



read

River Landscapes

The River Tees



quiz



The Big Picture

river valleys and processes

*river landforms**

River Landscapes

river management

*case study**



River Tees - Location

The River Tees is located in the north east of England. It's source is high in the Pennine Hills near Cross Fell. It flows east 128km to the North Sea near Middlesborough.



Key Terms



Flood plain – The flat area forming the valley floor either side of a river.



Gorge – a narrow, steep sided valley, often formed as a waterfall retreats.



Levée – An embankment of sediment along a river caused by flooding.



Meander – One of a series of bends in a river.



Waterfall – A sudden descent of a river or stream over a vertical or very steep slope in its bed.



River Landforms on the River Tees



High Force

Waterfall and gorge

The River Tees drops around 20m into a plunge pool at High Force. The river then flows through the gorge it has formed as it retreats. Resistant dolerite, an igneous rock lies on top of less resistant limestone.

As the river plunges over the waterfall it undercuts the weaker limestone to form an overhang. This eventually collapses forming the gorge as the waterfall retreats.



Yarm

Meanders, levees and floodplains

In its lower course, the River Tees has extensive meanders, particularly between Darlington and Yarm. The meandering river has widened the river valley to create a significant floodplain.

There are also levees along this stretch of the River Tees that have formed when this low-lying area has experienced flooding in the past.

