

Cultural Capital- Children will explore local history through first-hand enquiry, learning about the **people who helped build and use waterways**. They will develop their understanding of rivers from source to mouth and how they **support settlements and transport**. Through habitat studies, children will **identify local wildlife** and **learn how environments are protected**. They will also learn about **water safety and how to stay safe around rivers**.

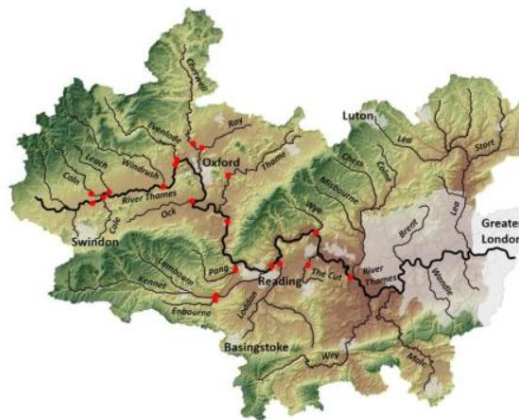
As geographers, children will explore what mountains, rivers and coasts are and learn about the **natural forces such as erosion and weathering** that shape these features. They will **investigate** how these landscapes affect the world around them, including climate, human activity and ways of life, with a particular focus on **exploring rivers in the United Kingdom**.

Taking on the role of **engineers, surveyors and canal builders** in the late 1700s, children will explore how waterways were created to link places such as the Midlands and London via Oxford. They will learn about the **impact of canal building during the Industrial Revolution**, considering challenges such as land use, safety, animal welfare, health and weather, while developing their understanding of physical geography and historical change.

As scientists, children will learn about adaptations and **how living things survive in different environments**. They will explore how animals and plants adapt to habitats such as rivers, mountains and coasts, and how these adaptations help them find food, stay safe and cope with changing conditions. Through **practical investigations**, children will ask questions, make predictions and observe how living things respond to their surroundings. They will also consider how **environmental changes can affect survival**, helping them understand the importance of habitats and how living things depend on them.

As artists, children will explore the work of Quentin Blake, focusing on his **expressive line drawings and unique style**. They will experiment with creating their own **animated-style drawings, using movement, character and simple lines to bring ideas to life**.

Children will explore how illustrations can tell stories and show emotion, particularly through character design and action. By **experimenting with different materials and techniques**, they will develop their confidence and creativity, learning how art can be used to communicate ideas and create lively, engaging visuals.



Oceans – Summer Term

The United Kingdom
A Study of the River Thames

As athletes, we will develop our physical skills through **cricket and athletics**, learning how to work both individually and as part of a team. In cricket, we will practise key skills such as batting, bowling and fielding, **improving our coordination, control and teamwork** through a range of fun activities and games. In athletics, we will explore running, jumping and throwing, building our speed, balance and agility through exciting challenges. These activities will help children to **stay active, develop their fitness, and grow in confidence** while showing determination and resilience.

As readers and writers, in English we will focus on our class texts *The Rhythm of the Rain* and *The Iron Man*, linking to our topic through themes of water, nature and the environment. We will develop our **reading, writing and discussion skills** by exploring characters, settings and key events, and using these to inspire our own descriptive writing and narratives. Each week will include a SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) focus, with spelling taught three times a week. Reading will take place daily, with a focus on comprehension and shared reading to build fluency and understanding.

As designers, children will **explore stop animation**, learning how to create **simple animations by capturing a sequence of images**. They will plan and design their own short animations, thinking carefully about characters, settings and storylines. Children will use **technology to take photographs** and **combine them to create movement**, understanding how small changes between frames bring their ideas to life. Through this process, they will develop their **creativity, sequencing skills and confidence** in using digital tools.