

How do rivers shape our world - answer sheet

Rivers work hard. They hardly stop and so continually erode the **channel** and move material **downstream**. This shapes and alters the land. The river water pushes stones, boulders and rocks along the **course** of the river. Rivers can become **wider** and **deeper** or even change their shape. As the river moves further away from its **source**, the material that has been eroded at the start of the river's journey is carried (transported) downstream and gradually left behind (deposited). This changes the shape of the land: **gorge, waterfall, meander, flood plains, or bow lakes**, until as the river reaches the **mouth** any remaining material is deposited forming a **delta**.