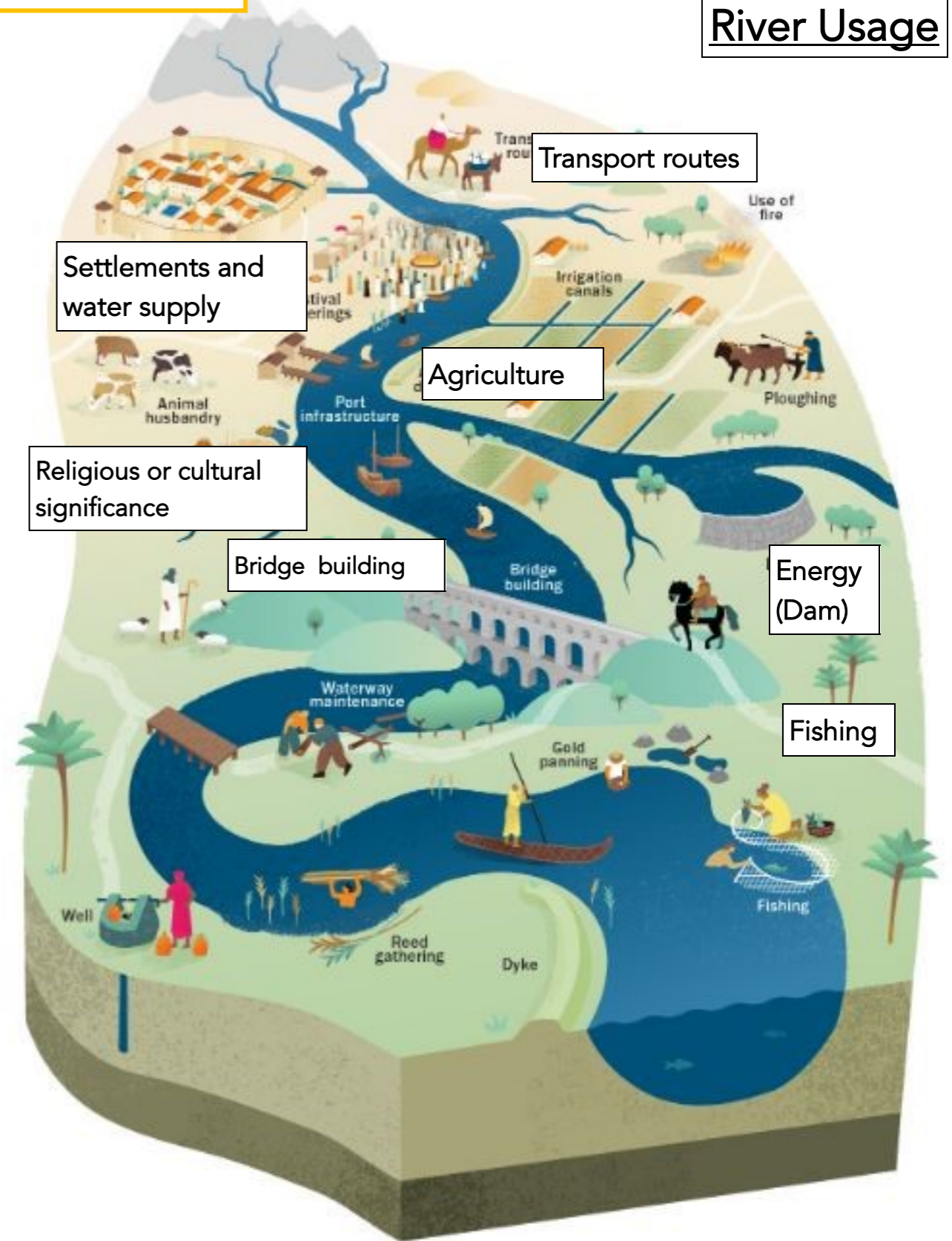


The Water Cycle



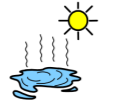












The water cycle works by using the energy of the Sun to exchange water from oceans and lakes to the atmosphere, and then back into the oceans again.



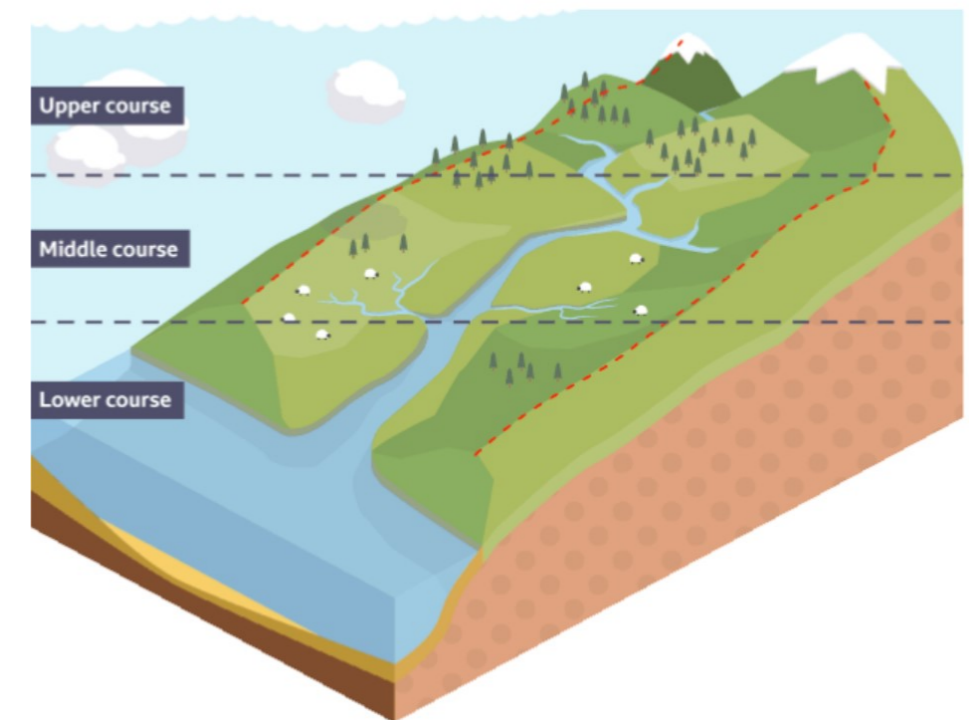
Geography Learning Journey

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Likes and dislikes in the environment Care for the natural environment	Similarities and differences between countries Map skills	Explorers Migration	United Kingdom Islands	Pre-historic Britain Tectonic Shang Dynasty	Roman Britain	The Vikings and Anglo Saxons Brazil	NW5– My London France

Geography Vocabulary

evaporation		When the Sun shines, it warms water up and turns it into a gas - water vapour.
condensation		The process where water vapour becomes liquid.
precipitation		The water vapour cools down, condenses and turns back into a liquid. It then falls back to Earth as rain, snow, hail or sleet.
river features		Parts and processes associated with rivers.
source		The place a river originates (starts).
meander		A river following a winding course.
basin		The area of land around a river from which all water is drained.
tributary		A smaller river or stream flowing into a large river or lake.
mouth		Where a river flows into a larger body of water (often the sea).
erosion (erode)		The wearing away of rock and soil found along the river bed and banks.
floodplain		An area of low-lying ground next to a river.
confluence		A point where two rivers meet.
coast		The part of the land next to or near the sea.

The courses of the river



Key Facts

- A river is a **moving body of water** that drains the land.
- The **River Severn** in Wales is the longest river in the UK at 354km.
- The **River Nile** is the longest river in the world at 6650km.
- Most of the **capital cities** of the world were built on or near rivers. This was because it gave settlers access to **freshwater** and easy **transportation** for trade.
- Rivers flow from its source on high ground, across land, and then into another body of water. This could be a **lake**, the **sea**, an **ocean** or even another river.
- A river flows along a **channel**, with **banks** on both sides and a **bed** at the bottom.
- If there is lots of rainfall, or snow or ice melting, rivers sometimes rise over the top of their banks and begin to flow onto the **floodplains** at either side.
- As rivers flow, they **erode** (or wear away) the land.
- Rivers provide **habitats, freshwater, leisure, navigation, transport nutrients** and **hydro-electric power**.
- Rivers are an important part of the **water cycle** and responsible for transferring water to oceans.
- Human activity is a main cause of **pollution** in rivers and oceans, and of some increased flooding events.
- Floodplains are often a source of fertile soil which were excellent for farming, especially in the past.
- Careful **environmental management** can reduce flooding and pollution.