

A scenic view of a river flowing through a town. The river is in the foreground, reflecting the sky and the surrounding landscape. On the left bank, there is a row of houses with red roofs and white walls. The background shows a dense forest of trees and a distant city skyline. The word "Rivers" is written in a large, white, serif font across the middle of the image.

Rivers

The mighty River Indus

L.I: To begin to learn some facts about the Indus River.

I can learn where the Indus River begins

I can name the continent and countries it flows through

I can begin to know some facts about the river.

Key vocabulary

Tibet – Is a region in China

Himalayas - The name of the range of mountains

Glaciers - Is a river of ice

River Indus - Asian river that rises in Tibet and flows through northern India and then southwest through Kashmir and Pakistan to the Arabian Sea.

Tributaries - A river or stream flowing into a larger river

Stream - A small, narrow river

Arabian Sea – A region of the northern Indian Ocean

1. The mighty River Indus



This mountain is high up in a place called **Tibet**.

The mountain is part of a great mountain range called the **Himalayas**.

Apart from the snow on the mountain, it looks very dry. But look more closely at the bottom of the photograph.

What can you see? It looks like water flowing through a patch of snow. This little stream of water is trickling across the stony land. It comes from underground **springs**. As the ice and snow melt, the water swells. This makes the water flow faster and faster.

Now we are looking at the same mountain but we are much further away from it. We can now see the stream flowing quickly towards us. This tiny stream will become a vast river, the mighty **River Indus**, one of the longest rivers in the world.

The River Indus is 3,200 kilometres long! When it leaves Tibet, it passes through two other countries, called **India** and **Pakistan**.



The **stream** is now flowing very fast because more and more melting ice and snow are coming from huge **glaciers** in the mountains.

Between June and September, during the rainy season, rainwater will swell the river even more. The picture below shows the river much further along in its course, in **India**. The land is flatter now, but the river flows fast. It is wide and deep, moving quickly through its smooth, wide channel.





There is yet another reason why the Indus river fills with so much water and grows so big. Can you work this out from the photograph above? It shows another river flowing into the Indus. We call the smaller rivers that flow into bigger rivers **tributaries**.



On this map, follow the line of the River Indus as it flows from Tibet into northern India and then into Pakistan.

Most of the river is in Pakistan. You can see that when the river reaches the coast, it flows into the **Arabian Sea**. The map also shows some of the **tributaries** that flow into the Indus.

How many tributaries can you find?

Here is close-up photograph of another **tributary** of the River Indus. This is close to the border with Afghanistan, in northern Pakistan.

See how fast this river is flowing! It is full of water, rushing rapidly.

When this water reaches the River Indus it will make the Indus swell into an even bigger river

