

GEOGRAPHY

Spain. Rivers.



1 Complete the table.

The **Guadalquivir** is 657 kilometres long. It starts in the Cazorla Mountains. It flows through Córdoba and Seville and flows into the Atlantic Ocean at Sanlúcar de Barrameda, near the Doñana National Park. The Guadalquivir is the longest river in Andalusia.

The **Ebro** carries more water than any other river in Spain. It is 910 kilometres long. It starts in the Cantabrian Mountains and flows through Logroño and Zaragoza. The Ebro flows into the Mediterranean Sea and forms a delta at its mouth near Amposta in Tarragona province.

The **Duero** is 897 kilometres long. It starts in the Urbión Mountains and flows through Soria, Valladolid and Zamora. It flows into the Atlantic Ocean at Porto in Portugal. The Duero forms a natural border between Spain and Portugal for 112 kilometres.

	is ___ km long.	starts in ...	flows through ...	flows into ...	Other information.
The Guadalquivir ...					
The Ebro ...					
The Duero ...					

2 Write sentences in your notebook.

	is ___ km long.	starts in ...	flows through ...	flows into ...	Other information.
The Miño ...	340	the Meira Mountains.	Lugo and Ourense.	the Atlantic Ocean near La Guardia.	Produces hydroelectricity.
The Nervión ...	72	the Cantabrian Mountains.	Bilbao.	the Cantabrian Sea near Portugalete.	Was very polluted, but is cleaner now.
The Tagus ...	more than 1,000	the Albarracín Mountains.	Aranjuez and Toledo.	the Atlantic Ocean at Lisbon.	Longest river in the Iberian Peninsula.

3 Complete the text with the words in the box.

life Mediterranean Sea salmon deepest Portugal long

Spanish rivers flow into the Atlantic Ocean, the Cantabrian Sea or the (1) _____. The main rivers of Spain flow into the Atlantic Ocean. The rivers that flow into the Cantabrian Sea are not very (2) _____. Some rivers such as the Duero, the Tagus and the Guadiana flow through Spain and (3) _____. The Guadalquivir is the (4) _____ river in Spain and it is navigable. Rivers are full of (5) _____. Many fish, microorganisms and plants live in them. In Spanish rivers there are trout, barbel, carp and (6) _____. Rivers also produce electricity.



Spain. Rivers.

Aim

- To study the main rivers in Spain.

Language focus

Key vocabulary: *river, mountains, flow through, flow into, delta, border, ocean, sea, deep, navigable, trout, barbel, carp, salmon.*

Key language: *The Guadalquivir starts in the Cazorla Mountains. It flows through Seville. It flows into the Atlantic Ocean. It is the deepest river in Spain.*

Materials

- Worksheet.
- A physical map of Spain.

Warm-up

- Write the following sentences about the River Nile on the board: *The Nile is the ____ river in the world. The Nile is in _____. It is more than _____ kilometres long. A lot of people have _____ next to the river. They take rice and _____ up the river on boats. Many _____ live in the river.*
- Tell the pupils to copy the sentences into their notebooks and try to guess the missing words.

Answers: longest; North Africa; 6,600; farms; animals; crocodiles

Completing the Worksheet

Activity 1

- Draw a map of Spain on the board. Add and label a few cities and rivers. Then invite

Answers

Activity 1:

	is ____ km long.	starts in ...	flows through ...	flows into ...	Other information.
The Guadalquivir ...	657	the Cazorla Mountains.	Córdoba and Seville.	the Atlantic Ocean.	It is the longest river in Andalusia.
The Ebro ...	910	the Cantabrian Mountains.	Logroño and Zaragoza.	the Mediterranean Sea.	It carries more water than any other river in Spain and forms a delta at its mouth.
The Duero ...	897	the Urbión Mountains.	Soria, Valladolid and Zamora.	the Atlantic Ocean.	It forms a natural border between Spain and Portugal.

different pupils to add other cities and rivers. Ask questions about the cities and rivers, eg, *Which cities are in the north? Which rivers flow into the Mediterranean Sea?* When a city is mentioned, stress that *it's in the north/ south/ east/ west* or *it's in the centre*; when talking about rivers, use the expressions *starts in* and *flows into*, eg, *Oviedo is in the north of Spain ... The Guadalquivir starts in the Cazorla Mountains and flows into the Atlantic Ocean.*

- Write *Guadalquivir* on the board. Then write *It is ____ km long. It starts in _____. It flows through _____. It flows into the ____.* Explain the difference between *flow through* (a city) and *flow into* (a sea). Elicit sentences about the Guadalquivir and write them on the board.
- Ask the pupils to read the text in Activity 1 and complete the table. Help with vocabulary as necessary and check answers with the class when they have finished.

Answers: See table below.

Activity 2

- Look at the information in Activity 2 with the class. Elicit complete sentences orally, eg, *The Miño is 340 kilometres long. The Nervión flows through Bilbao.*
- Ask the pupils to write sentences about the rivers in Activity 2 in their notebooks. Encourage them to follow the models in Activity 1.

Answers: The Miño is 340 kilometres long. It starts in the Meira Mountains and flows through Lugo and Ourense. It flows into the Atlantic Ocean near La Guardia. It produces hydroelectricity.

The Nervión is 72 kilometres long. It starts in the Cantabrian Mountains and flows through Bilbao. It flows into the Cantabrian Sea near Portugalete. It was very polluted but it's cleaner now.

The Tagus is more than 1,000 kilometres long. It starts in the Albarracín Mountains and flows through Aranjuez and Toledo. It flows into the Atlantic Ocean at Lisbon. It's the longest river in the Iberian Peninsula.

Extension activity

Memory game. Ask the pupils to study the information about the different rivers for a few minutes and then tell them to put their worksheets away. Draw a table on the board (see below) and write the names of some of the rivers in the first column. Divide the class into two groups. The groups take turns to choose and complete one of the cells in the table. If their answer is correct, they win the cell and a point. The group with the most points at the end of the activity is the winner!

	is ___ km long.	starts in ...	flows through ...	flows into ...	Other information.
The Guadalquivir...					
The Duero...					
The Nervión...					

Activity 3

- Ask the class *Are rivers important? Why?* Explain that *rivers are very important because they are full of life. Fish, microorganisms and plants live in rivers. They also produce electricity.*
- Go through the words in the box in Activity 3. Read the text with the class and check comprehension. Then ask the pupils to write the words in the gaps. Check answers.

Answers: 1-Mediterranean Sea; 2-long; 3-Portugal; 4-deepest; 5-life; 6-salmon

Extension activity

Pupils draw a map of Spain in their notebooks and, using the information from the worksheet, label the seas, rivers and cities. Encourage them to colour their maps and add illustrations.